



"JHS Class of '64"

Issue 3

Class Newsletter October 30,

Joplin Eagles

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Class Website:

Check the website out. Click on the tabs & enjoy.

www.joplinmo64.com

The Newsletter is the last tab on the right. Scroll over, click on it, then click on view.

Classmates, Our 3rd Edition is Here

This third installment of all things "JHS Class of 1964" lands as the weather begins to cool and the chill of fall invites a return to earlier times in Joplin. Memory carries us back to football games, pep club bonfires and Main Street Christmas parades.

Main Street is inextricably linked to our experience of growing up in Joplin. Long before shopping malls and Range Line restaurants, the vitality of our town centered on that street. "No cruising" signs now litter the landscape of the thoroughfare that

defined our teenage years.

The pit stops of our youth, Keller's Barbecue, the C&A and El Rancho have given way to Wendy's and Sonics. The buildings that housed Christman's, Ramsey's and Newman's Department Stores are ghostly reminders of the bustle of Saturday shoppers. The movie screens of the six theaters that lined Main Street are dark.

But redevelopment is lighting up a bit of Main Street's glory and promise. We're including some old

postcard images of Main Street that represent that thoroughfare through the decades, see page 9.

Our newsletter covers the period of time that contains three holidays—Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's—occasions that evoke images of family, friendship and renewal. As our trip down Main Street through the rearview mirror of the past melts into the present, our wish is that you experience an overflowing—with the people you love—of all the magnificent things this upcoming season contains. ∞

Joplin Once Again Has South, North, and East!

While we knew them as junior highs, they are now sixth through eighth grade middle schools. Joplin East, Joplin North, and Joplin South are massive, new construction with space to grow. South was landlocked, so new property a few blocks east of 50th and Main is the location of

Joplin South. Built by R.E. Smith Construction (yes, our own Dick Smith '64), the building has two stories and is surrounded by open land, including a nature area along the natural creek south of the school. Joplin East again becomes a link in the school district and

is located a few blocks east of 20th & Duquesne Rd. A one story building, East has similar music and drama rooms, library, double gym, auditorium, and central commons area for meals and dances. Each school is designed to house 600 students.

Continued on page 10

When I awakened this morning, I thought to myself that this is the oldest I've ever been.

Our link is now on the JHS Alumni website. Check this out: <http://www.joplineagles.org/alumni/>



Donna Drake-Helton Bio

In 1982 we adopted the most beautiful baby boy in the entire world! That is when I became the person I was meant to be....a mom!!



Since Graduation....

In the fall of 1964 I entered Jasper County Junior College. There, I met the love of my life, Terry Helton, in October of that same year. We became engaged to be married at Christmas time 1965. In 1966 I graduated with my AA degree and started working at the First National Bank in Joplin as a check printer. Terry and I married in January 1967. I attended a night class to learn to keypunch and then was hired by the bank to work in their data processing department. After Terry graduated in 1969 with his Bachelor of Science Degree from Missouri Southern College, Uncle Sam "needed" him. He served in Vietnam as an Air Force pilot.

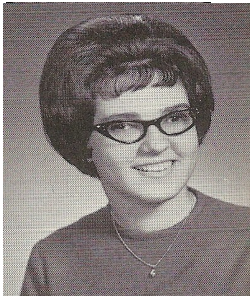
We moved to Colorado Springs Colorado in the fall of 1972, staying there a year. During that time I worked as a keypunch operator at a large hospital in Colorado Springs, working nights. During the days Terry worked as an electrician as well as an instructor pilot. Needless to say we didn't see one another very often. We moved to Waterloo, Iowa a year later where I, again, worked as a keypunch operator at a Bank in

Waterloo while Terry taught people to fly. In 1976 we bought a silk screen printing company and work side by side. Hard long hours but we loved learning the trade and working together. Before too long our business grew too large for the building we were renting so we move into a brand new building that we built in the newly formed Industrial Park in Evansdale, Iowa, the town we lived in. Evansdale and Waterloo are to each other as Webb City and Joplin are. In 1982 we adopted the most beautiful baby boy in the entire world! That is when I became the person I was meant to be....a mom!!

