

Joplin Eagles

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Tidbits





"JHS Class of '64"

Issue 31

Class Newsletter June 30, 2018

Here Is Our 31st Edition

"What Happened to Spring"

Seems like a moment ago that it was February 17th and the first class newsletter of 2018 was on it's way out to all classmates that we have email addresses for. Mid February causes one to start thinking of spring, especially those of us that call the Midwest, Northeast and the upper mountain regions of CO, WY & MT home.

April, being just around the corner, and that, in most cases is the official kickoff to spring and planting ones flowers, trees & shrubs. But first we need to survive March 17th, the official day of wearing green and everyone becomes Irish on St. Patrick's Day, sipping on a Guinness or a Harp, that is until Cinco de Mayo rolls around in May and we shell the green hat for a sombrero and a couple of margaritas or Dos XX's. Both events are huge in Kansas City & a reason to tip one.

However, Mother Nature threw the Midwest a spitball and we recorded several record lows in April, including frozen fountains and the 2nd coldest April on record since 1880, and the Northeast didn't fare very well either. But look out, here comes May and again we set records, only this time we went the other way and recorded the 2nd hottest May on record with several days hitting the 90's and a few of those days were upper 90's, where we are today.

Now it's June and we are doing rain dances as the drought has us with a 5" plus deficit and we scratch our heads wondering where the heck has half of 2018 gone.

It's also time to put out the 31st class newsletter, so keep in mind that this issue is the first one penned by me, the Lone Ranger, so bear with me as I attempt to come close to the past 30 issues where we had troops.

"Where Do We Stand With the 55th Class Reunion"

Dave Knisley

Talk about just around the corner, that's where we are with having the 55th class reunion that will be held June 7th—9th of next year, yep, less than a year away.

We have done what we feel is a dang great job communicating what (Continued on the Next Page)

Issue 31

"Where Do We Stand With the 55th Class Reunion Cont."

the game plan is so far and asking for input from the classmates that will be attending.

It was decided sometime back, after a poll about what, when & where, and the majority spoke and would like to have the event at the same place they will be staying and that boiled down to the brand spankin' new Holiday Inn at 3402 Arizona, or what was supposed to be the newly remodeled Hilton Doubletree that was to be located where the old Holiday Inn was.

Sadly, the owner and contractor have split the sheets, as the owner was in arrears by more than three months in paying the contractor, so needless to say, the contractor packed up all his toys and went home. About 3 months ago the Kansas City Star ran an article about the dilemma and had an interview with the new contractor that was to sign on and said that he will work with the owner to complete the project. But at last report, nothing has been done at that location. In the meantime, the former contractor was going in and pulling all materials that he had installed and wasn't paid for.

The owner's only comment that I've read so far is saying that the Hilton Group had come in and made significant and costly changes to the proposed hotel and he could not meet those increased financial requests. Now I've been to two World Fairs and three Billy Goat Races and I'll bet good money that comment is hogwash, however the Hilton Group did pull the plug on what was to be the Doubletree. So, basically that leaves us with the Holiday in for a place to sleep, party and do the camaraderie in one spot for our weekend in June in 2019.

As we've stated in past communications, the new Holiday Inn is NOT as big as the former Holiday Inn and their banquet facility will seat 168 people using round tables of 8 to a table or they can seat 185 using cafeteria type seating. That is why we're asking those that have an inkling of an idea on attending, to get your name on the list now. I personally believe that a possible attendance can be made 10 or 11 months out from the date of the event, so if you have that inkling in attending, please give us the courtesy of saying "You betcha" and we will get your name on the list.

Here is where we stand at the moment. We have 65 classmates that have said they are planning on attending the 55th, along with 40 guests and 17 invitees (Past teachers, the video crew & the band that will play) and that totals 122, so we are still good for 35 more people for sure (Taking out two tables for the band's riser) and if we do the cafeteria tables, we are good for 45+ more people. So hopefully you can see the importance of letting us know in advance your attending the 55th gala or not.

