

Fifties Plus Club Marks 20th Anniversary

The Fifties Plus Club—alumni who have graduated from Abington 50 or more years ago—marks its 20th anniversary this year.

The club was the brainchild of the 50th-reunion committee of the Class of 1924. In 1974, the committee invited Abington alumni from classes in the 1920s to participate in an annual luncheon. The committee—Thora Simons Bonnell, Sarah Stevens Willet, Thomas Ober, Mabel Mooney and Louis Oswald—named this group the Twenties Club.

As participation grew, the name was changed to the Fifties Plus Club, and the locale (which had varied) was moved to the Lulu Country Club starting in 1982. For many years, Lin Shaffer '32 handled funds and reservations for the Fifties Plus Luncheon. Last year, he asked the alumni association to take over this job, which was passed to Earl Jenkins '36, the association's auditor.

The 1993 luncheon, hosted by the Class of 1937, was the first held at the new location—Williamson restaurant in Horsham, Pa. Of the 232 who attended, 158 were alumni (including 116 from classes in the '30s and 30 from classes in the '40s). Representing the '20s were E. Mildred Yates Jarrett '20, Helen Ulrich Powers '22, Ruth Bareis Neff '23, Robert Loughed '23, Dick Fetter '24, Wilmer Rockett '25, Bertha Ambler '26, Sam

Cunningham '26, Beatrice Strickland Miller '27, J. Boyd Coates '28, W. Vance Raab '28 and Walter Young '28.

In addition to providing alumni a chance to socialize, the Fifties Plus Club has raised \$1,100 for the alumni association operational

fund—money for which the association is most grateful.

This year's Fifties Plus Luncheon will be hosted by the Class of 1938. For more information, see the Class Reunions on page 7.

Nine scholarships awarded to Class of '93

The alumni association has awarded scholarships totaling \$9,000 to nine members of the Class of 1993. The scholarships were presented at graduation. The awardees, scholarship amounts and their colleges of matriculation are:

Diana Blade—\$600, Beaver College; **Patrick Finley**—\$600, University of Delaware; **Jennifer Hamer**—\$1,500, Kutztown University; **Shawn Harris**—\$1,500, Temple University; **Susan Palagruto**—\$1,000, Villanova University; **Mark Rudesyle**—\$1,500, Beaver College; **Tara Satterfield**—\$1,100, Philadelphia College of Textile; **Jennifer Sheppard**—\$600, Philadelphia College of Textile; and



Seated, from left: Jennifer Hamer, Diana Blade, Shawn Harris. Standing, from left: Saika Siddiqui, Mark Rudesyle, Patrick Finley, Tara Satterfield, Susan Palagruto. Not pictured: Jennifer Sheppard.

Saika Siddiqui—\$600, Philadelphia College of Textile.

Our Armed Forces

Marine 2nd Lt. **William F. Keehn '82** was commissioned to his present rank after graduating from Officer Candidate School at the Marine Combat Development Command in Quantico, Va. He is a 1986 graduate of Pennsylvania State University and served in the Persian Gulf war.

Army Spec. **Patrick R. Graser '85** completed a joint/bilateral field training exercise in Hokkaido, Japan. In the exercise, U.S. and Japanese forces trained in joint air, ground and sea operations to improve their combat readiness. He is an artillery fire direction specialist at Fort Wainright in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Marine Cpl. **Rick Knox '88** is serving in Marine Corps Intelligence in Guam.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class **Paul E. Ledebur '88** was deployed for six months to the Western Pacific aboard the guided missile carrier U.S.S. Worden (home port, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii) as part of the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk Battle Group. He has also served in the Persian Gulf and the recent attack against Iraq.

Marine Lance Cpl. **Daniel J. Geiser '90** spent six months in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He served on ships assigned to the U.S.S. Wasp Amphibious Ready Group.

Airman First Class **Jill M. Gillespie '90** is a security specialist with the Air Force and is stationed in Great Falls, Mont.

Navy Hospitalman **Steven M. Kaminski '90** is with the 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Force Service Support Group, in Okinawa, Japan.

Marine Pfc. **Brian J. McCarthy '91** graduated from the Unit Diary Clerk's course at Marine Corps Base at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Army Cadet **DeVry C. Anderson '92** has been accepted into the Class of 1996 at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Marine Pfc. **William T. Granger '92**, and Pvts. **Robert L. Stevens '92** and **Richard F. Williams '92** completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in Parris Island, S.C.

Army Pvt. **Floyd A. Tate '92** is a wheel vehicle mechanic stationed at Fort Stewart in Hinesville, Ga.

Army National Guard Pvt. **Christopher B. Witman '92** completed training at the Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga.

Thank you!