We sold our printing business a few years later when Terry noted "it just wasn't fun anymore" ...he wanted to spend more time with us and pursue other interests. A short time later we moved to Vinton Iowa when Terry was hired as that town's City Administrator, his career goal. From there we moved to Hermann Missouri when an opening for its City Administrator became available. We lived in Hermann from 1990 until 1997 when we moved to Bolivar Missouri. Our decision to move to

Bolivar was as a result of Terry's being approached by the Bolivar Board of Alderman offering him the opportunity to be its first City Administrator. He loved his new job and enjoyed the people he worked very much. Sadly this happy time was interrupted by his diagnosis of esophageal cancer. He died nine months later, losing his hard fought battle. Being a widow is not something I expected, who does, at the age of 53. Our seventeen year old son graduated high school the next spring and went to Drury University then to graduate school at the University of Minnesota Mankato on an assistantship. He is married and lives in Minnesota, with his wife and three children. In February there will be another little Helton.

I have worked in the library at Southwest Baptist University since 2002. It is a decent job and I see no reason, at present, to change the status quo. I'd love to be nearer my son and grandchildren but who knows where time will take them so I'll just stay put..... That's my life in a nut shell. ∞



Stephanie White-Everitt Bio

I married my high school sweetheart Jim in 1969 and we moved to Cocoa Beach, Florida, close to Patrick Air Force Base, where Jim was stationed.



I was born in Venice, Italy and adopted by a military family when I was 6 months. I have always thought that God truly blessed me because of all of the babies that were in the orphanage during war time and I was picked out. From that day on I have had 63 wonderful years. Other than some health issues my life has truly been good.

I married my high school sweetheart Jim in 1969 and we moved to Cocoa Beach, Florida, close to Patrick Air Force Base, where Jim was stationed. It was an exciting time in both our lives because it was during the time when space exploration was in full force. Jim was an assistant to the General of the base who was also in charge of all splash down operations. They would go out on a ship and pick up the astronauts when they returned to earth. The most exciting is when he got to meet the astronauts who landed on the moon.

Returning to Joplin in 1971 I went to work at Whitaker Printing Company. Several years later Benton bought Joplin Printing Company and we moved down there. I worked for Benton for 20 years. Hubby wanted me to not work and start traveling with him. I had done some trav-

eling in the US and made several trips to Europe with Jim while working. One day I saw Tom Jensen who owns Dixie Printing and he asked if I would be interested in coming to work 3 days a week for him as a sales rep. I told him I would think about it but it wouldn't be a permanent job maybe 5 years. Well...I worked for Tom for 14 years. Every day was a new adventure which is why I guess I stayed on so long. I have made so many wonderful friends and even now I will see them somewhere we will just hug and visit and they will ask me how am I enjoying my retirement and I just give them one big smile and tell them I recommend retirement highly!

I continued to travel with Jim while still working. One trip especially was dear to my heart and was when we went to Venice and I found the orphanage that I was adopted from but unfortunately it was not open the day we were there and we were leaving the next day to another town in Italy.

I have a friend who is currently in Venice now and she is going to go and see what she can find out about my natural parents or if I have any family at all there. I

am excited to see what she finds out.

In March 2009 Jim retired. In May we took an Alaskan cruise to celebrate our 40th Anniversary. (early celebration for October anniversary). Returning from the cruise I told Tom that at the end of July I planned on retiring. I don't think he was surprised at all of my decision.

In September we took three weeks and went up into New England. Visited 12 states enjoying the back roads and stopping at quaint little towns. October we had our 40th Anniversary Celebration at our church. Had friends come who we had not seen for quite some time. It was a wonderful gathering of family and friends.

In January 2010 we went to Las Vegas and then onto Scottsdale, Arizona where we met up with Charlene (Veteto) and Mike Jones. We went to the Barrett-Jackson car auction which was one of the places Jim and I said we would go like the trip to New England once we retired. We have future trips planned but for now we are enjoying every day of our retirement and pray that God continues to bless us. Life is good. ∞



Your Bio Could Be Here

ATTENTION!!!