I know that you are wondering about the cost, we did the 50th for \$35 and had great food with a great time. Your committee is doing everything we possibly can to make this happen for the same or less than what we did 5 years ago and we're doing it with raffles, a spring & fall car show. The spring took place on Sunday, April 29th and we pocketed a little more than \$800 for that one event. We are selling raffle tickets for a measly \$1 or six for \$5 and there are several prizes, hand-crafted by our own classmates and will be drawn that Saturday night of June 8th and given away. The largest prize, a 48" to 50" Smart Ultra High Definition TV with an Xbox One, so come on, that's worth a chance for a buck or better yet, six chances for \$5 bucks.

So you live out of town or away from a committee member or classmate that is selling the raffle ticket, not a problem. Just go to https://www.gofundme.com/joplin-class-of-64-reunion and

donate through our GoFundMe page. We will fill out the raffle ticket(s) with your name & phone number and it will be placed in the barrel for the drawing Saturday evening. Stephanie White Everitt, Class Treasurer, is keeper of the tickets as well as keeper of the monies for our class functions. You may also mail checks & money orders to Steph at 2821 Wisconsin Ave, Joplin, MO 64804-2868 made out to JHS Class of 64.

The GoFundMe page may also be used to donate any spare change you might have laying around and it's that money that will help us keep the individual cost of the event down to the 50th cost, or below and that was a real bargain and one that other classes have asked the age old question of "How did you do all that for \$35?" And the answer was simple, we worked our tails off and we have classmates that helped by willing to donate \$\$\$ so as many could attend that had the desire to attend and we cannot thank those that did just that, you helped big time to make it all happen, what a godsend for the event y'all are. Just let it be known that the amount is superfluous, a \$5 donation to us is as welcomed at a \$20, \$50 or \$1000 donation, well, almost as welcomed. Donations of any amount are ever so important. Like we did for the 50th, we will feature a special section in the Class Directory to those that would like to donate in memory of a classmate friend, teacher or special person. Amounts will not be posted, just your name to honor your choice.

To sum this all up, if you have intentions on attending the June 7th-9th reunion and you have not yet given us your official okie dokie, please do so by sending us an email to the class email joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com and we can start finalizing our plans that will most likely include something on Thursday, June 6th as we will have out-of-towners coming in on that day and may want a choice of something to do. Once we sign a nonrefundable contract with the Holiday Inn, which most likely we'll do within the next couple of months, even if we do not increase our attendance by 30 or more, or if we reached the maximum headcount for the June 8th banquet. If we do, that's it folks, there will be no coming back 8 months from now and saying I want to be part of the gang and because we've already maxed out, we will have to say Nay-Nay. The only way we could add is if someone cancels out, which we anticipate that could happen, because we had three at the 50th cancel out for various reasons.

Think it over and know that it is going to be one fine gathering and a great two or three days. DK

Just a thought or two

- 1 * Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
- 2 * Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
- 3 * Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
- 4 * Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
- 5 * If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
- 6 * If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
- 7 * It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
- 8 * Never buy a car you can't push.
- 9 * Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
- 10 * Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Although our new library was opened in May 2017, I hadn't been inside until recently and wanted to share it with those who aren't close enough to enjoy the WOW moment one experiences when entering the modern building. I knew it'd be nice, but I'm still amazed at the spacious, open feeling of that first view upon entering. Having driven by 20th and Connecticut dozens of times, I had to ask myself why the delay in actually going inside. Perhaps, it's because I'm more traditional and the building has a very contemporary, neoclassical silhouette with an angled roofline. Today's jewel is much different than "our" library when we ventured down the basement steps and later upstairs in the magnificent Carnegie building which was built in 1902 with a grant of \$40,000 from the Carnegie Foundation. The successor on Main St., built in 1980 for \$2 million on the former site of the Connor Hotel, was modern and one floor. Shelving was high and aisles between books not far apart. That 34,000 sq. ft. building was designed before ADA requirements and the increased use of technology.

