

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD

An Internet Publication Especially for the Classes of the 1950's Decade. Your Photos & Stories Are Both Requested & Encouraged. Please Send to Jack Phillips: jackmp@me.com

2010 ALL-SCHOOL REUNION
SATURDAY - JUNE 26, 2010

See O&B #8-10 and #9-10 for additional reunion coverage.
Most photos appear in order taken.

REUNION KING & QUEEN

**John '39 & Betty Hanson
McCollister '39**



John Y. McCollister '39 and his new bride, Betty Hanson McCollister '39

If the 2010 All-School Reunion would have elected a "Reunion King & Queen" it most certainly would have been the beautiful and endearing couple of John & Betty Hanson McCollister, both from the class of 1939.

John & Betty were sweethearts from the 6th grade at Longfellow Grade School through their WHS graduation in 1939. But the couple drifted apart after high school and each married someone else. Many years later after they each lost their respective spouses, they rediscovered each other and were finally married on February 7, 2009 at 87 years of age.

The truly delightful & happy couple now reside at 6438 S. 120th Plaza, Omaha, NB 68137. John's email address is, jymccoll@cox.net and Betty's is bettyboop1921@cox.net. Their phone number is 402-896-2334

John, a Republican, served three terms from 1971 to 1977 as the U. S. Congressman from Nebraska representing the 2nd Congressional District.

Also making the All-School Reunion very special was the attendance of all 3 Hanson siblings. Enjoying the reunion with Betty was her sister, Joan Hanson Cramer '43 from Midland, TX and their brother, Loren Q. Hanson '47 from Ft. Worth, TX. Thanks to each of you for making the effort to join us. Your presence added a great deal to the weekend & proves that our Warrior Spirit never dies.

Special thanks to Laurie Bakke Leach '53 & Dewey Leach '53 for inviting and encouraging John, Betty, Joan and Loren to attend the reunion. Since Joan lives close to Laurie and Dewey she even rode to Sioux Falls with the Leach's.



John McCollister '39, Betty Hanson McCollister '39, Joan Hanson Cramer '43 & Loren Hanson '47

Class of '52 Saturday Luncheon



Wally Klawiter '52 & Bill Frank '52



*Front row: Luella Buckley Baumgartner '52, Barbara Donnelly Telkamp '52, Helen Smith Olsen '52, Betty Walker Coffey '52.
Back row Bev Ostrander Semmens '52, Sherrill Greenlee King '52*



Judy Jacobson Hamilton '52, Paul Andy Weber '52 & Don Veglahn '52



Marlene Anderson Marquesen '52, Joan Erickson Bakke '52 and Betty Holmoe Pfieffe '52

A huge thank you to Wally Klawiter '52 for all the work he does in maintaining such excellent records for the class of '52.



***Donna Bishop Landsman '52
& Dan Robar '52***



John Peckham '52 & Trudy Aker Peckham '52



Bill '52 & Donna Dawley



Jerry '52 & Dolly Bessler



Pat Vick Houck '52 & Nancy Veglahn



Shirley & Richard '52 Mriden



Harry Poletes '52



Robert Eleeson '52 & Helen Mae Anderson Eleeson



Lois & Dick '51 Merrill



Don '52 & Alyce Merrill



I am sure we all remember these.

Class of '50 Saturday Luncheon



Megan & David '50 Smith



Elroy Letcher '50 & Lorraine Watkins '47



Pete Beckman '50



Barbara Lease Slater '50 & Bill Slater



Murray '50 & Kay Widdis

My apologies to the class of '50 for not taking more photos at your luncheon. I was just very concerned that I was intruding and being a distraction during your meeting.

Saturday Evening Dinner At The Pavilion



Left; Dick Wold '53, Sharon Johnson Frank '54 & Bob Berguin '53



Anne Fuller '54, Berry Holmoe Pfieffe '52, Duane Leach '53, Jeannie Wold & Nancy McCahren



Mick McCahren '53 & Peggy Berguin



Bill Wilkins '49 & George Bogdos '49



Al Borgen '53



**The 3 Hanson Siblings
Betty Hanson McCollister '39, Joan
Hanson Cramer '43 & Loren Hanson '47**



Just a portion of the large crowd enjoying the delicious dinner in the "L" shaped dinning area on the 2nd floor of The Pavilion.