We wish to acknowledge with deep appreciation those who contributed door prizes at the 1993 dinner dance:

In Abington: Abington Beverage, Abington Florist, Abington Savings Bank, Inn Flight, PNC Bank and PSFS-Mellon; in Ardsley: Daisy Depot; in Willow Grove: Consumers and Charles F. Kremp; in Glenside: Fitzgerald Tire Service, Glenside Paper, Irish Shop, Jules Isaac Furniture, Keswick Cycle Shop and Keswick Theatre, O'Neill's Food Market, Ripley's Framing and The Water Gardener; in Hatboro: LeRoy's Flowers & Gifts; in Horsham: Williamson Restaurant; in Jenkintown: Montgomery Publishing; in North Hills: New Kenyon Diner; and in Roslyn: B&G Home Supply Service, Chas' Deli, Cherry Travel Service, Lew's Seafood, Louise's Hair-styling Salon, Mimsy Cards & Gift Shop, Specialty Floors and White's Ceramic Studio.

Where Are They Now?

a career infantry officer with the Marines. They have two sons, Eric and Alex.

David Stone '65 of Burbank, Calif., won a 1993 Academy Award for sound effects editing for the movie *Dracula*. He is a graduate of Cornell University and has worked as a sound editor on numerous films, including *Beauty and the Beast*; *sex, lies and videotape*; and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*.

The Jane Whitney Show, hosted by **Jane [Balzeret] Whitney '68**, has joined NBC's daytime lineup. The syndicated talk show, based in New York, is now seen in various time slots in more than 100 markets.

James H. Lesko '69 has been elected vice president of Xerox Corp. of Stamford, Conn. He previously was senior vice president of field operations for the company.

Paul Specht '70 is sales coordinator and advertising copywriter for Hoshino (USA) Inc. in Bensalem, Pa., makers of Ibanez guitars and Tama drums. He also teaches harmonica in the Cheltenham Township adult school.

Debra Fischer Rickard '73 of Dover, Del., recently earned a bachelor of arts with honors from Wesley College. She and her husband, Thomas, have four children.

Susan McGettigan Malen '73 is living in North Pole, Alaska (south of Fairbanks) with her husband, Joe, and two children. She has worked for the state Department of Natural Resources since 1981 and is serving her second term as president of the Tanana Valley State Fair Association.

Sally McGettigan Corl '73 was the first female graduate of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's Stackhouse School of Conservation and Water Safety, and became its first female waterways conservation officer. She and her husband (and fellow officer), Dave, have two children and live in Wapwallopen, Luzerne County, Pa. They also own Shooter's Rendezvous Ltd.

Margaret Merwin Giannetti '75 is a systems analyst with Independence Blue Cross. She lives in Washington Township, N.J., and has a son and daughter.

Michael A. Tomeo '75, a dermatologist in Meadowbrook, Pa., was a guest on KYW-TV Channel 3's "Rap-a-Round." The show focused on skin problems of teenagers, particularly acne.

The women of Wildwood, N.J., have been captured in a documentary film by **Carol Weak Cassidy '79** and **Ruth Leitman '79**. Carol, a producer and editor for Cable News

Network in Atlanta, and Ruth, a freelance photographer based in Atlanta, filmed in Wildwood for three summers. The documentary attempts to explore the attitudes, hopes and dreams of the working-class women who come to Wildwood, as well as to portray the seaside resort town.

Elizabeth Freeland Shilling '80 has been named vice president of the Bromley Group Inc., a public relations and marketing firm with offices in Dallas, New York, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. Elizabeth, formerly marketing manager at Deloitte & Touche, will head the new Dallas office.

Caryn Ann Creely '82 is a registered nurse at Medical College Hospitals, Elkins Park Campus. She graduated from Lankenau Hospital School of Nursing.

Kathleen McCleery '82 is manager of the exhibitions office at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. She lives in Annapolis, Md.

Randi S. Kremer '83 has joined Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner in Washington, D.C. The firm specializes in intellectual property law and Randi is concentrating on trademark and copyright law. She previously was with Saul, Ewing, Remick & Saul in Philadelphia.

Susan Weber '83 graduated from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in May 1993 with a master of divinity degree and is pursuing her license to preach in the Philadelphia Baptist Association. She's also studying for a master's in library and information studies at Drexel University and last year earned a black belt in American Kenpo karate.

Kristi Wilkinson '85 is working at Mercy Medical Center in Denver, Colo. She earned a masters in physical therapy from Hahnemann University in 1991 and holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Richmond.

Jenny Kaufman '88 earned a gold medal in women's Level 4 figure skating in the International Special Olympics last spring in Salzburg, Austria. She was the only Special Olympian from Montgomery County to compete in the international event, which drew 1,600 athletes from 60 countries. Jenny's win—and her offer to trade her gold medal to the silver medalist—was chronicled in a story in the *Philadelphia Inquirer's* sports section.

