



Joplin Eagles

"JHS Class of '64"

Volume 1, Issue 1

Class Newsletter April 30, 2010

Hello Classmates!!!

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It's Here!!!

(our website)

www.joplinmo64.com

(our e-mail address)

joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com

Joplin Schools

Joplin's R-8 school district is performing at high levels on the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) which replaces the Iowa Tests of our generation. 2009 was the 6th consecutive year the "Distinction in Performance" award has been earned by Joplin students and teachers.

Also, our high school students are scoring above state and national averages on the American College Test (ACT) and 22 Joplin students achieved a score of 30 or higher in 2009.

The district currently employs 1,106 (620 are teachers) and has 7,543 students. There are 13

elementary schools, 3 middle schools, 1 high school, 1 early childhood center, and Franklin Tech. Our student-to-computer ratio is 2.5 to 1. Free/reduced lunch and breakfast is available to 54.5% of the students.

A main focus in building
(Continued on Page 10)

viewing of the new website that will keep us connected using 21st century technology.

Dave Knisley, Phyllis Payne Sapp and Jeanne Looper Tighe will be heading up the editorial end of this project—writing, collecting and coordinating the information that will comprise the content of each newsletter and what's featured on our class website.

We'd like to acknowledge and thank Carol Corbin Buck and Ann Wheeler Christenson who have done an

amazing job keeping the connection unbroken in past years. Their dedication to our class and to keeping us informed has been indispensable—and they will continue to provide input.

In what we hope will be a regular feature of each publication, Dave, Phyllis and I kicked off this first offering by submitting our bios describing (in three very different styles) what we've "been up to" since graduation. We'd love to feature several classmates in each newsletter, so start writing yours!





Jeanne Looper Tighe Bio

"WOW, how's that for ending at the beginning!"



Recently I picked up my Joplin High School annual and noticed that several friends wrote, "Don't ever change. Stay just as you are."

Even though their sentiment was sweet, the advice certainly didn't make sense for the long haul. Few of us could envision, all those years ago, how many changes there would be after high school—or how life would alter and mold us in ways we couldn't imagine.

I guess my core hasn't changed since then. I still love to laugh and I approach life optimistically—believing that each day brings new possibilities. Like then, I continue to enjoy a challenge and life certainly has accommodated me with my share of them—including moving from Joplin, my home since birth to Olathe, Kansas at the end of my sophomore year. I finished up my high school years there and headed to the University of Kansas. (Rock chalk Jayhawk!)

Little did I know, after spending my first 16 years in Joplin, that moving would become my "M.O." and over the next 45+ years, I would live in Olathe (a suburb of Kansas City); Crested Butte, CO; St. Paul, MN; Arlington, VA and Bowie, MD (suburbs of Washington,

DC); Indianapolis, IN; Tampa, FL and West Palm Beach, FL before coming back to KC just a few months ago. Whew!

In high school I was not voted "Most Likely to Become a Realtor," but I did that—specializing in residential real estate. After mastering packing up and moving out—and establishing homes and friendships in so many locations—real estate was a natural for me. However, since I first donned my Realtor hat, there have been changes in that department, too.

The housing market hit bottom as fast as the Titanic went down. Now, there's not much business except for foreclosures and short-sales and I'm short on excitement for those.

I liked creative writing in school, but didn't realize that writing would turn out to be a passion for me—and a paying column gig in "The Joplin Globe" about growing up in Joplin during the 1950s and '60s with a tie-in to life today.

I couldn't have known back then that along the way I would be the mother of three remarkable children—two sons, Jay and Chris, and a daughter, Melissa. That's changed too.

At 41, 40 and 39, they're no longer children but awesome

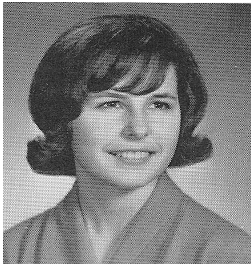
adults who are one of the great joys of my life. And, now I have 5 handsome grandsons, from 18 months to 18 years of age. (I'll spare you the pictures—although they can be seen on Facebook!)

My family and friends certainly were important to me when I was young, but as I age, I'm aware that relationships and time invested with the people I love are truly the eternal things of life.