AND THEN THERE WAS FRANKIE!



And He Was Great!



**Frankie Avalon
singing all of his
many, many hit
records from his
52 year career.**



*Right: Eden
Everly, the son
of Don Everly
of the "Everly
Brothers" is
guitarist in
Frankie
Avalon's
band.*



*Above: Frankie's son, Frankie Jr.
is the drummer in his Dad's band.*

**This concludes the
coverage of the
2010 All School Reunion.
See you in 2015.**



**And it is
not even
spring in
Sioux Falls.**

*Our beautiful Falls Park
after 20 inches of rain
in July 2010*



Throughout any normal week you, the O&B readers, send me many items for possible inclusion in upcoming O&B issues. I always appreciate everything you send but I try to select only items that I think the majority of you would find not only interesting, but also most likely to not have seen or read before. However, I fear that these beautiful "Falls Photos" might be an exception to that policy of you not having seen them before since more of you sent me these photos than any other one thing I have ever received from you.

Since so many of you sent me these photos you obviously felt they are beautiful and spectacular and I certainly agree. Therefore I am printing them just in case you didn't see them.

After considerable effort I was regrettably unable to identify the photographer, but I think Mark Line '57 started the circulation of the photos first to his '57 classmates after he received them from an unidentified lady he met in the Minnehaha Court House. They do so majestically show off our beautiful Falls Park.





**KATE
(KATHY)
BRIGGS
NAYLOR
CLASS OF '52**
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Remember "The Nighthawks"?

Kate Briggs Naylor '52 gave me this treasure at the 2010 All-School Reunion. She not only gave me this wonderful photograph of the singing group which featured her twin



brothers Dick & Bob Briggs '54, but also a DVD of them performing several songs. I do consider it a real treasure & will be playing the DVD at future reunions.

The group, all from WHS, were from bottom left & clock wise Bob Briggs '54, Tom (Tucker) Zirbes ?, Jim Zirbes '54, Dick Briggs '54 and center, Dee Dee Zirbes '56.



SOUTH SIOUX FALLS 8TH GRADE GRADUATION, MAY 24, 1950.

Thanks to **Glenn Gulbranson '54**, for sending this great photo to **Jack Kittelson '54**, who sent it to me.

Carolyn Berry
Ralph Bishop
James Counter
Maurene Doescher
John Frederickson
Darrell Ginther
Lyonel Gonye
LeRoy Gran
Glenn Gulbranson
LaVera Hagen
Roland Hagen
Verlyn Helgersen
Thomas Hogatt
Gerald Hopkins

Danny Johnson
Lowell Johnson
Jerald Karstens
Karen McManus
Larry Mills
Douglas Mose
Douglas Muchow
Betty Nelson
Shirley Olsen
Clifford Petit
Milo Seubert
Constance Shank
Darlien Smithback
Dennis Swavely

Beverly Young

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**JANE
ACKERMAN**
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Aug 22, 2010, Jane wrote: Jack, Ron Nelson who I have known since grade school, forwarded me a copy of your O & B. Since graduating from Washington, I worked with a wonderful family practice doctor in Sioux Falls by the name of Dr. Lloyd Sweeney. Dr. Sweeney chose to become the 1st Director of the Family Practice Residency Program and my profession as a Medical Administrator was born. In the early 70ies I moved to Minneapolis and continued to manage physicians offices, build surgery suites etc. In 1994 I moved to Ft. Myers, FL and continued my career in the medical field until I retired. I have come full

circle and now live back in the Sioux Falls area where 2 of my children live and where it is easy for me to access my youngest son in Minnesota. I

would love to receive your e-mail regarding Washington High. Sincerely, Jane Ackerman Class of 55

