

NEWSLETTER



Dedication of The Class of '53 "Save-Your-Seat" Project

The dedication ceremony to launch the "Save-Your-Seat" project was held on March 7, 2011, with a continental breakfast in the foyer of the High School library.

Following the breakfast, a formal dedication was held in the auditorium with attending classmates sitting in

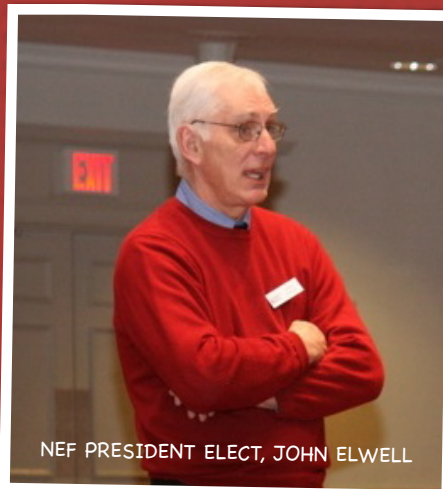
their newly named seats. Pictured above from left to right are class members: Ben Plouff, Sally Blake Lavery, Nina Rogers Meader, Arthur Smith, Muriel Walters Cummings, Norma Coffin Taylor, Russell Peirce and Carl Beal.

Others in attendance were: Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Marc

Kerble; Assistant Superintendent, Deirdre Farrell; High School Principal, Mike Parent; Librarian, Christine Dahlsen Bolick; and Newburyport Education Foundation Officers, John Elwell, Mark Wright and Marcia Samuelson. Also present were Marcia Peirce, Rita Plouff and Karen Kearley, photographer. (Carl's daughter)



CARL BEAL OCCUPIES HIS SEAT



NEF PRESIDENT ELECT, JOHN ELWELL



SALLY BLAKE LAVERY

Class Dedicates Seats Through the NEF Save-Your-Seat Project

Excerpts from News Article Sent to Local Papers

The NHS Class of 1953 recently honored thirty-five classmates with a seat in their names in the newly renovated High School auditorium. The “Save-Your-Seat” project is part of the Naming Opportunities Program sponsored by the Newburyport Education Foundation, and has been taken on as a class challenge.

The goal of the class is to have a seat named for all class members who have been involved in their annual NHS library fund-raiser. Presently, sixty classmates are eligible by way of a donation to the fund drive. The class committee believes having a seat in their names is a good way to thank them.

The dedication ceremony to launch this ‘class challenge’ was held on March 7, with a continental breakfast in the foyer of the High School library. Following the breakfast, a formal dedication was held in the auditorium with attending classmates sitting in their newly named seats.

Carl Beal, 1953 Class President, praised the class for making the “Save-Your-Seat” project a reality, and for their continued support for the annual library fund-raiser.

He announced that the class’s eighth annual fund-raiser will begin on April 15, and hopefully will add many more classmates to the “seat project.”

Recently, some classmates, friends and families of deceased class members have come forth and are asking to donate in their names to have them ‘seated’ with their 1953 classmates in the auditorium. Committee members believe that this heartening trend will continue and give all classmates the opportunity to be part of the “Save-Your-Seat” class challenge.

Sally Lavery read the names of the thirty-five class members being inducted this year. They are as follows: 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, Robert Arnold, Alicia Conley Shea, Arthur Chaisson, Dan 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, and Alston Briggs.

Since their 50th class reunion, the class of 1953 has raised over \$15,000.00. It is an outstanding accomplishment that Class President, Carl Beal, attributes to some phenomenal 1953 alumni who have dedicated themselves to making a difference at their Alma Mater.