The new Joplin Public Library was funded with a \$20 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration plus the city's match of \$5 million. These figures include the infrastructure surrounding the building which is located on 6 acres, with 54,000 sq. ft. and 170 parking spaces, it also offers more meeting space and a drive-up book return. Compliant with ADA guidelines, low shelving is accessible for all and aisles are 36-42 inches apart. An IT specialist plus 7 librarians staff the building, including the Post Reading Room which houses local history and genealogy. With the exception of the Post Foundation's librarian, other expenses are funded primarily from the district's real estate taxes plus a little from state grants.

When visiting, I asked permission to take photographs to share with you.

I was directed to Patty Crane, reference librarian, who offered to do a walking tour with me. I was most appreciative of her time and knowledge and learned so much about this special building from her comments.

We began with the large conference room which can seat 220 and be divided into two smaller rooms. Mics, whiteboards, and technology equipment are available. The area also becomes a storm shelter if needed during library hours. The Bramlage and Willcoxon Foundation Gallery welcomes visitors to this area where artwork is displayed in the lobby by the Post Foundation.

There are several smaller meeting rooms which can be reserved. Most have conference tables and chairs, but one, the Unconference Room, has soft seating for a more casual atmosphere. Additionally, a Maker's Space Room has a laser cutter, video conversion equipment, 3D printer and a green screen.

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The room can be reserved for personal use and once a month there is an open studio program for anyone interested in attending and creating.

While shades of gray with a subtle tangerine accent flow throughout the building, a beautiful teal with white sets the Post wing apart. In front of that, I noticed an unusual ceiling design. It and two others above the vending section and in the children's library, represent the veins of a butterfly wing, the symbol synonymous with our recovery. The exterior roof line was also to give the butterfly effect. Now, I understand the exterior silhouette.

Varieties of seating throughout the building create a comfortable at home feeling. From curved sofas, soft winged, cabana, and arm chairs with round glass top side tables to two and four top tables with modern, chrome chairs, it's easy to transport yourself to anywhere reading can take you. As I walked about, I was keenly aware that my presence was not interrupting anyone even when talking with my guide. Accolades to the special design library architects! I was a long way from my teaching years of taking students to school libraries where every noise, whether accidental or intentional (!), was magnified throughout the room. The design, acoustics, carpet, soft furnishings and spaciousness are phenomenal and the new library reminded me of being in a magical kingdom. One that I plan to return to soon and later share with grandchildren when in town.

The Rosemary Titus Reynold's Children's Library beckons with a soft mural of whimsical animals. Shelves of books are within easy reach of minis.

Activity panels are attached to the ends of shelves where little hands can maneuver the various cogs, buttons, and ties. Several other learning centers capture a child's attention and include a Lego table, train table, puppet theatre with colorful stools, play kitchen, computer center, open space near a mirrored dinosaur, and self check-out kiosks. Large red tote bags are easy to locate for those participating in the 1,000 books before kindergarten program. Within the exterior walls are large, burgundy portholes deeply set into the masonry so children can sit inside the circle and look out while reading. I had wondered from the outside when driving by why the large black rimmed circles appeared like giant tires attached to the building.

It all came together when I saw a child relaxing within one intently reading! In later years, older students have a special section in the main library designated for teens; it reminded me of a professional corporate meeting area.

What a variety of services are offered . . . something for everyone!

Looking at a typical monthly calendar of programs, I saw chess club, middle school book club, high school book club, Harry Potter night, crafternoon, construction club, family stories, tales for 2s and

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"Joplin's Amazing New Library - Continued"

3s, fun for 4s and 5s, movers and shakers, explore and play fairy tale day . . . for examples.

There's even a dog day afternoon when trained pets come with their handlers to have children read to the dogs. What an impression all of these programs make for the patrons!

I'm so glad I stopped to visit; WOW it is! I wanted to introduce Joplin's new library to our classmates, and Patty Crane's guided tour surely gave me plenty to share. If you're in town for the 55th reunion, it'd be a great time to enjoy this exceptional facility.

