

Newsletter

Class of 1953 holds 60th
Reunion at Seaglass
Restaurant and Function Hall
at Salisbury Beach

September 26, 2013

Reunion Highlights

Forty- two classmates, spouses, guests and friends all from the New England area attended the event.

A profitable raffle was conducted by Ben Plouff and Arthur Smith which raised over three hundred dollars for the class treasury. Items were donated by local businesses and committee members.

Entertainment was provided by a couple of down Maine impersonators of "Bert and I" stories that brought down the house with laughter. Carl Beal and John Elwell amused the group with their downeast twang, wit, and humor, along with their lobstermen outfits.



Very Successful Last Reunion

The last formal class reunion for the class of '53 will go down as one of the best ever. The class, coming off a ten-year string of successes in fund-raising for the library and seat naming for the auditorium, made its mark once again with a very successful reunion. The reunion was dedicated to the memory of Coach Walter Sheridan, a special friend, teacher, and mentor to the class. Walter's wife, Connie, and their son, Bob, were invited guests. Carl Beal praised the class for its accomplishments throughout the years in "making a difference" in the community and the schools. In the past ten years, the class of '53 has made donations in the amount of twenty-two thousand dollars to benefit the High School library. During the reunion, Russell Peirce presented another two thousand dollar check to NEF Board member, John Elwell, from the 2013 class fund raiser. This will add nineteen more classmates to the auditorium Save-Your-Seat project and will bring the total to ninety-eight inductees sponsored by our class. A very remarkable feat !

Official Class Greeters

Valerie Miller Faxon and Sally Blake Lavery welcomed class members with name tags, favors, and an informational class booklet. The booklet contained an updated class directory, a list of all classmates inducted into the NEF Save-a-Seat program, a necrology list in memory of class members who passed away, and the program for the events of the afternoon.





Renewing Friendships

A time for reminiscing, for nostalgia, to indulge in those enjoyable recollections of the past and to continue to keep in touch.

The social hour was spent mingling with old friends and guests about the good old days and updating one another on what has transpired in their lives over the years, while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and spectacular views of the ocean.

A table was set up with a '53 year book, NHS "Records", a scrap book and other memorabilia relating to our High School days. An era of the good old days gone by forever! Even though the class committee

has decided to discontinue the formal reunions held every five years, there will still be opportunities for class members to get together. The class will continue to hold an annual class picnic during Yankee Homecoming at the Moseley Woods Pavilion. This has been a very popular event, not just for the locals, but for anyone visiting the area during that time. Also, committee members meet on the first Monday of each month for breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at Connie's Stagecoach in Salisbury. Any class member is

welcome to attend. The Class Newsletter will continue to keep class members abreast of class activities and events, along with obituaries of classmates who have passed away. The Newsletter will be sent via e-mail where possible, and electronic updates will occasionally be sent. If you have changed your e-mail, acquired a new e-mail or dropped yours, please inform Carl Beal at <carlbeal

@comcast.net> We need to keep

Reunion Dedicated to Walter Sheridan

regular mailing to a minimum. special tribute was given to Walter Sheridan, who passed away in 2010. Walter, along with wife Connie, attended many of the class of '53 reunions over the years. Walter is credited with rebuilding a football program that had hit 'rock bottom' after the 99 to 6 drubbing in 1951 to Amesbury. In his first

year as head coach, Walter completely turned the program around. The 1952-53 football team demonstrated a spark and courage that had not been seen at Mount Rural for many years. Although Amesbury won that game 15 to 12, it was truly the turning point for Newburyport football for years to come. He was the leader of the resurgence



of football at NHS. In his stay at Newburyport, Walter won 34 games, lost only six, and tied 2 with a State Championship in 1955. It was an accomplishment of epic proportion, a legacy to be remembered and cherished.



One Hundred Thousand Dollars of eBooks made possible by Class of '53

NHS Librarian, Lynne Cote, has asked the Class of '53 to support a special project from Gale Industries for \$100,000 worth of Reference eBooks for a onetime payment of \$3,333.00. The Class Committee approved the request at our last breakfast meeting, and the reference eBooks have been downloaded to the school website and are now being utilized by the students and faculty at NHS .