1953 Classmates Who Have Passed Away

These Classmates are Eligible for The Save-a-Seat Project

Barbara (Beal) Wilmot – *Donation provided by Family* *
Jeanne (Beaulieu) Hall
Marie (Blanchard) Francoeur
Alston P. Briggs – *Donation provided by John Elwell* *
Charlotte (Bryant) Lezott
George Cox
Nathan Diamond
Martha (Edgerly) Meader
Alan Fowle
Mable Fowler
Norman Fram
Thomas A. Frascone
Emmanuel Garand – *Donation provided by Edward Pike* *
Virginia (Garfi) Croteau
Earle R. Girroir
Richard Girard- *Donation provided by Sister Joanne Girard Baker***
Jack Harnch
Fred Hussey
Robert Kneeland
Gerard LeBlanc
Rodney Lewis - *Donation provided by John Elwell* **
Margaret MacLeod - *Donation provided by Carl Beal* **
Russell Manter
Albert Marshall
Robin Marston
Virginia (Matt) Bakanosky
Elizabeth (Merrill) Morin
Edward Murphy \$100.00 *Donation provided by family* **
Gary Murphy
Edward M. Pike
Mary (Reilly) Cox - *Donation provided by Mary and Dave Wood***
Henry Sharych
Marilyn (Spurling) Beaver
Raymand Stanwood
Patricia (Sullivan) Szymura *Donations by G. Foley/Nina Rogers* *
Patricia (White) Mooney

NOTICE

THIS LIST OF DECEASED CLASSMATES IS PROVIDED IN THE EVENT THAT CLASS MEMBERS DONATING TO THE LIBRARY FUND THIS YEAR WISH TO HAVE THEIR DONATION GIVEN IN MEMORY OF A CLASSMATE WHO HAS PASSED AWAY. THIS GREAT IDEA WAS PROMOTED LAST YEAR BY ED PIKE, NINA ROGERS AND JERRY FOLEY AND RESULTED IN HAVING FOUR DECEASED CLASSMATES ADDED TO THE SAVE-YOUR-SEAT PROJECT. SEE THE SINGLE ASTERISK NEXT TO THE NAME. THE DOUBLE ASTERISK NEXT TO A NAME REPRESENTS DONATIONS OR PLEDGES FOR THIS YEAR'S INDUCTEES. IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A SEAT WITH YOUR NAME AND ARE PLANNING TO GIVE TO THE LIBRARY, YOU HAVE THE OPTION OF GIVING IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE FROM THE CLASS OF '53 OR SOMEONE FROM ANOTHER NHS CLASS. (SUCH AS A BROTHER, SISTER ETC.) THE SEAT PLAQUE WOULD BE PLACED IN ANOTHER PART OF THE AUDITORIUM. HOWEVER, THE DONATION WOULD STILL GO TO THE 1953 LIBRARY FUND.

RELATIVES, FRIENDS FROM OTHER NHS CLASSES

Philip Blake, Class of 1956 *Donation by Sister Sally Blake Lavery***

PHOTOS FROM DEDICATION CEREMONY



M. Wright, M. Samuelson, Superintendent, M. Kerble, M. Parent, and C. Beal



Carl Beal addressing class at dedication



Norna Taylor Muriel Cummings



Russell, Norma, Muriel Arthur and Nina



Save-Your-Seat Brass Plaque

CLASS PICNIC 2011

THE ANNUAL CLASS PICNIC WILL BE HELD DURING YANKEE HOMECOMING WEEK ON WED., AUGUST 3, AT THE MOSELEY WOODS PAVILION.

THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE FROM 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM. CLASSMATES ARE ASKED TO BRING THEIR OWN LUNCH AND A DESSERT TO SHARE.

ENJOY THE DAY REMINISCING WITH CLASSMATES ABOUT THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS' AND BRING ALONG FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Obituary: Classmate Rodney F. Lewis Passed Away on March 5, 2011

NEWBURYPORT — Rodney Ford Lewis, 76, passed away after a courageous battle with lung cancer and pneumonia.

The son of the late Thomas F. and Evelyn L. (Ford) Lewis, he was born in Danvers on Dec. 10, 1934. He lived all his life on Curzon Mill Road in Newburyport near where his English immigrant grandfather Samuel Lewis managed greenhouses for the Moseley family at the present-day Maudslay State Park.

A 1953 graduate of Newburyport High School, Rodney was an Army veteran and member of the Belleville Church.

He was employed for 40 years by Yeo Chevrolet of Amesbury as Parts Manager.

Rodney is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Nancy B. (Elwell); his daughters, Pamela Jones and husband Wendell of Portsmouth, N.H., Deborah Jancewicz and husband Paul of Amesbury; his son, Mark Lewis of Barrington, N.H.; his sister, Diana Bondar of Newburyport; four grandchildren, Joy and Joel Jancewicz, Christina Adams, Corey Adams and wife Heather; as well as numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.