Phyllis Payne Sapp









Issue 31

"Joplin's Amazing New Library - Continued"













Various picture of the newly constructed Joplin Public Library. We should've been so lucky as I did spend a ton of time at the old library, in the children's or youth, located that was downstairs. Maybe Phyllis can answer, is the Dewey Decimal System still alive and well in todays libraries?

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

Taco? Never saw one till I was 15.

All chips were plain.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible!

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word... never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal and stewed.

Surprisingly Muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks or were round with a hole in the middle, in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.

There were three things that we never ever had on/at our table in the fifties . . . elbows, hats and cell phones!

......and there was always two choices for each meal...

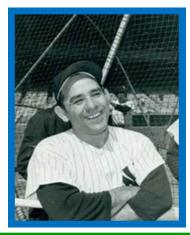
"Take it" or Leave it"

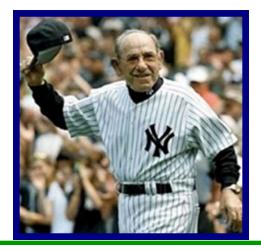
Yes officer, I did see the 'speed limit' sign, I just didn't see you.

"For the Baseball Fanatic—The Best of Yogi Berra"

Quoting Joe Garagiola, friends with Yogi Berra as they grew up in St. Louis has said "Some of the so-called Yogisms are questionable, most are not and some have not yet been printed yet."

- 1."It's like deja vu all over again."
- 2. "We made too many wrong mistakes."
- 3. "You can observe a lot just by watching."
- 4. "A nickel ain't worth a dime anymore."
- 5. "He hits from both sides of the plate. He's amphibious."
- 6. "If the world was perfect, it wouldn't be."
- 7. "If you don't know where you're going, you might end up some place else."
- 8. Responding to a question about remarks attributed to him that he did not think were his: "I really didn't say everything I said."
- 9. "The future ain't what it used to be."
- 10. "I think Little League is wonderful. It keeps the kids out of the house"
- 11. On why he no longer went to Ruggeri's, a St. Louis restaurant: "Nobody goes there anymore because it's too crowded."
- 12. "I always thought that record would stand until it was broken."
- 13. "We have deep depth."
- 14. "All pitchers are liars or crybabies."
- 15. When giving directions to Joe Garagiola to his New Jersey home, which is accessible by two routes: "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."
- 16. "Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours."
- 17. "Never answer anonymous letters."
- 18. On being the guest of honor at an awards banquet: "Thank you for making this day necessary."
- 19. "The towels were so thick there I could hardly close my suitcase."
- 20. "Half the lies they tell about me aren't true."





Remembrances and Sympathy to our Classmates and Family:

Our sympathy goes to the family of our classmate Russell Banning, who passed away in May. http://www.honoringmemories.com/book-of-memories/3504021/banning-boyd/obituary.php

We send condolences to our classmates Richard Jaynes and Jana Swab for the loss of the son Jeffery Jaynes. http://www.parkermortuary.com/obituary/jeffrey-jaynes?fh id=10419

Extending our prayers to classmate Phillip "Butch" England for the passing of his sister Thelma. http://www.parkermortuary.com/obituary/thelma-emmert?fh id=10419

We take pride in publishing the class newsletter and have certain guidelines that we abide by. One is no political comments or articles and we do not push religious preferences, even though we're firm believers, we feel it best to refrain from commenting on those two subjects.

In each issue we ask for suggestions or articles from classmates that we may share in our newsletter, and we receive very little response. That in turn was our main reason why we went from every 3 months, or quarterly issues, having 4 newsletters a year, to every four months, and three newsletters a year. We are proud to say that we do hear from some classmates on a regular basis and even some non '64 classmates. When we do receive comments or articles for the newsletter, we try to grant their requests and publish what could be meaningful to the majority of our classmates.

Our biggest hurdle and one readers really enjoy is the bio section and we still have a few loose ends out there that said they would do a bio and have yet to pen one and send our way. As long as we have a newsletter, it's not too late to fire one our way.

