



NEWSLETTER



Class of 1953 Annual Picnic August 4, 2010

The Class of 1953 held its annual Class Picnic on August 4, at the Moseley Woods Pavilion. There were thirty-five classmates, spouses and guests in attendance. Pictured above in front row from left to right are: Carlene York Barnett, Muriel Walters Cummings,

Dick Foley, Audrey Jones Smart, Joanne Girard Baker, Carl Beal, Arthur Smith, Harold Pingree and Ben Plouff. Second row: Valerie Miller Faxon, Jean Farmer Lord, Marilyn McElwee Faxon and her Husband, Bernice Cole Barnes, Norma Coffin Taylor, Jim Tuxbury, Mary Ross

Wood, Dave Wood, and Russ Peirce. The following guests were present: Mark Wright, President NEF, John Elwell, V.P. NEF, NHS Librarian, Christine Dahlsen Bolick and husband Doug, and the new Superintendent of Schools for Newburyport, Mark Kerble.



CARL & NEF PRES. MARK WRIGHT



MARY WOOD KEEPS US LAUGHING



ENJOYING THE DAY AT MOSELEY

The Class of 1953 Begins a New Challenge Through The NEF's Naming Opportunities Program 'Make Your Mark'

The Class of 1953 has embarked on another class challenge through the Newburyport Education Foundation. The new challenge is with the Naming Opportunities 'Save Your Seat' program.

The class will 'make their mark' once again by naming a seat in the renovated NHS auditorium for every classmate who has donated to our annual library fund drive.

A drawdown procedure is being used, allowing those who have given the most to be seated first.

A year ago, the class of 1953 first made their mark through the NEF's Naming Opportunities by having a plaque placed on the circulation desk of the NHS library in memory of their former librarian, Virginia Bilmazes Bernard.

The class has been raising over a thousand dollars a year for the past seven years. With the success of their latest fund-raiser in

April, they believe that within the next two years they could complete their goal of having sixty seats named for class members.

During this year's annual class picnic on August 4, a check for \$2,300.00 was presented to Mark Wright, President of the NEF. This along with \$1,200.00 given in April will assure that thirty-five classmates will be inducted into the 'save-a-seat' program this year alone.

This year some noble classmates, family members, and friends donated in memory of deceased class members allowing them to also be included in the 'Save-a-Seat' project.

The following class members have been inducted into the Save-a-Seat program this year:

Joanne Girard Baker
Carlene York Barnette
Carl Beal
Muriel Walters Cummings
Valerie Miller Faxon
Sally Blake Lavery
Nina Rogers Meader
Russell Peirce
Arthur Smith
Norma Coffin Taylor

Mary Ross Wood
Ben Plouff
Edward Pike
Richard Foley
Gerald Foley
Edward Roaf
Judith Sprague Neu
Beverly Jewett Grant
Frank Grundstrom
Herbert Edwards
Bob Arnold
Alicia Conley Shea
Arthur Chaisson
Daniel R. Kneeland
Jean Manthorn Perkins
Emery Todd
Dave Wood
Audrey Jones Smart
Betty Brunet Carrington
Richard Gould
Ann Waiswilos Kennington
Barbara Beal Wilmot
Patricia Sullivan Szymura
William Marr
Allston Briggs

Class Notes

The program for the class picnic was as follows:

1. Library Fund-Drive for 2010 raised \$2,300.00.
2. Remembering Aug. 4, 1953 and Richard Gould
3. Thirty-five class members inducted into NEF Save-a-Seat Program
4. History of Newburyport presented to Christine Dahlsen Bolick
5. Check to Library/NEF for Save-a-Seat Program-\$2,300.00

Edward Mace Pike Passed Away

Edward M. Pike Dies at 75

Classmate Ed Pike passed away unexpectedly on September 1, 2010. Ed was a successful business man as owner of an Amesbury Brass Foundry.

Ed was an exceptional and gifted worker in the casting of beautiful bronze work for people near and far.

Ed was also a very giving person, especially to his family. Ed was also very generous to the class of 1953 and its fund raising activities for the NHS library. Over the past seven years of the Class Fund Raiser, he was the top donor in the class.

During this year's class fund raiser, the class committee received a letter from Ed, along with his donation. The letter was a request that his donation for this year go toward having his deceased friend and classmate, Emmanuel "Turk" Garand, inducted into the class project "Save-a-Seat Program" through the NEF. "Turk" will be eligible next year.

This idea has since caught on with other classmates opting to do the same thing. It is expected that next year's fund raiser will have more

deceased classmates inducted as a result of Ed Pike's unselfish action.

Ed was a good person and friend to many, and needless to say has left a big void to fill. We will miss Ed Pike.

Obituary

September 4, 2010

Edward M. Pike

NEWBURYPORT —

Edward Mace Pike, of Amesbury, died suddenly at Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport on Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2010.

He was born April 27, 1935 in Newburyport, the son of the late Robert L. Pike and the late Helen L. (Beaton) Pike.

Mr. Pike grew up in Newburyport, attended school here and was a 1953 graduate of Newburyport High School. He furthered his education at Bates College, Lowell Institute School at M.I.T, Boston and Northeastern Universities.

His career and work places were General Electric, United Shoe Machinery, then owning Reid Foundry and Denis Brass Foundry in Amesbury.

Mr. Pike is survived by his children: sons, William E. Pike and

wife Tammy of Newburyport, Robert F. Pike of Las Vegas; and his daughter, Mary A. Fisher of Rochester, N.H. He has seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by daughter, Janet M. Pike. He leaves aunts, many cousins, and his companion, Jean Farmer, of Amesbury with whom he attended the East Parish Methodist Church in Salisbury.