We are down to one bio for our next newsletter. We have had promises galore from some that say they will do a bio for the newsletter, so now is the time to fulfill that promise. Please consider a short update on how you got from Joplin Senior High School in 1964 to where you are now. Nothing personal needs to be included, just what got you to where you are now and some of your interests. We have had some great feedback on past bio's and would love to keep this alive, but to do so, we need your participation. So go for it!!! ∞

Help Us Find Our Missing Classmates

We have added to the missing classmates list. After we received returns on the snail mail copies of the newsletter we sent out, we found that several classmates were no longer living at the address we had listed or had the same contact information that was given to us for the 40th Reunion. We are still trying to locate 38 classmates, help us find the following:

Linda Baugh (Robards), Patricia Kay Belk, Richard Burns, Jo Ellyn Brown (Baker), Danny Clark, Gary Colvin, Larry Conboy, Johnie Coats, Mary Sue Cox (Riley), Merlene Garrison (Burris), Don Hall, Donna Jean Harbaugh, James "Jim" Hilton, Clair Howard, Robert "Bob" Isaacs, Robert "Bob" Jordan, La Donna Miller, Carol Munson (Wrench), Emma Nunn, Mitchell "Pat" O'Brien, Judy Osborne (Gardner), Richard Lee Pearson, Patricia Kay Puckett, Patty Riley (Brewer), Drucilla Short, Connie Smith, Robert James "Bob" Smith, Robert Joe "Bob" Smith, William "Bill" Ray Stow, Calvin Summers, Shirley Teague, Mary Thornton (Reed), Janice Trombley (Testerman), Linda Vails, Thomas Ray Warren, Paula Weinacht, Steve Wimp & Mike Winfrey.

We did locate Carol Blankenship after our first newsletter went out, but have since lost her, as she has changed e-mail address. Please help us out again. In order to keep you abreast and to value your input as we move toward our 50th Class Reunion, don't forget to include us on any changes in your contact information. You may do this on the website by clicking on the "Contact" tab, filling in your information in the box provided and click on the "Send" tab, that's it.

On Friday, October 8th, 7 classmates gathered at Tanner's in the Waldo area of south Kansas City for a fun and festive evening. Most of us hadn't seen each other since graduation. We discovered that 25 former classmates live in the Kansas City area and have hopes that more will be able to attend the next gathering. We made plans to try to get together at different locations about once every 3 months. Those attending were Suzanne Gilmore-Smith and hubby Clark, Janice Martin Hagan and hubby Bill, Harry Reeves and guest Leslie, Marian Wolf-Stevens and guest John, David Knisley with guest Gail and the newly weds, Ross Smith and his bride Jeanne Looper-Smith. Checkout some of the pictures below & on page 6. Honestly folks, we had a grand time.



L-R: Ross Smith, Marion Wolf-Stevens, Jeanne Looper-Smith, Jan Martin-Hagan, Suzanne Gilmore-Smith & David Knisley



Ross Smith, Harry Reeves & David Knisley



Suzanne, Leslie LaMons, Harry & Jeanne



Just catchin' up on the past & chatting away



Ross & Jeanne



Bill & Jan



Clark & Suzanne



Marian & John



Gail & David



Our hostess for the evening, Ms. Becky

Please let us know if you have a classmates get together in your area.



Jeanne Looper-Smith & Janice Martin-Hagan



Leslie, Harry & Jeanne

Remembrances

On Monday, October the 11th, we lost classmate Delbert Caylor. We extend our sympathy, along with thoughts and prayers to his family.

<http://www.joplinglobe.com/deathnotices/x935814441/Delbert-Caylor>

It's with deep regret we acknowledge the passing of two JHS teachers. Math instructor Marilyn "Kay" Holsinger and General Business instructor Kathryn Pilkenton have passed.

<http://www.holmanhowe.com/sitemaker/sites/Holman1/obit.cgi?user=210332Holsinger%20%28Hartville%29>

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/tallahassee/obituary.aspx?n=kathryn-ruth-mccord-pilkenton&pid=144891625>