Remember, a bio does not have to contain anything personal at all, we love hearing from those that made it from Joplin, MO to wherever you may be now and how that took place and what are your interests and why are you living where you are now. Also from those that are still in our hometown, what about some updates of what is taking place there, the changes made or planning to be made, feel free to let us know so we can inform those that haven't been back for a spell. We thank our former class newsletter editor Phyllis Payne Sapp, for doing just that and submitting a story on the new Joplin Library.

As a reminder, if you care to send kudos instead of stones this way, that would be nice and not only comments, but input material is greatly appreciated. It's nice to hear comments and we love input, so if you care to share you may do so at jop-linmo64.com. The plan is to keep the newsletter alive and well.



I MIGHT WAKE UP EARLY
AND GO RUNNING. I ALSO MIGHT
WAKE UP AND WIN THE LOTTERY.
THE ODDS ARE ABOUT THE SAME.

Buy & Sell Fashion for MisFits at RebelsMarket

I'd rather look back at my life and say "I can't believe I did that" instead of saying, "I wish I did that."

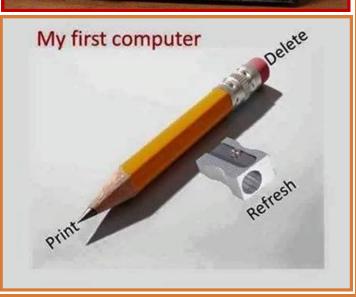
I know when you're texting in class.
Seriously, no one just looks down

at their crotch and smiles.

Sincerely, Your Teacher.



WOULDN'T LIFE BE PERFECT
IF SWEATPANTS WERE SEXY,
MONDAYS WERE FUN, JUNK
FOOD DIDN'T MAKE YOU FAT,
GIRLS DIDN'T CAUSE SO
MUCH DRAMA, GUYS
WEREN'T SO CONFUSING,
AND GOODBYES ONLY
MEANT UNTIL TOMORROW

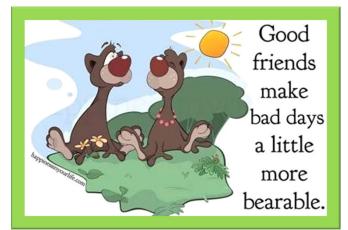


Food for Thought or the Smile of the Day











Always believe something wonderful is going to happen. Even with all the ups and downs, never take a day for granted. Smile, cherish the little things and remember to hug the ones you really love.

- 1. A Strawberry isn't a Berry but a Banana is.
- 2. Avocados and Watermelon are Berries, too.
- 3. Chocolate Milk was invented in Ireland.
- 4. Ketchup used to be sold as Medicine.
- 5. Carrots were originally purple.

- 6. McDonald's sells 75 Burgers a second of every day.
- 7. Yams and sweet Potatoes are not the same thing.
- 8. Betty White is actually older than sliced Bread.
- 9. "Spam" is short for spiced Ham.
- 10. Honey is made from nectar and Bee vomit.

This issue of "Tidbits" will feature the class committee at work doing the first of two car shows to raise monies for the 55th class reunion. Several classmates dropped by to say hey, buy some raffle tickets and to just hob-knob with all the folks there and it was great to see those who did. So, big of thank you to classmates Dennis Smith and his bride Nancy, Dave & Billie Sue Stockam, Pat Aggus, Janet Counts Severs, also thanks to classmates Jon Kaltenbach, Robyn King Wade and hubby Gary, Monty & Janet Ward, Mike Chapman and wife Twila for their entries to the event and special thanks to Mike Shipley for bringing his beauty up from Arkansas for display and for being one of the judges at the event. Also at the event was our videographer & photographer from the outskirts of Tonganoxie, KS, Dick & honorary class member Dot Espy.