On Aug 27, 2010, Jane wrote: Jack, thank you for adding me to your e-mail list. Jane Ackerman is my maiden name that I took back after a divorce. My home address is 527 Valley View Ave., Baltic, SD 57003. My home phone is 605/5295565. I graduated from Washington High in 55. Again, thanks for the reply. I have only been back in the Sioux Falls area for 4 years so am kind of out of the loop and look forward to finding out about some of my classmates. Jane

On Aug 27, 2010, Jane wrote: Prior to moving back to Sioux Falls, I lived in Punta Gorda, FL for 13 years. I have always been a "northern girl" and when I thought of retiring, this is where I wanted to be. I am active with Special Olympics. The Snowmobile Event I started 23 years ago in Minnesota is still going on and has raised millions of dollars. I also am involved in CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for neglected and abused children. In 1990 I bought my first Harley Davidson Motorcycle and have travel all over the US and just recently made the trip to Sturgis - probably the last one. The riding in the Hills is so beautiful and so much fun. I am also a member of the Patriot Guard. Our purpose is to attend deployment and return of troops, funerals when requested and now we are raising \$\$ for Honor Flights for the WW II Vets. It is very rewarding and heartwarming. Again, thanks for all the info. It was fun seeing some of the 55 classmates in the reunion pictures. Now I can look them up in my 55 annual. Boy have we all changed! Jane



**LOREN
HANSON**
CLASS OF '47
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DEAR JACK: YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER ME....WE MET AT THE LAST WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL REUNION IN SIOUX FALLS...I AM THE BROTHER OF BETTY MC COLLISTER WHO IS MARRIED TO JOHN MC COLLISTER. I WANTED TO THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING ME ON YOUR LIST OF EMAILS THAT YOU PERIODICALLY SEND OUT. I KNOW THAT YOU KEEP UP WITH A LOT OF DIFFERENT FOLKS FROM SIOUX FALLS AND TRY TO GET THE NEWS OUT TO OTHERS. THIS TAKES TIME AND EFFORT. IF THERE IS ANY COST ASSOCIATED WITH THIS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW AND I WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT IN WHATEVER WAY I CAN. THANKS AGAIN lqh P.S. I HAVE FORWARDED YOUR EMAIL TO SOME MEMBERS OF MY CLASS ('47).

Loren Hanson

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**MARY
TAYLOR
HERRICK**
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On Jul 25, 2010 Mary Herrick wrote: Dear Jack, I received your reunion edition of the newsletter and loved seeing all the pictures of many people that I knew. I grew up across the street from Sammy Fantle and his parents, Bud and Evelyn were among my parents closest friends. I think the thoughts about him were wonderful.

I was Class of 1956 and had no idea that an all school reunion existed until my sisters mentioned it to me.(post facto) I also had no idea that this publication existed until my sister, Barb (Taylor) Sampson sent it to me. I would love

to be on your mailing list. I live in Cleveland but I get to Sioux Falls with some regularity and still feel nostalgic about Washington HighSchool.

Sincerely, Mary Taylor Herrick

PS If you could forward me any past editions I would appreciate it . I might be able to

MY YEARBOOK LIBRARY

Mary Taylor Herrick '56 recently completed my library of WHS yearbooks from 1950 to 1960 when she donated her personal copy of the '56 yearbook. Mary, thank you so much. You just don't know how much I have needed that book. I assure you I will refer to it almost daily for as long as I am publishing the O&B. Now since the number of subscribers to the O&B continues to increase daily and I am endeavoring to cover news and stories of other classes I am finding that I frequently need yearbooks from the '30s, '40s and '60s. I don't like pushing my luck, but if you have any books from those years I could sure use them.

MORE SAM FANTLE MAIL

I recently received by mail this letter, hand written, by Mr. Bob Beach of Omaha, NE regarding his fond memories of Sam Fantle. He asked that I forward it on to Sam's daughter, Melissa Fantle Davis. After receiving the letter I called Mr. Beach and he granted me permission to share the letter with all of you.