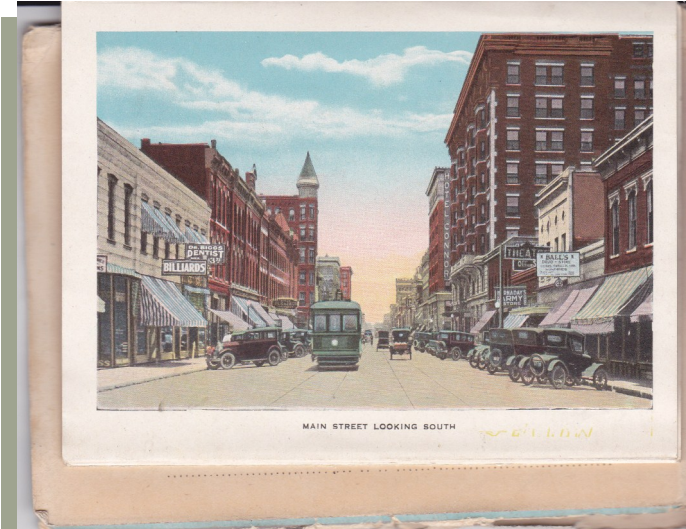
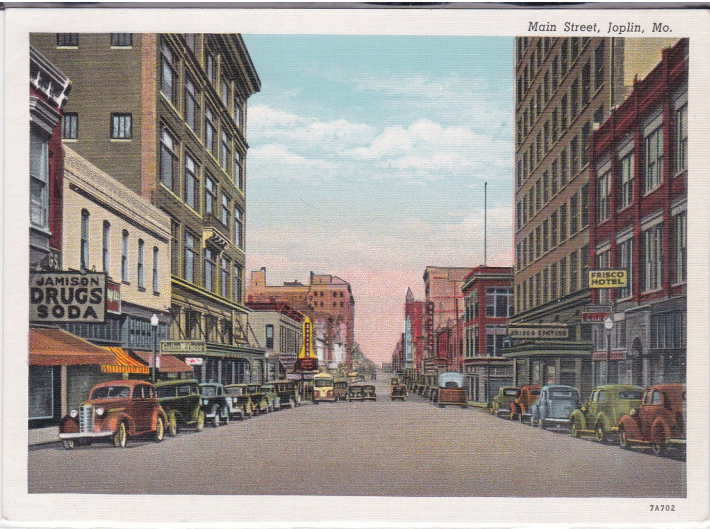
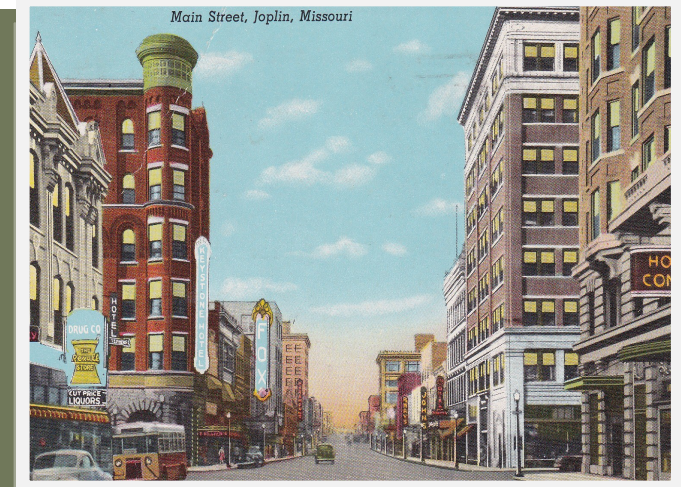
A memorial service celebrating the life of Dewey L. Horton (1916-2010), father of JHS '64 classmates Kathleen Horton Roller and Beverly Horton Moore and father-in-law of JHS '64 classmate Greg Moore, will be held as follows:

<http://www.joplinglobe.com/obituaries/x652350077/Dewey-L-Horton>

Date: Friday, November 5, 2010

Time: 1:00 p.m.

*Place: First United Methodist Church
501 West Fourth Street
Joplin, MO*



Caricature of Main Street today

The editorial team for content, consists of Jeanne Looper Smith, Phyllis Payne Sapp and David Knisley. Please feel free to comment on the website "Contact" tab.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE!!!

With this being our third edition of the class newsletter and hopefully you've had an opportunity to have a look-see at the website, you've seen the value of keeping it operational. Again, just to let you know, we have undertaken a five year commitment to keep us connected as a class. Several of our classmates and reunion committee members have taken it upon themselves to contact 3 classmate friends via Facebook or directly e-mailing or calling them and asking to chip in a peso or two and keep our website and e-mail address alive, at least through our 50th reunion celebration. We need your support--not only your ideas, comments, bios, etc. (ok, here's the blatant money pitch), but, dang it, we need your \$\$ to keep our technological lights turned on! Several of our classmates have made donations and more get involved every quarter. We have aspirations of a few more classmates helping out this quarter and that will help underwrite our expenses.