Phyllis Silverman '90 is a dancer with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus, and works with elephants. She hopes to pursue an acting career.

Hall of Fame 1993

Eight alumni were honored by the Hall of Fame in 1993:

Gregory K. Heller, Class of 1967 (Arts), writer and producer of motion pictures, documentaries and television scripts. A 1971 graduate of Pennsylvania State University, he collaborated with actress Faye Dunaway and producer David Begelman on the motion picture *Lost*. Mr. Heller is now working on a book about Carolyn Warmus (the *Fatal Attraction* killer) and a documentary about boxers in Auschwitz.



Gregory Heller

Melvin H. Roberts, Class of 1960 (Athletics), Philadelphia Phillies first-base coach. He previously played, managed and coached in the Phillies' minor-league organization, and in 1988 led the Spartansburg, N.C., team to the South Atlantic League championship.

Janet Wikler, Class of 1963 (Business), group vice president and director of advanced media for Harper-Collins Publishing Co. She



Melvin Roberts



Janet Wikler

is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and holds an MBA from its Wharton School. The author of a skills development book for elementary school students, she is on the cutting edge of implementing new technology in education.

Martha Albertson Fineman, JD, Class of 1961 (Education), professor of law at Co-



Martha Fineman



Oscar Vance Jr.

lumbia University and author and legal expert on issues pertaining to women and the family. The first member of her family to graduate from high school, Mrs. Fineman entered law school at age 28, after having four children. She earned her law degree from the University of Chicago and clerked for a U.S. Court of Appeals circuit judge.

Oscar P. Vance Jr., Class of 1959 (Government), chief of detectives in Montgomery County and the recipient of numerous police and civic awards. He holds a degree in sociology and criminal justice from LaSalle University. He has also served as an investigator for the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

George Geckeler, MD, Class of 1910 (Posthumous), prominent cardiologist and a developer of the electrocardiogram. Dr. Geckeler, who died in 1989 at age 95, graduated from Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in 1919. He recorded the heart's sounds, which he used to teach medical students and residents the diagnostic potential of heart sounds. He was involved with the development of open-heart surgery, and helped establish the cardiovascular institute at Hahnemann. After retiring about 1960, Dr. Geckeler volunteered at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, designing its famous walk-



George Geckeler

through heart.

Capt. Tracy Bowden, Class of 1957 (Science), underwater salvage expert whose archeological expeditions have been featured in *National Geographic*, at the Smithsonian Institution and on major U.S. and European television networks. His discoveries of the *Guadalupe* and the *Tolosa*, Spanish galleons that sunk in the Caribbean in 1724, were



Tracy Bowden



Alonzo Sudler Jr.

among the richest underwater finds in archeological history.

Alonzo Sudler Jr., Class of 1943 (Service), community leader and friend of Abington schools; director of pharmacy services at Abington Hospital for over 30 years. His extensive community service includes the Willow Grove Branch of the NAACP and the drug rehabilitation program at Aldersgate. In retirement, he is a Pennsylvania state pharmacy inspector and serves on Abington school district committees.

Who from your class should receive the Hall of Fame Award?

Nominations to the Hall of Fame can be made by using the form below. Please include information about each nominee's accomplishments. Only graduates of Abington High School should be nominated. Please consider any graduate who has not been distinguished from others in a field but who shows great potential. Nominations are automatically renewed each year, but updated credentials, addresses, etc., are appreciated.

The Hall of Fame Dinner will be held Friday, Oct. 21, 1994, at the William Penn Inn in Gwynedd, Pa. For details, contact David Schramm at the address below.

Hall of Fame Nomination Form

(Deadline: June 30, 1994)

I wish to nominate _____ Class of _____

to the Abington High School Hall of Fame in the category of _____

Nominee's address and phone number: _____

Your name, address and phone number _____

Your signature: _____

Detach and return to: Charles Baker, Chairperson, Hall of Fame Committee, Abington High School, 900 Highland Ave., Abington, Pa. 19001

Sports

By Ken Schaefer '36

Carlotta "Bunny" Schaeffer '64 was appointed director of athletics at Abington High in October 1993. She returned to Abington in 1969 after graduating from Tennessee State College in Nashville. Bunny has coached girls' basketball, hockey and lacrosse at AHS, and was named Coach of the Year in 1975. She succeeds Rodd McCuen, who has been appointed assistant principal.

Spring 1993

Baseball: 4-14.

Boys' Lacrosse: 10-7. MVP: Chris Brooks. Junior All Stars first team: Captains Chris Brooks and Dave Coldwill.