ARRANGEMENTS: As per Mr. Pike's wishes, family and friends will gather at a later date for a memorial service.

Class Notes:

Note of Interest

The August 17 issue of USA Today had an article about writer/director/star, Larry Blamire and wife Jennifer and the making of sci-fi family films.

The independent film maker and wife Jennifer Blaire created and starred in *The Lost Skeleton of Cadavra* which lampooned science-fiction films of the 60's. They are presently making a highly anticipated sequel of that film.

Jennifer Blaire is the screen name for Jennifer Arnold, non other than our own Bob Arnold's daughter.

Remembering Richard Gould

By Carl Beal

Dr. Richard B. Gould, Ed.D Neuropsychologist Early Resident and Deputy Director of the Boston Center for Independent Living

The Class of 1953 held its annual class picnic on August 4, 2010, which was fifty-seven years to the date in 1953 when the class held one of the largest variety shows the city of Newburyport had ever seen. The show was the result of a fund raising effort to help a seriously injured classmate, Richard Gould. He was disabled in a diving accident, which resulted in a spinal cord injury just three weeks after graduating from Newburyport High School.

His story is one of courage, determination and purpose in life. Instead of giving up, he adopted an attitude of wanting to learn more about his condition and to help others with a similar affliction to live more independent and productive lives.

Richard Gould was born in Everett, Massachusetts in December of 1935. His father was a postal worker and his

mother a secretary. His siblings consisted of two brothers and a sister.

When Richard was only five years old, his father died from cancer. This caused an economic effect on the family and his mother remarried. Richard was raised in the city of Everett until he was fifteen when his family moved to West Newbury.

That year the small West Newbury High School was closed, and the students were transferred to Newburyport where Richard became a member of the NHS Class of 1953.

Three weeks after graduating from high school at the age of seventeen, Richard dove into Mill Pond in West Newbury and broke his neck. He was taken to the spinal cord injury unit at Boston City Hospital where he spent the next nineteen months.

At first, Richard couldn't adjust to permanent disability because he assumed he was going to die. People weren't living very long with this affliction. Quadriplegics lived from three to five years at the time. But he didn't die. A Dr. Munro, at Boston City Hospital, told him his greatest enemy would be the well-meaning family doctor who would give medications to keep him calm and sleeping meds that would keep him inactive.

Dr. Munro recommended that he educate himself about his medical condition, and brought books for him to read that helped to develop medical knowledge regarding spinal cord injuries and its ramification. Richard credits the education he acquired with helping him through rehab and everything else he has since done in his life.

He was next transferred at the age of nineteen to the Mass.

Hospital School in Canton where he had good therapy and excellent care. He was also provided with thirty months of training in accounting and taxation.

After Canton, Richard now twenty-one, returned to West Newbury. He tried to pursue his work in accounting from the family farm, but it was never enough to support him. He took extension courses in real estate and got a broker's license, but felt he was just too isolated.

He left home, and after a short stint in a couple of nursing homes he then went to the Mass. Rehab Hospital in Boston. This was a new facility also known as the Spaulding Rehab. It was a quasi-rehab facility which didn't give the patients a lot of freedom and didn't allow them to go to school from there.

It was at this time that Richard heard about Lennox Hill in Lynn Mass. In the short time he was there, he met Fred Fay. Fred was another quad who was pushing the notion that you could live alone in an apartment without help. Richard wasn't quite ready to accept the fact that somehow you could live with absolute independence. He thought that Fred Fay was misjudging reality.

Richard's next move to Wellington Hall at Middlesex County Hospital was critical to his goal of furthering his education. To stay at Wellington Hall, one had to be going to school at one of the colleges. Within six months, Richard had finished his course of study in psychology at one of the community colleges. He transferred to Boston University, the building of the theology dorm. BCIL (Boston Center for Independent Living) that was just starting up.

While attending Boston University earning his doctorate in psychology, Richard was asked to take an administrative position at Wellington Hall where he had transferred from. The administrative assistant at Wellington Hall was impressed with his knowledge of medicine and spinal cord injury, and Richard was asked to be a clinical coordinator. Before he left the appointment at Wellington Hall, he was elevated to clinical director.

All the while attending college, Richard was fully involved with the early days of establishing BCIL. There were long and tireless meetings, fighting for state funding, establishing evaluation and training guidelines, and formulating a myriad of procedures.

Richard was excited and proud about being in on the ground breaking movement as an advocate for independent living. The independent living movement, he said was "the greatest thing that happened in the lives of folks with severe disabilities. My education, my profession, I couldn't have done any of that without the independent living movement".

The Richard Gould story didn't end with his tragic accident three weeks after graduation or with the giant fund raiser on his behalf by his 1953 classmates in that summer of '53. Instead, the Richard Gould story carried on as one of motivation, dedication, and a strong desire and will to help oneself and others with disabilities to live a meaningful and productive life.

Dr. Richard B. Gould, Ed.D Neuropsychologist, is an inspiration and role model for all.

The source of much of this material can be found in the oral history interview with Richard Gould, conducted by Fred Pelka under the auspices of the Regional Oral History Office Project on the Disability Rights and Independent Living Movements, which is archived at the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley. For those interested in reading the full interview, you can find it on line at:

[http://content.cdlib.org/view?](http://content.cdlib.org/view?>target=)