Connie Culton Cox, Stephanie White Everitt, Dave Knisley



Dot Espy at work doing some of the photography for us







Connie, Steph & Carol overseeing the registration



Dave, Billie Stockam & Dennis Smith listen to DK



Jim & Monty in front chatting, Billie Sue Stockam & Dennis Smith in background



Committee winner Ken Pippin with Carol Buck, Mike Shipley, Steph Everitt, Connie Cox & Jim Christiansen



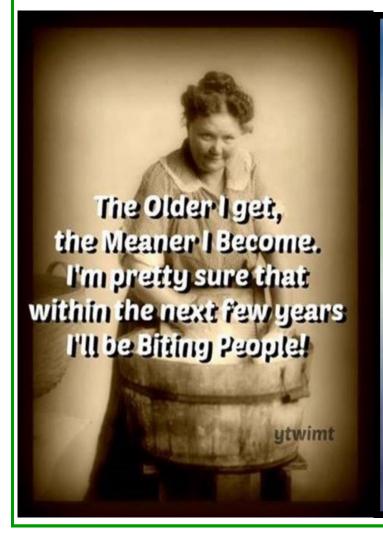






I ALWAYS CARRY A KNIFE IN MY PURSE. YOU KNOW, IN CASE OF CHEESECAKE OR SOMETHING.

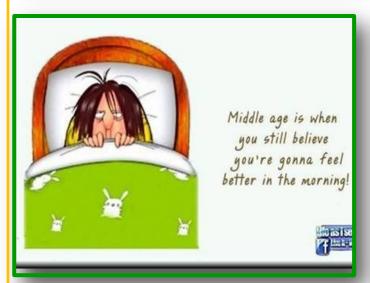
Why don't I have any tattoos? For the same reason you don't put a bumper sticker on a Ferrarri.







AUTO REPAIR PRICE LIST
Ping-Ping-Ping 35.00
Plunk-Ping-Plunk 50.00
Klunk-Ping-Klunk 125.00
Thud-Klunk-Thud 200.00
Clank-Thud-Klank 325.00





If your cup is only half full, you probably need a different bra.

@ShaeAaron



"Help Us Find Our Missing Classmates"

We still have 26 classmates unaccounted for. If you have any idea where these classmates could be, feel free to share with us so we can update our class directory. The blue font is where they were living when we lost contact with them.

"Please check these names and help find our missing classmates"

Richard Burns

Ed Carey aka (Edmond C Comple) (Joplin) Judy Osborne (Gardner) (Joplin)

Gary M Colvin

Johnie Coots (Seguin, TX area)

Rayma Jean Coy (Tulsa, OK area)

James "Jim" Hilton

Clair Howard

Robert "Bob" Jordan

James "Jim" Lamb (Neosho, MO)

La Donna Miller

Merlin "Butch" Mitchell (Cocolalla, ID)

Carol Munson (Wrench) (Bell, MO)

Emma Nunn

Mitchell "Pat" O'Brien

Richard Lee Pearson

Patty Riley (Brewer) (Joplin)

Naomi June Shelton (Possibly Deceased)

Drucilla Short

Robert Joe "Bob" Smith

Jack Sneed

William "Bill" Ray Stow

Mary Thornton (Reed)

Linda Vails

Thomas Warren (Chicago, IL area)