Finally, here's one of the biggest changes of all. I reconnected with my first love, JSBS classmate Ross Smith, whom I dated in 1965—before a move to Minnesota with my family and his "trip" to Vietnam convinced us that we had no options but to go our separate ways. After 45 years apart, with a lifetime of experiences (and a few extra pounds) under our belts, we will be married this summer.

Wow, how's that for ending at the beginning!

Since I'm back at the beginning—for the person who wrote in my annual, "How do you eat so much at lunch in the cafeteria and never gain weight?"—that's changed too. ∞



Phyllis Payne Sapp Bio

"Eagle's Nest and drive-in movies soon elevated us to the teen years. Good memories; safe times."



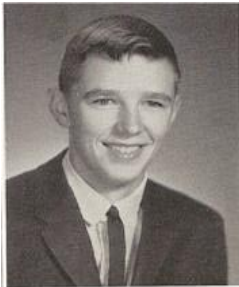
The year was 1964 when we all last gathered. Reunions and personal friendships have kept many in touch, sometimes ever so briefly. How fortunate we were to grow up where "Johnny Learns to Read." Catching lightning bugs, playing as we ran to the neighborhood grocery, waiting for the test pattern to be over and a TV show to begin, walking or catching the bus to downtown soda fountains and movies, counting the hours until Dad came home to throw some pitches . . . such was the norm. Cruising Main St., Keller's, The C&A, Eagle's Nest and drive-in movies soon elevated us to the teen years. Good memories; safe times.

Such has been my life. One of eleven couples to marry JSHS classmates, John and I graduated from Drury, married and moved to Memphis where he entered dental school. I taught on a black campus the year of King's death and found it to be a positive experience as parents graciously welcomed the first year home ec. teacher. John then enlisted and served two years at Ft. Jackson, SC. We chose to return home to begin his practice and raise our son and daughters (now 32, 36, 39) near their grandparents. It was a wise decision as we reunited with Joplin friends and met others new to the area. I became a chairside dental assistant, payroll clerk, and gopher. Having the

energy of youth, we later bought a transmission franchise which I ran for five years. I was required to attend technical school in the east . . . so I'm probably the only female FTC licensed transmission owner/certified secondary teacher/dental assistant/payroll clerk/gopher from our class! Ironic, as I wanted to grow up to be a teacher, nurse, secretary, wife, and mom. Got it done. Good memories; safe times.

I returned to the classroom in my early forties, retiring, so I thought, at fifty-five. This time I taught English and at-risk middle school students. Ready to travel and enjoy life, the diagnosis of fourth stage colon cancer came for John. Given only 3 months to live, we felt blessed to have 4 more years, making 24 trips to Houston's MDAnderson. John's quality of life was good; he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and golf while working fewer days. It was a joy to welcome our first grandchild. Another blessing of those last months was John walking our other daughter down the aisle as she married her JSHS classmate seventeen years after graduation! Our son also returned to Joplin. My greatest disappointment . . . three grands and our adult children will not be able to add more good memories of times with their grandfather and

father. In our forty-four years together (married the last 38 of them), memories were made which sustain me today. Family, friends, and faith continue to be an integral part of going on with living. I didn't, at first, fully grasp John's directive to mourn briefly then move on to live life to the fullest as he had tried to do everyday. Three years later, I reflect upon that request and accept the challenge. I have returned to substitute teach, taken time to renew friendships with classmates, cousins, and friends from other locations, become involved in North's historical restoration, and returned to work on the reunion committee. The 45th reunion was great . . . hope those who didn't make it will plan to join us for the 50th. At first, I wasn't sure I could attend . . . the memories might be too emotionally difficult. Welcomed by the committee, I found plenty to do and appreciated how hard these dedicated classmates work to put it together for all of us. Sitting at the reunion last October, I looked about the room and in my heart understood the importance of living everyday to the fullest. Good memories; safe times. ∞



David Knisley Bio

"I ran in the fields and over the hills loving the simple, but rustic life we had."



"The time has come," the walrus said, "to talk of many things: Of shoes and ships and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings, of why the sea is boiling hot, and whether pigs have wings." Though Alice in her Wonderland was never a huge part of my early life, here I am, speaking of many things.