To: The Fantles

From: Bob Beach

Sam and I grew up in the Pender Lane neighborhood of Sioux Falls. We were born in 1939. My dad, Bud Beach was the first from Washington High to die in WWII. He was an officer in the Army Air Corps. and died in a plane crash just like Sam only in 1942 when I was 3 1/2 and my sister was 8 months. The Fantles lived 3 1/2 blocks from us. My grandpa, R.A. Bielski lived on 31st St. a block from the Fantles.

I spent a lot of time with Sam in their big pink stucco house on 30th St. Stephanie was taking a bath one day in the down stairs pink and black bathroom and Sam thought it would be cool to break in. I joined him. Steph was most upset.

We attended Mark Twain Grad School. Those years after the "war to end all wars" were wonderful. Sioux Falls was a great small city of 75,000, hardly any crime or racism.

My mom remarried W.R. Thomas in about 1951 and we moved to Mitchell, 70 miles West of S.F. I saw very little of Sam during our years in high school. I missed him. His dad, "Bud", was one cool dude. Sharp dresser, white shoes, slicked back hair. Very cool. Sam had a younger sister whose name I do not recall. I definitely remember sister Steph!

I was devastated when I learned of Sam's death a few years ago. Fred Hecker, a good friend also from Sioux Falls and a retired Air Force bird colonel visited me in Omaha and gave me the details of Sam's crash in Vietnam.

Sam was returning to base after a mission and spotted a VC convoy and knowing he was short of fuel threw caution to the wind and strafed the convoy and didn't make it back to base and was killed. (Cont.)

Bob Beach cont. Sam died a hero and that is how he should always be remembered. Sam was my good friend.

As for me, I have two grown daughters and four wonderful grand children, all 9 years old. I am so sorry Sam didn't have the opportunity to experience fatherhood and grand-fatherhood. I remember Sam in my prayers.

All the best.

Bob Beach

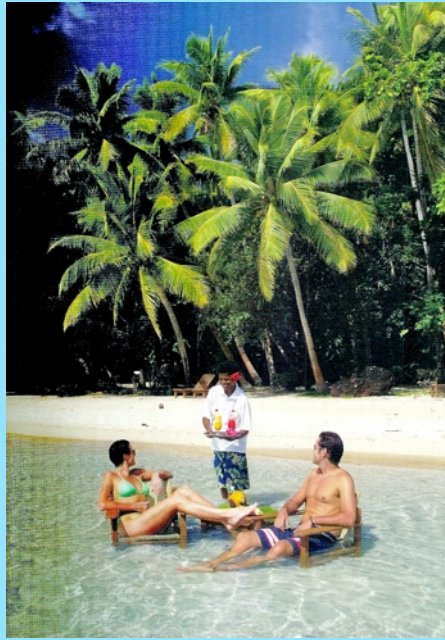
Please see that Sam's

GOIN' FISHIN'

If you need me from Sept. 6th to Sept. 20th I will be either on the beach below, in the lagoon below, in the hammock below, or deep sea fishing on Turtle Island in Fiji (where the movie "Blue Lagoon" was filmed).

It, of course, will be a working get-away since I am taking my computer and will be working on the next edition of the O&B which will feature some of the great WHS football players from the '50s. I can't wait to read it!

Turtle Island was voted "World's Best Service" by Travel & Leisure Magazine in 2006 so I might just have them write the next issue.



DECEASED LIST UPDATES FOR CLASSES '50 to '59

On May 30, 2010, edition #6-10, the O&B printed the deceased list for each class of the fifties. The following are additions for those lists.

Please advise me at jackmp@me.com if you have any additional corrections.

1950;

Carol Barnes Geske

1951;

Richard "Dick" Kersten

Ken Kirkvold

Robert "Bob" Larson

Florence Lying

1953;

Richard W. Olson

Carole Simmons Pier

Mildred "Millie" Weber

Donald Glenn Kasak

June Smith

1955:

Larry Dean Mills

Gerald Jones

Virgina Boekhoff Hatfield.

1957;

Myron Kelley

1958

Larry L. Todd

DELETIONS TO LISTS

The following names appeared on the May 30th lists but I have been informed that they are NOT deceased and need to be removed.

Confirmations of this will be appreciated.

1950

Betty Brasel

John Lowell



1953

Larry Whaley