Girls' Lacrosse: 9-8. All League first team: Lauren Pfefferle and Rachel Li.

Girls' Soccer: 10-6-1. All League first team: Shannon Zerbey and Lori Parsha.

Softball: 1-18.

Boys' Spring Track: 2-5.

Girls' Spring Track: 1-6. All League first team: Kate Goldman and Carla Johnson. Suburban high-jump champion, District One high-jump champion and PIAA State high-jump champion: Carla Johnson.

Boys' Tennis: 7-6. All League first team, singles: Jason Zucker.

Boys' Volleyball: 3-6 (first-year sport).

Fall 1993

Girls' Cross-country: 1-10. Outstanding runner and captain: Kate Goldman.

Boys' Cross-country: 10-1-5.

Golf: 5-10.

Field Hockey: 10-9-2 (8-6-2 league). Colonial Division champions.

Soccer: 17-1-6. Colonial Division champions. AHS scoring record (90 goals): Phil Karn.

Girls' Tennis: 13-4. Tied for Colonial Division championship. Advanced to semi-final round of District One team championship. Rachel Cohen (17-0), team captain and MVP, named to All League first team (singles), Suburban One first team (singles) and District One second team (singles).

Football: 5-6. Includes victories over local rivals McDevitt (27-7) and Cheltenham (14-0). Damon Neely named to All State and highly rated nationally.

Winter 1993 (as of Jan. 9)

Girls' Basketball: 2-5.

Boys' Basketball: 6-2.

Wrestling: 3-2.

Girls' Swimming: 2-3.

Boys' Swimming: 2-2.

Girls' Bowling: 3-0.

Boys' Bowling: 2-2.

Class Reunions

All classes down to and including 1944—Fifties Plus Luncheon on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at the Williamson restaurant off Route 611 in Horsham, Pa. Contact: Roberta Gourley Beck, 215-675-5631.

Class of 1934 (60th)—Contact: Dorothy Warr Sutton, 215-646-1246 from 5-7 p.m.

Class of 1939 (55th)—Wednesday, Oct. 12, Williamson restaurant, Horsham, Pa., in conjunction with Fifties Plus Luncheon.

Class of 1944 (50th)—Contact: William Forsyth, 215-947-2582.

Class of 1949 (45th)—Contact: Jean Renninger Whitman, 215-646-7455.

Class of 1954 (40th)—Contact: Evelyn

Hoppe, 215-855-0564.

Class of 1959 (35th)—Contacts: Joyce Ritter and Dick Stover, 215-884-9364.

Class of 1963—No 35th reunion is planned for 1998; instead, a Fabulous 50th Birthday celebration will be held in the summer of 1995. Contact: Suzanne Leutwyler Seiter, 215-648-0111.

Class of 1964 (30th)—Contact: Russ Koerwer, 215-886-8961.

Class of 1969 (25th)—Friday, Nov. 25, at the Holiday Inn in Fort Washington, Pa. Contact: Linda Altadonna Gray, 215-881-2556 (day), 215-766-2709 (nights).

Class of 1974 (20th)—Friday, Nov. 25,

at Williamson restaurant, Horsham, Pa. Contact: Alex Levy, 215-443-7595.

Class of 1979 (15th)—Contact: Tony Swanick, 215-644-1065.

Class of 1984 (10th)—Contact: Theresa Lee, 215-464-2106 (9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. only).

Class of 1989 (5th)—Saturday, Nov. 26, at the Bent Elbo Tavern at Fortside, Fort Washington, Pa. Contacts: Nancy Baksis, 215-576-7980; Christine Delaney, 215-657-4977.

Disclaimer and notice: The Alumni Association has not and will not release or disclose mailing list information to anyone other than a class reunion committee person. We request that reunion committees protect their class lists to avoid unwanted solicitation.

Membership/Dinner Form

Please detach form, make checks payable to and mail to: Abington High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 55, Abington, Pa. 19001.

Year graduated	Present membership	Phone number
Last name (maiden if female)	First name	Spouse's full name
Street address	City	State ZIP Code

Enclosed is \$_____ for membership and/or dinner. Above is new address I am willing to give a little time to work for the Alumni Association

Membership and/or Donation

- Booster Donation to Association Any amount
- Enroll me as a Life Member \$15.00
- Enroll me as a Cornerstone Member \$25.00
- Enroll me as a Maroon & White Member \$50.00
- Enroll me as a Century Club Member \$100.00
- Enroll me as a Five Hundred Club Member \$500.00
- Memorial Donations—other than Life Membership Memorials Any amount

Dinner Reservation

- For _____ Dinner—Sat., April 23, 1994 @ \$19.00
- Indicate choice: Sirloin of beef or Broiled orange roughy