Being the oldest of 6 children, my childhood was never boring. Born at Freeman Hospital, I was only 4 when we moved to Kansas City where my dad took a job with General Motors. I started kindergarten at Ashland Elementary and recall the air raid drills where we hid under the desks, sirens and bells sounding loudly. Naps on throw rugs and snacks of graham crackers and milk are also vivid memories. Seems KC was just a stopping point in my life as we moved back to Joplin after a year. How ironic life can be at times. I returned to KC in 1971, and here I sit today.

Glancing back, Mrs. Hoskins was my 1st and 2nd grade teacher at Joplin's Columbia Elementary. I remember walking to school in the fall with Kathy McQuarter and collecting colorful leaves that were abun-

dant in that area of Joplin. Being absent a few days, I forgot to ask Kathy when she returned why she'd been gone. Her first day back IT happened; it was on our way home in the alley between N. Moffet and N. Byers. I had a craven flung on me; Kathy McQuarter kissed me! I ran home, never told a soul. Two days later I came down with chickenpox, and Mom told me Kathy was just getting over it. I made a promise to myself to ask anyone that had been out of school for more than a day, what the problem was.

Later that year, we moved to the farm south of Joplin that was known as the Greenwood area. Loma Linda currently occupies some of the Greenwood area. I ran in the fields and over the hills loving the simple, but rustic life we had. It didn't take long for me to learn black cows did not give chocolate milk. It was a small, tight knit community where everyone knew each other. We attended a three room schoolhouse where I played games with Ross Smith & Kaye Green who later were classmates at JSJS. Between Greenwood and high school, we moved back to the

city, and I attended South Jr. High.

After graduating in 1964, I went on to college because most of the dropouts had the good jobs around town. I did 3 years off and on at Missouri Southern while changes really took place for me. I married very young, and two years later, in 1967, we were blessed with my oldest son, Shawn, who is now married, has two sons (ages 7 & 5), and lives in the St. Louis area. My daughter Sherry came along in 1970. She and her family live in New Braunfels, TX, just north of San Antonio. She has a 10-year-old son and an 8-year-old daughter. My youngest, Scott, came along in 1976. He lives here in a downtown condo, is single, and can tell you all about the party area of the Power & Light District in downtown KC.

I went to work for Yellow Freight System in January of 1971 and spent a 38 year career with them. Starting as a dispatcher at their KC terminal,

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I moved to the Corporate Headquarters, also in KC, where I held several positions that required a ton of traveling. What a blessing it is for me to look back now at the friends I made along the way. In the U.S., my duties took me to every major metropolitan city several times as well as Canada and Mexico.

Some of the additional positions I held were Division Operations Assistant to two VP's, a recruiter, where I visited colleges in the southeast for hiring potential management employees, to a position in Corporate Communications, reporting directly to the Chief Marketing Officer of the company. It was there I got involved with video production, as I produced and directed training, informational & educational programs. I also did a quarterly video magazine featuring the President of the company talking to ALL employees about the highs & lows of the previous quarter and what we have to look forward to as a company for the next quarter. It was this position, and the knowledge I gained that allowed me to set up my own company within two months of my retirement from Yellow Freight. Today we do basically the same thing and I work with the same contract crew I hired at Yellow. What a great group to be involved with, one that offers a valuable product to individuals and industry alike.

I sometimes wonder what sort

of legacy was left after leaving a company that encompassed 38 years of my life. Honestly, I enjoyed what I did and considered myself blessed, but I do not miss the corporate environment of today. I do, however, miss the people all over the country that I worked with. Thankfully, the internet helps keep us somewhat in touch.

I'm not keen on surprises aimed at me, but a surprise retirement party in 2008 was a very humble moment. What a shock it was to walk into a room and see people standing there from all over the country. The four decades of working for the company passed before me, and the bonds of friendship were sincerely recognized.

Being asked to join the “Class of 64” reunion planning committee was another special memory and one which also calls up the bonds of friendship. I had been to three reunions in the past and while okay, I felt we could make it a little less restricted and possibly a better time for all. I must say, the 45th reunion was a blast.