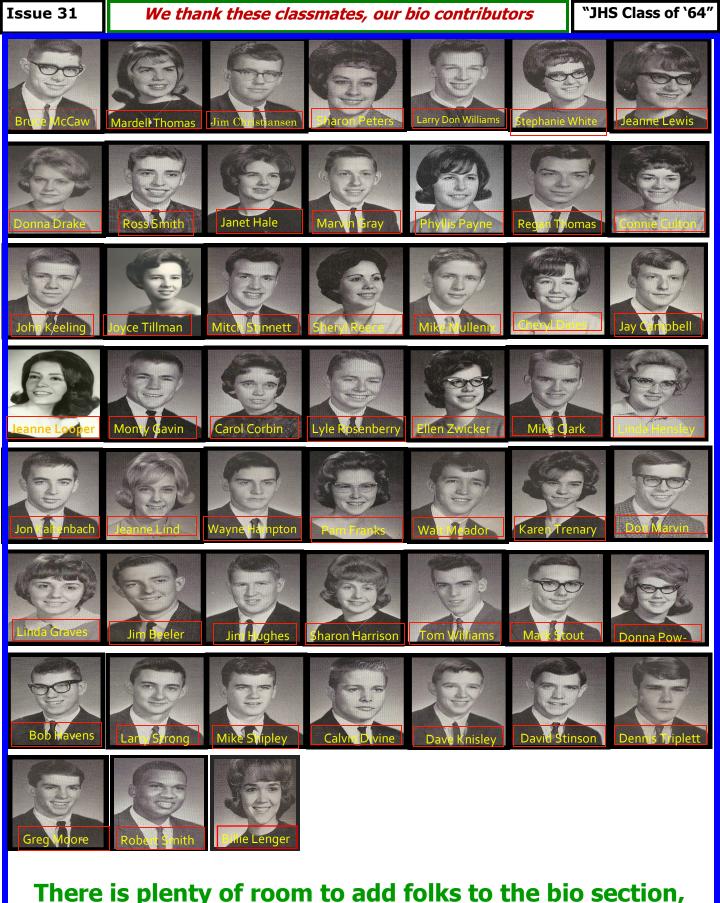
Paula Weinacht

"If You Change Your Contact Information"

Please help us out. Don't forget to include us on any changes in your contact information. If you should move or change telephone, snail mail address or email address please let us know. It's very easy and you may do so by clicking on the following link joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com, and enter your information, then click "Send".

Team Leader and head guru of our big class reunion car show that was held April 2th at the high school is none other than Carol Corbin Buck. She is proudly holding a work of art that was made by classmate Dave Stockam and presented to Carol. As a side note, Mr. Stockam has offered to done one of his works of art to the raffle that we are selling tickets for. Several other classmates are offering some of their works or works from award winning artists that will be part of the event. Carol thanks you Dave for the art and we thank you & Billie Sue for coming.





There is plenty of room to add folks to the bio section, how about joining in!

"It's A Wrap"

On Thursday, July 28th we had another class reunion committee meeting in Joplin, at Granny Shaffer's. Several topics were brought up and decisions made that will brighten the 55th reunion.

Jim Christiansen is the Team Leader of the golf day outing and is pondering some offerings that will be up for grabs for those that like smacking the little white ball around. More on this later.

We have mentioned in the past newsletters the need for a little financial help and the reason why we would like to make the event affordable to all classmates that want to attend, may do so. We have set up a GoFundMe page to make it very easy and ever so simple to donate to the cause and all one would have to do is click on https://www.gofundme.com/joplin-class-of-64-reunion just to see how easy it is. We are not asking much as one would be very surprised what a \$10 or \$20 bill would do to help tremendously. If you go to the donation link, you will see that we set a goal there of \$2500 and so far we have \$360 in that kitty, so we have a ways to go and can do that with your help. We have 11 months before the event kicks off and being a believer, I think we can pull this off. So I'm asking you to click on the link and see if it works.

If you have any questions or thoughts, you can submit them by clicking on the joplinmo64 email link below.

joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com

Knowing that the reunion is 11 months away, and that will move quickly, and since we will only have 3 more newsletters to promote and communicate the goings on of our 55th class reunion before it becomes reality, there are some things we really need in order to prepare for a grand gathering of friends and classmates. One is it would be nice for us to know if you have plans on attending so we can have at least some sort of an idea as to what we need to plan on for our Friday Meet & Greet and for the dinner banquet on Saturday evening. A close headcount is imperative in banquet room size, for the food and of course the appetizers for the Meet & Greet. Yes, I know we're 11 months out and yes, I also know that some will not be able to pen in ink that they will be there, but having intentions to be there is helpful in our planning as in most cases we can cut back on certain items, as it can be a high hurdle to add at a late date. So please, if you think you may or want to be at the 55th, just let us know.