Our rally hats go off to the following for their support and positive comments about the website and newsletter. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts:

Carol Corbin Buck, Connie Culton Cox, Stephanie White Everitt, Jeanne Lewis Owen, Janice Thornberry Mathews, Dave Knisley, Phyllis Payne Sapp and Jeanne Looper Smith, Jim Christiansen, Marvin Gray, Suzanne Gillmore-Smith, Donna Drake-Helton, Greg & Beverly (Horton) Moore & Janet Hale Tabin...

Please send your \$\$ (no amount is too small, even \$5 or \$10 will put a smile on our faces) to Dave Knisley at 4301 E 109th Street—Kansas City, MO 64137-2010 and keep us afloat.

**Back to the Future**

In August, 1965, when a summer of Main Street cruises, afternoons at Grand Lake and dates at the Tri-State Drive-In ended, classmates Ross Smith and Jeanne Looper said a cheerless goodbye on the platform of Joplin's Union Depot. 45 years later, on August 20th, they said "I do" when they married in Kansas City, Mo.

Since North Jr. was the only one with land to expand, it was renovated with 93,000 sq. ft. added to the existing 72,000 sq. ft. The new sections were built around the original building which has been totally remodeled. Walking through Joplin North, you will see the former gym has been made into classrooms on two stories. A keen eye will be able to locate the original brick walls of the gym and the wooden floor which are now the tech (shop), enrichment, and family and consumer science (home ec.) classrooms.

The basement cafeteria is the new art area. The original girls' shower stalls, made of Carthage marble, are now insets in the benches that line the main office. Another change is the historical restoration of the original auditorium. It is the new library/media center and features the current Joplin district colors of burgundy, steel blue, and gray in bold wall panels. The orchestra pit is no longer as the floors were raised to be level with the stage which retains the original wood flooring while the main floor is carpeted and features computers stations and book collections. The beautiful chandeliers first installed in 1931 have been restored and create the historical ambiance of the grand room.

In an effort to incorporate the eight decade history of North into the new edifice, Joplin R-8 Schools and current principal, Barbara Cox, asked Phyllis Payne Sapp, North alumna, to organize a committee of volunteers to meet, suggest, and proceed with raising private donations to fund the historical restorations. This was done and \$24,660 was given by former North students. Since district records included only graduation years from high school, there was not a data base available to contact Jr. High alumni. Phone calls, e-mails, newspaper articles, and class newsletters made an appeal for support. (The district and North's faculty and students appreciate the support provided by Class of '64 alumni Sharon Peters Arnold, Joy Whitaker Barnett, Jay Campbell, Connie Culton Cox, Linda Firestone, Nancy Godfrey, Nancy Leard Hailey, Richard LaNear, Bruce LaVal, Karol Tate Miller, Phyllis Payne Sapp, and Gail Heller Smith.

Entering the east door, a glass tile floor welcomes visitors. The design embossed beneath, was drawn to replicate the original auditorium ceiling molding and funded by alumni donations. Additionally, wall tiles surround the new library doors and were also designed in the Art Deco style with Joplin North imprinted. Finally, a large custom tile mosaic is a focal point in the new commons area. The 180 twelve inch square tiles highlight the exterior of North with all student courses and extra-curricular activities taking place within the building displayed. Interestingly, with the exception of computers, the icons are as relevant today as they would have been over the seventy-eight years the original building served Joplin's youth.

Open houses and ribbon cuttings signaled the opening of each new middle school. Joplin North also recently held a Donor Recognition Assembly so the students could recognize the alumni who had made the historical projects possible. A standing ovation greeted former students with the oldest in attendance being ninety-two, having attended North Jr. in 1933. Historical pictures were displayed, and a DVD of memories of 30 alumni spanning the generations was presented. There was obvious pride as yesterday and today's students mingled and conversed.