We've received great feedback about the nice time that was had by all. I found it gratifying to rekindle past friendships and also a humble moment to walk into a room of people you haven't seen in years. It's not the fact that we are moving closer to meals on wheels, but it is time to realize reunions are not like high school and the clan-

nish ways of the past. It's been a nice road for some, a hard trail for others, and a few twists & turns for the remainder. We have one thing in common; we were ALL classmates at Joplin Senior High School and part of the Class of '64'. Rekindling a friendship is a great feeling but making a new friend with former classmates is even a better feeling.

We're in the process of setting up our own class website and e-mail, and look forward to comments about what one might enjoy doing for our 50th. That's just 4 years down the road, folks! And we hope to see you there.

By the way, if anyone knows the whereabouts of Kathy McQuarter, please let her know that I'm still the shy boy she kissed and gave chickenpox to in the first grade. ∞

Please send us your bios (along with a current picture, if possible) and/or any other information you'd like to see in upcoming newsletters by going to the class website (www.joplinmo64.com) and use the comment section.

(The website is now operational)

Stay in the loop, using the above format, please notify us of any changes in your contact information. We would be ever so grateful.

The 45th reunion of our class, held in October, provided a chance for us to reconnect with one another in an easy and unstructured way. We began the weekend with a hot dog and hamburger cook-out in the parking lot of Junge Field before Joplin's homecoming football game and finished the weekend on Saturday night at a casual dinner where we talked, tablehopped and traded tales.

Mike Clark shared his impressions of the event:

Carol,

In response to your request, my wife and I had a good time coming to Joplin for the reunion. Every year we take a trip during November to celebrate our anniversary and this year we moved it up to October for the reunion. Forty-one years with the love of my life, what a joy! Just to get away from all the pressure here at the house was worth the trip to Joplin. I was amazed at how much Joplin has changed since my last trip about fifteen years earlier. I also was amazed at how some things have not changed much at all. Seeing some of our classmates was a treat while remembering those who have passed on was a sadder note. Catching up with old acquaintances was fun and meeting new friends was a pleasure. I would hope that we will be able to attend again at the next gathering of the "Class of '64."

Mike Clark

For a bird's eye view of that reunion weekend, following is an article Jeanne Looper Tighe wrote for the December 5, 2009 issue of "The Joplin Globe."

THE JOY OF BEING WITH "THOSE PEOPLE"

"Bruce, Bruce, he's our man! If he can't do it, nobody can!"-- East Jr. High Bulldogs' cheer

The last time I gave those words a shout-out, I was wearing East Junior High School's blue-and-white cheerleader uniform. Bruce McCaw, on the receiving end of my excited encouragement, was a lanky basketball player assigned to me when half-time cheers singled out players with a rousing reminder that they were our "men."

In the ninth grade Bruce wasn't really a man, and I wasn't quite yet a woman, but by the 45th reunion of

Joplin High School's Class of 1964, held in October, we both qualified.

Bruce and I, and all our classmates, have grown up since those junior high and high school days of the early 1960s. And the years of life and the effects of gravity show on our faces.

But in the stands at Junge Field on the first night of our reunion weekend, the decades that separated the 1960s from the present, melted into memories of growing up in Joplin.

When a 17 year-old senior "high-fived" me as Joplin scored a touchdown, I knew he had no sense of how quickly the time from senior year to senior citizen would pass.

While sitting in the stands with Bruce and his wife, Jamie, (he's her man now!) and other classmates, the memories we shared of the 1960s were from the vantage point of **being** in our sixties!

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"December 5, 2009 issue of "The Joplin Globe" Continued.

I once heard a friend say that she had no desire to go to her high school reunions because she had nothing in common with "those people."

It's true that there's been a 45-year gulf between graduation and grand-parenting. It was obvious at the reunion dinner, when we stood and shared a Reader's Digest version of our lives, that each of us has had a different life experience since high school.

And for some of us, our current connection is only our connection to the past. But as we spent two days together reminiscing about that past, it became clear to me how strong

that connection is.

Who else but "those people" knew us from our earliest years? Some of us started kindergarten together. We were companions on a journey from childhood to the cusp of adulthood.