The Newburyport High School library has been offered \$100,000 worth of Reference eBooks for ten thousand dollars from Gale Industries. Gale is in the business of databases and online resources, as well as a very large print reference collection. They have offered to the state of Massachusetts and another midwest state the opportunity to buy these print reference books in an online format for \$10,000, with payments spread over three years (\$3,333 a year). Unfortunately, the school budget has been frozen since the beginning of September, and the offer from Gale industries was extended to the end of November. The class of 1953 received a request from High School Library Media Specialist, Lynne Cote, asking if our class would consider supporting this online reference book endeavor by providing the first payment of \$3,333.00. This first payment by the Class of '53 would assure that the "Online Reference Project" would be established this year at the High School. School officials are in full support of this resource and have vouched to pay for the second two years of \$3,333 a

year. These reference materials, once downloaded on the library website, would be owned by the library forever and made available to all students and faculty online. Users could access the information from home or school so they wouldn't even need to be in the library to use them. The list of materials is so huge that they could never be housed within the library, as there are over 2,000 titles on the list.

Unending Source of Information

These are reference materials that students would use to research in class for history, literature, science, math, art, and wellness. Other resources would support their research when writing their thesis papers for sophomore and junior year. Some of the titles included are:

American Social Reform Movements Reference Library
 American Civil War Reference Library
 American Decades 2000-2009
 American History Through Literature

Encyclopedia of the New American Nation

Encyclopedia of the Great Depression

Americans at War: Society, Culture and the Homefront

Corporate Disasters, What went wrong and why

Arts and the Humanities Through the Eras

Biotechnology

Chemistry: Foundations and Applications

Gale Encyclopedia of Psychology

This is just a partial list of all the references available.

"Thank you, Class of '53, I can't thank you enough for all of your support and kindness you show to me and the students here at NHS."

*Lynne Cote
 Library Media Specialist*

CLASS OBITUARIES FOR 2013

THE CLASS OF 1953 LOST THREE CLASS MATES THIS PAST YEAR BRINGING THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY TO FORTY-THREE.

On February 26, 2013, **Donald F. Gladu**, 78, of Newbury passed away. Born January 1, 1935, in Lowell, Don's younger years were spent growing up in Newburyport and Plum Island where his parents, Al and Nora Gladu, owned and operated Nora's Grill at Plum Island Point. After graduating from high school in 1953, Don served in the US Army in Korea from 1954 to 1957. In 1968, Donald and his wife Kathleen opened Kathy's Restaurant located at the traffic circle in Newburyport until their retirement in 1981. Don's coleslaw, fried clams, and onion rings were always a favorite. After his retirement, he had a lobster boat, the "K-sea," moored in the Parker River, where he spent many hours with his three grandsons teaching them to fish and enjoy the outdoors. Don belonged to the Elks and served as a Clam Commissioner for the Town of Newbury for several years.

Richard E. Foley, age 77, longtime resident of Newburyport and West Newbury, passed away August 14, 2013. Born in Newburyport, August 23, 1935, he was the son of the late William and Mabel (Colby) Foley and was a graduate of Newburyport High School, Class of 1953. During high school, Richard participated in varsity football, baseball, and track. After high school, Richard served with the U.S. Air Force for four years. After his discharge, he was employed by New England Tel. & Tel. as a lineman until his retirement. He was a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). Mr. Foley also served as a City Councilor for Ward 5 for the City of Newburyport. In his spare time, he was a pilot and loved flying his airplane out of Plum Island Airport. He was also an avid gardener. Richard enjoyed traveling with his beloved wife, Gail K. (McGrath) Foley, especially to Arizona. One of his greatest pleasures in life was spending time with his family.

Francis G. Bradbury, 78, of Newburyport, passed away at his home, October 2, in Newburyport after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Francis was born August 2, 1935, in Newburyport to the late Stephen H. Bradbury and Chestina Fowler. He graduated from Newburyport High School, Class of 1953. He worked 40 years for A&P, as a meat cutter. Francis was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving time in Korea. Francis was a lifetime member of the Neptune's Fireman's Association. He enjoyed playing pool and attending the annual Neptune's outings. He enjoyed watching the New England Patriots and the Boston Red Sox. He was an avid reader and enjoyed freshwater fishing.

LETTER TO THE CLASS OF 1953

Dear Classmates,

I would like to take this opportunity during this holiday season to thank all the members of the Class of 1953 for all the support they have given to our class projects over the past ten years. What started out as a gift to the library in memory of Virginia Bilmazes Bernard at our 50th reunion developed into an annual fund-raiser on her behalf and since then has taken on a life of its own. What we have accomplished since then has been almost unimaginable, not only for the library and the students at Newburyport High School but for our own classmates as well. Our class has set the bar high for other classes and alumni to get involved and it's beginning to happen. Your generosity has helped the class of '53 "make its mark" and to "make a difference" at our alma mater. Our class has raised over twenty-two thousand dollars over the past 10 years for the library. Thank you! Wishing all of you generous classmates a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year! Carl Beal