Although both East and South are totally new buildings, if anyone is interested in compiling historical photos and written memories, it would be a great project to pursue and one the administration would welcome. If you have an opportunity, stop by one of the schools . . . the students and staff enjoy their new surroundings and would like to share them with you. ∞

Since the next newsletter will not be released until the end of January 2011, we would like to use this space to wish everyone safe and enjoyable holidays ahead. Thanksgiving on November 25th, Hanukkah December 1-9, Christmas on Saturday, December 25th and Happy New Year as we bring in 2011 on Friday December 31st and kickoff the first day of the year on Saturday, January 1st. Again, enjoy the holidays with family and friends, but most of all, do it safely and with gusto.

Did you know you can see videos and still photos of activities in all Joplin Schools?

Locally, Channel 14 continuously shows recent videos, but for those out of town or not on local cable, here's the way to look in at a time convenient for you:

For videos produced at the district's TV station, you can pull up what you want to view on demand by going to: www.jet14ondemand.com then click on Jet-14 on Demand.

Click on "Joplin Schools Highlights" category tab on the left side of the page.

Next, click on the title of your choice. *This takes awhile to load, so give it a couple of minutes, then go to the bar below and click to begin.

("Remembering the Past" is the title for those wanting to view the alumni interviews and historical pictures from North.)

For photos, go to: www.joplinschools.org then click on Joplin Schools.

Select "School Information on left, scroll down to school of your choice and click "Website", , , , once there you will see principals' photos. To the right of photos, select "Photo Album" and once in, you have several choices to view.

"Construction" will show the various stages of each middle school. There are thousands of digital pictures to be seen.

We hope you'll stop in to view what's going on in Joplin Schools today. We are fortunate to have an exceptional television facility within the high school which allows local and distant viewers to access the activities of the district via computer. ENJOY!

Update on Lisa Stockam King

A few weeks ago we sent out to our classmates with an e-mail address the information about the mountain that Lisa Stockam King is climbing and asking for a prayer or three. Lisa is the daughter of our classmates David and Billie Sue Lenger Stockam. Evidently it worked as Lisa is still climbing that mountain, but is out of the hospital and doing so at home. Please keep Lisa in your prayers, along with Dave & Billie. If you care to see how Lisa is progressing, please go to her blog site for updates. Again, a prayer works wonders. <http://www.helplisafight.blogspot.com/>

Here is the latest update that was written on October 28th:

Lisa got home from the hospital Monday, and had a good day. She even got out for a mani/pedi!! Then, she started the Neupogen shot (the one for 5 days in a row after chemo). She is having a rough time with it. It makes the long bones in her body hurt as it is working to help with her white blood cell count. She will finish the shots on Sat., and is looking forward to some GOOD days before next Friday's CT Scan and Chemo.

"Just keep on fighting Lisa & may God Bless"

HELP GREG MOORE STOMP-OUT CROHN'S DISEASE!

Dear JHS Classmate

In December, I will be traveling on a new road to "Stomp-Out Crohn's Disease" ...to Las Vegas!! The road is 13.1 miles long down the strip as a participant in the Rock 'n Roll Half Marathon, benefiting the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA). I'm walking again in honor of our daughter Lynette, who has had Crohn's since 1996, including undergoing 2 surgeries to remove portions of her small intestine and colon...her last surgery occurred this past January. In July, I completed the Napa to Sonoma Wine Country Half Marathon (3:20:40), and this time I'm mentoring a new group of marathon walkers plus walking myself.

I'm asking you to consider 2 things: If you know of someone who has Crohn's or Colitis, please send me their name, and I'll put it on my race jersey; (greg.bev@verizon.net). At the Napa race, I ran for 25 strangers whose names I had received, and /or

Make a contribution to CCFA. 83% of every dollar donated goes directly for the research sponsored by CCFA to find cures and new treatments. Plus, it's Tax-Deductible!! (Tax ID 13-6193105). There is an easy way to contribute: just go to my website and give electronically (<http://tinyurl.com/gregtovegas>)

In return for raising the money, I get an entry into the race & 2 nights in a hotel...I pay my own way to Las Vegas. In July, I raised \$4716, as part of the \$2.2M national total!

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 info (also visit <http://www.cdfa.org>): Estimated that some 1.4 million Americans have IBD - Is seldom-discussed and often isolating, embarrassing, and very painful. Primarily affects adolescents and young adults between 17 & 35, but can occur in adults up to age 70 as well as youngsters under 18...our local honoree is 14, & I met a 12-yr old girl in Napa with Colitis.