We cruised Main Street together and hung out at Keller's, the C&A and El Rancho Drive Ins. We worked together at McDonald's and Safeway. We shared first love and first kisses and freedom from our parents' watchful eyes. We drove to Galena to drink 3.2 beer and "made out" in the backseats of cars at the Tri-State Drive In.

We were in each others' lives at

a time that was relatively care-free. Some of us didn't survive what life subsequently brought our way. Vietnam and suicides, car accidents and cancer cut our lives short.

But for those of us who remained on that reunion weekend, the joy of being with "those people" was almost palpable.

It was something we could all cheer about.

Jeanne Looper Tighe grew up in Joplin and now lives in Kansas City. Share your memories of Joplin with her at mainlyjoplin@yahoo.com. ∞

The 45th Class Reunion

Kudos to the reunion committee who worked so diligently to put together a great weekend for our class. Sharon Peters Arnold, Carol Corbin Buck, Jim Christiansen, Bill Cook, Stephanie White Everitt, Dave Knisley, Mardell Thomas Rouse and Phyllis Payne Sapp, take a bow!



L-R, Bill Cook, Jim Christiansen, Phyllis Payne-Sapp, David Knisley, Sharon Peters-Arnold, Stephanie White-Everitt & Carol Corbin-Buck. Missing, was Mardell Thomas-Rouse.

Okay, this is the part of the newsletter where we hit you up for donations and provide you with an opportunity to spend money on valuable Class of '64 related items.

In the donations department, we'd welcome your contributions to help pay for the website hosting and e-mail operations. If you're interested in helping to keep us up and running, please send your checks (any amount appreciated) to: David Knisley, 4301 E 109th Street, Kansas City, MO 64137-2010.

If you didn't attend the 45th, you can still buy a copy of a CD that Dave Knisley put together featuring 266 songs from our era (MP3 player ready) for \$5.00 or \$8.00 for the CD and a copy of the class directory. What an amazing deal! Just contact Carol Buck at csbuck64@aol.com or Stephanie Everitt at d56cic@joplin.com.

UPDATE!!!! Bruce McCaw underwent hip replacement surgery a few weeks ago. Last report, he was ahead of the set rehabilitation schedule he was placed on. When contacted about the probability of running a foot race, here is Bruce's comment:

Foot race is a little much, as I doubt I've run anything during the last 15 years. Looking forward to the newsletter. Golf in June and maybe a little before. Ready for the 50th though. Bruce

Keep up the progress Bruce, we're in your corner, dunk one for us and let us know when tee time is.

People Helping People!!!! Carol received the following e-mail from Greg Moore:

Howdy, Carol! Again, I'm so sorry we couldn't come up for the reunion. Hopefully, next time. I could be just retired by then! We'll see.

I would like to have a news blurb posted in the class newsletter. I am now training for a July 1/2 marathon in Napa Valley benefiting the Cohen's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) in honor of our daughter Lynette who has Crohn's disease. I'm looking for donations... I've committed to raise \$3500, and have a webpage, plus am posting weekly updates with a training group picture each week. Is this something you'd feel comfortable putting in the newsletter? I'd also ask if there is anyone who is running for recreation these days, just to start some conversation. The url for my webpage is <http://tinyurl.com/gregtonapa>

If that would be OK, I'd send you the blurb later this week.

Hope all is well with you and the family. Greg

Here is the information from Greg explaining his quest to stamp out Crohn's disease.

Hello, everyone! I am training to run the Napa to Sonoma Half Marathon in July, benefiting the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA). My running of the 13.1 miles is in honor of Beverly and my daughter Lynette who has had Crohn's since '96, having undergone 2 intestinal surgeries, the last one occurring this past January. I've committed to raise \$3500, so I am asking you to consider making a donation and join Beverly and me in this effort.

Now, you may not be familiar with Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis, which are commonly known as Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD), so here is some background information:

- estimated that some 1.4 million Americans have IBD

(Continued on Page 9)

- is seldom-discussed and often isolating, embarrassing, and very painful
- affects primarily adolescents and young adults between 17 & 35, but can occur in adults up to age 70 as well as youngsters under 18
- Crohn's is a chronic disorder that causes inflammation of the GI tract & thickening of the bowel wall, more commonly in the area joining the small and large intestines
- Colitis is also chronic that affects the colon or large intestine, with the innermost lining becoming inflamed and developing tiny open sores.

These are really nasty, painful disorders, & are life-changing for those 1.4 million folks affected.

My tagline is to "Stomp Out Crohn's!!" and whatever amount you can give is greatly appreciated ... it will all help! One note...80% of every dollar donated goes directly for research sponsored by CCFA to find cures and new treatments. Plus, it's Tax-Deductible!!

There are 2 easy ways to contribute:

1. Go to my website and give electronically (<http://tinyurl.com/gregtonapa>) or
2. Send a check paid to CCFA; our address is 7801 Ludwig Castle Way, Plano, TX 75025

We're also offering a BIG INCENTIVE!!! We will pick up 5 bottles of fine wine while in California and will award 1 bottle to each of our 5 largest dollar donors! One of those bottles could have your name on it!

My website also has a weekly update feature with my Team Challenge training group photo (I'm usually in the red cap) and a note regarding my total weight loss as I train over the next 10-12 weeks.

Please feel free to send this information on to your friends, family, co-workers...they probably know someone who has these diseases...or they may even have one. So, let's join together in "Stomping Out Crohn's Disease"!

I stopped running in 2007 and am just now beginning to hit the streets again. I am wondering how many of you are runners or joggers...classmates or spouses? Any half or full marathoners? What is your favorite course or event? Please send me a note if you'd like... greg.bev@verizon.net

Thanks so much for spending the time to read this message!

Greg & Beverly Moore

Remembrances

It is with deep regret that we acknowledge the passing of two classmates since our 45th Reunion. Pat Hogan Baldwin of Kennewick, WA and Judy Carter Wynhausen of Joplin, MO passed away a few weeks apart. Our sympathy and condolences go out to their family.

In Memory: We extend our sympathy to Pat (Westfall) Dannelley and family upon the passing of Dee Dannelley. Many of us recently visited with Dee and Pat as they welcomed us to The Butcher's Block for our 45th Reunion. A year behind us in high school, Dee was well-known in the community for his food service businesses. He and Pat graciously welcomed their customers and often provided special discounts for non-profit organizations such as ours. We appreciated Dee and Pat's friendship and were saddened to learn of his passing on March 10, 2010.

construction centers around the 3 new middle schools. Joplin East Middle School opened in August 2009 and is located on 20th St., one-half mile east of Duquesne Road. It is a one story, spacious building. I'm sure those who attended the former East Jr. High will be happy to know Joplin East is up and running in a great new building with lots of land surrounding it.

Joplin South Middle School opened in January 2010 and is located on E. 50th St., beside Calvary Baptist Church. While it features 2 stories, the design is very similar to Joplin East. All middle schools have a commons area which is a large open, almost convention-like arena where lunch is served and trophy cases line the wall. Students gather here each morning for breakfast or to await the bell. On one side of the commons area is a double gym where two sports can practice full court at the same time. On the other side is a beautiful 720 seat auditorium. South students will no longer have to share the auditorium/gym of the original building at 22nd and Pearl. Lots of memories there, but how nice the large double gyms and state of the art auditorium are. Sound booths and professional catwalks for the lighting crew are included in all three schools. From the commons area, the hall leads to triple corridors which house the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade pods. Besides these, music, drama, art, tech, computer, and family and consumer science (home ec.) complete the floorplans. All 3 middle schools are built to accommodate 600 students each.

Joplin North Middle School remains on the original ground at 1st and Gray. The building we remember is in the process of being renovated and an additional 93,000 sq. ft. have been added so the commons and other areas have parity with East and South. The new addition is one story on the south for the commons

area with the north addition being two stories. Interestingly, the old gym is now two story shop and home ec. rooms with part of the original wood gym floor and brick west wall remaining. Students will attend Joplin North in August of this year. They have been temporarily schooled at the former South while construction continues at North.