Crohn's is a chronic disorder that causes inflammation of the GI tract & thickening of the bowel wall.

These are really nasty, painful disorders, & life-changing for those affected. They must be stomped out!!

I update my website each week with a picture from our Saturday morning training runs if you wish to follow my Team Challenge training group's progress. Feel free to send this MSG on to your friends, family, co-workers...they probably know someone who has these IBD diseases...they may even have them. THANK YOU for taking the time to read this MSG. Now, please join me in "Stomping-Out Crohn's Disease"!!!! ∞

Here is Greg in his leaving for Vegas outfit. He should fit right in there.

As info Greg; your class newsletter editors support your efforts and a contribution has been made to this most worthwhile cause. Thank you for what you do.



Caring for Others in Aftermath of Joplin Fire

Oxford Apartments, East 34th and Texas Avenue was the scene of a massive fire Monday, August 23rd. The fire is thought to have started in an attic of one building and spread to a second, leaving the residents of 29 apartments homeless. Fortunately no one was killed during the morning fire; since school had started, many of the children had already left that morning.

Jon Buck, son of Carol Corbin Buck and John Ed Buck, organized a group of friends to provide assistance. Naming themselves the Good Neighbor Association, five friends led the appeal for clothing, furniture, bedding, and anything that would help those misplaced. A collection station was set up in the Office Depot parking lot and over a two day period, 6 box trucks and a semi were filled. Jon and the association, Carol and Ed, and others phoned friends, classmates, and neighbors asking for support. The response was overwhelming, and a huge distribution center was set up in a local warehouse. A voucher system was then created. The residents were able to come and take what they could use. It took almost forty volunteers to help sort and distribute the items Jon’s group collected.

This is only the beginning for the Good Neighbor Association. What a wonderful example of caring for others. Accolades go to Jon and his team. What a difference you made for the residents.

When in Joplin, you might consider stopping by Jon’s new place of business and ask if he’s familiar with the Class of ‘64! Carol tells us he has opened J.B.’s Piano Bar and Event Center at 112 S. Main, formerly known as TRIOs. The hours are 4 p.m. until closing and private parties can be reserved for anytime. The establishment will feature dueling piano players every Sat. night. Best of luck, Jon, in this new endeavor, and thanks for the tremendous project you organized to help others in their time of need. ∞

These pictures speak for themselves, great job by the Buck family on community involvement



With cooler weather moving in on those of us that experience the change of the seasons, I thought that a quick recipe for some comfort food is in store. I love making this and people love eating it. This is one recipe that can be played with and made into what you enjoy eating. Feel free to experiment with it. DK

Taco Soup

2 lbs. of ground chuck (or 1 lb. of chuck & 1 lb. of ground pork)

1 can of sweet corn, do not drain

1 (4 oz.) can or 1 (6 oz. Giorgio's) jar of sliced mushrooms, do not drain

1 or 2 cans of your choice of beans (I use Ranch Style Pinto's & Bush's Black Beans) I have seen recipes that called for Kidney or Red Beans.

1 can of Original or Mexican style RoTel

1 onion chopped or diced (I have used frozen chopped onions, but I like fresh better)

1 can (8 oz.) of Hunt's Tomato Sauce

1 small can (4 oz.) of slice black olives

1 small can (4 oz.) of chopped green chilies

Feel free to add or delete any item. When I first got this recipe it didn't call for green chilies, black beans, black olives or RoTel. It did call for stewed tomatoes, but I like RoTel much better. I took it upon myself to add those ingredients, which I think makes it a little more festive. Vegetarian folks could just eliminate the ground meat & add more veggies.

Brown the meat, add 1 pkg. of taco seasoning while the meat is fairly rare, salt & pepper to your taste. Drain the fat off and add the sweet corn, mushrooms, beans, RoTel, tomato sauce, black olives, onions & green chilies. If you want a little kick, add some dried hot peppers. Add water to your satisfaction for soup content. I let it simmer for 30 minutes or more. You may top with cheese, sour cream and crumble corn chips if you so desire. This makes a great comfort dish even in the summertime and is better the 2nd or 3rd day.

Puns for Educated Minds: The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

I've received e-mails about the 'year of your birth' before... This one is completely different. Give it a try. Click on the link then type in your birth year. <http://whathappenedinmybirthyear.com/>