Because North is remaining on the original site and much of the building has been renovated, a special project to retain historical high-lights is taking place. Built in 1931, North Jr. High's auditorium was of the Art Deco Era with highly decorative ceiling molding and elaborate stained glass chandeliers. The current principal, Barbara Cox, requested, prior to the renovation, that a committee be formed to study possible ways to bring a part of the history into the new construction. This was approved by the administration and Phyllis Payne Sapp was asked to co-ordinate the project and invite community volunteers to serve. The committee of seven made four recommendations to the Board of Education and approval for these proposals was given in January. Next, the task of raising funds to implement the ideas was started as no bond issue funds were to be used. Private donations from former North students and friends are making this a reality and the following restoration projects will be seen in the new building as it welcomes students to begin classes in August of 2010:

- *Custom designed entry floor tiles in the center foyer will parallel the original ceiling molding of the auditorium. The Art Deco design will be embossed under clear 12 inch glass tiles.*
- *Smaller, coordinating wall tiles will frame the former auditorium entry doors and have Joplin North within the design. The auditorium*

will be the new library/ media center, retaining the grandeur of the original room with stage.

- *Office benches will be made of Carthage marble which was originally in the girls' gym locker room.*
- *The original chandeliers, each weighing over 300 pounds, will be restored and returned to the high ceilings.*

Our only way to contact former North students is by memory, as district records give us only the year of high school graduation. The R-8 committee invites you to share in this project and welcomes any of the following donations:

- *Monetary contributions (Any amount helps . . . \$10, \$25, etc.)*
- *Photos of our years at North or from anyone you might know who attended, parents, siblings, neighbors, for example.*
- *Stories of North memories or an interest in being interviewed by current students who are writing historical narratives.*

All donors will be listed alphabetically in the historical display without amounts noted.

(Special thanks to those of our class who attended North and have sent contributions: *Sharon Peters Arnold, Jay Campbell, Connie Culton Cox, Nancy Godfrey, Nancy Laird Hailey, Richard LaNear, Bruce LaVal, Karol Tate Miller, Phyllis Payne Sapp, & Gail Heller Smith. Several others have indicated they plan to do so, and we hope to hear from anyone interested by mid-May.*) Any donations, photos, or stories should be mailed to Joplin R-8 Foundation, 1717 E. 15th St., Joplin, MO 64801. Support of any kind is appreciated. We encourage those in town or home visiting to stop by and tour the new middle school buildings. East, South, & North are all once again centers of educational and social activities. ∞

And finally, as mentioned earlier, we would love to hear what you'd like to see happen at our 50th reunion. The reunion committee may possibly compile your ideas providing an “al a carte” option that would offer several choices to let you create your own reunion experience. It's all in the early planning stages but we need your input. Send your ideas to: joplinmo64@joplinmo64.com.

All the best and look for the next quarterly newsletter in July.

A few pictures from the 45th Reunion



John Keeling



Donna Drake Helton & Carol Corbin Buck



Mary Ellen Franks-Greer & Jay Campbell



Ross Smith, Butch England & Jeanne Looper Tighe



Connie & Mitch Stephens with Phyllis Payne-Sapp



Tom Harrison & Jim Krudwig



Mardell Thomas-Rouse & Jim Anderson



Jim Christiansen & Perry Potter



Perry Potter, Dave Stockam, Mitch Stephens, Rick Sadler, Bruce McCaw



Janet Hale-Tabin, Phyllis Payne-Sapp, Charlene Veteto-Jones & Donna Drake-Helton, were all former Top Hatters, with Jack Holder their sponsor. Also shown is Ms. Franks-Greer



Jamie McCaw, Billie Lenger-Stockam & Linda Sadler



Monty Gavin, Donna Powers-Hansen & Jeanne Looper-Tighe



Ross Smith & Jeanne Looper-Tighe



Cousins, Sharon Peters-Arnold & David Knisley



Donna Drake-Helton, Stephanie White-Everitt & Carol Corbin-Buck



Jim Christiansen & Jim Everitt



John & Debbie Keeling with Donna Drake-Helton



Some of the tailgaters



Betty Shanks-Smart entertaining a table group



Mickey Moore



Sharon Peters-Arnold, following in Betty's footsteps



Donna Drake-Helton, Sharon Peters-Arnold & Carol Corbin-Buck



Stephanie White-Everitt, Carol & Ed Buck



South Jr. High Group



East Jr. High Group



North Jr. High Group



Phyllis Payne-Sapp, Charlene Veteto-Jones & Stephanie White-Everitt



JHS Marquee during our class reunion