

# ORANGE & BLACK

**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD**

**ISSUE #3 -10** An Internet Publication Serving Classes of the 50's April 16, 2010.  
Your Photos & Stories Are Both Requested & Encouraged. Please Send to Jack Phillips: [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com)

*To Be Perfectly Frank,  
The Frank Girls Are Frankly Perfect Ladies.*



**'53 - Sharon  
Frank Johnson**

HmRm 408  
#1 Riverview Heights  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605-339-0068

[shrnfaye@aol.com](mailto:shrnfaye@aol.com)

**Class of '53**

## SHARON FAYE FRANK JOHNSON

History—past and present:

Merle was practicing law with the Woods Fuller Law Firm in Sioux Falls where he continues today. After nearly 55 years, I believe retirement may be on the horizon. He has especially enjoyed working with people with their estate plans and with families on adoptions.

Sharon: I graduated from Augustana College with a degree in Elementary Ed. I taught a year in Minneapolis before our marriage in 1958, and then in Sioux Falls before starting our family. Over the years we developed rental property



*left; Sharon Johnson Frank  
right; Sharon Frank Johnson*

## Who's Calling Today?

(With Apologies to Dr. Seuss)

\*\*\*\*\*

There once was a fellow named  
Bill

Who Frankly, yes frankly his story  
they tell still.

The story—yes, Bill's story—they did  
convey

About his sis, his sis named Sharon  
Faye.



**'54 - Sharon  
Johnson Frank**

Hm Rm 205

**Class of '54**



**'52 - Bill  
Frank**

Hm Rm 320

**Class of '52**

1144 Hollybrook Dr. Wayzata, MN 55391  
952-473-3404 [sraef@msn.com](mailto:sraef@msn.com)

## SHARON RAE JOHNSON FRANK

History: We moved from Sioux Falls to Minneapolis with our toddler, Stephen, when Bill was offered a job with a fledgling food brokerage company in 1956. You may remember that the Frank family had been pioneers in the frozen food business in SD with Frank's Frozen Foods. We have

"Who's Calling Today? Cont. pg 2, Col 2

Sharon Frank Johnson cont. pg 2 Col.1

Sharon Johnson Frank, cont. pg 2, col 3.



**Merle Johnson, Alcester, SD, USD Law School, '55; Sharon Frank Johnson, '53; Sharon Johnson Frank, '54; Bill Frank, '52.**

that I managed until our son, Reed, graduated from Gustavus. He then returned and took over my job--- dare I say one of my happiest moments. My present job brings me much more joy—helping to care for our grandchildren. All of that picking up from school, driving to lessons, sick days, etc. is one way that I can give back for the privilege of being able to be home when our children were growing up. Although, when our 3 year old Tommy tells me. “Gramma, you’re movin’ like pond water”, I realize that I don’t do it with the same speed or energy.

Children: We have 3 children: Mary Lynne, an event planner in Minneapolis, Reed, a realtor and Amy, a lawyer---both in Sioux Falls. Amy’s husband, Jonathan Ellis is a political reporter for the Argus Leader.

His sis had a friend, a friend named Sharon Rae.

The middle, yes the middle, the middle was Rae.

Last name of the friend of the sis...well...it started with J

The J stood for Johnson. “So simple”, you say.

Shoo Shans and Enomos, friends from the start,

These Sharon’s you see, were never ever to part.

For Bill had a throb for this friend in his heart.

He’d fallen in love--- he’d been hit by a dart!

They dated, they courted...his life on the run.

At last, her hand, Bill finally had won.

It was after they wed, the fun, truly the fun

now been Minnesota residents for over 54 years.

Bill’s Businesses: Juhl Brokerage with offices in Minneapolis, Fargo, Omaha and Milwaukee. He sold that business to key employees in 1985 and in 1986 founded WJF International, Seafood Importers. Later he purchased Morey Fish Co. from International Multifoods and merged the two companies. Morey’s was developed into a national brand that you may see in your local markets, as well as Costco. In 1998 he sold this business to an Investment Banker.

Sharon: After years of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, T-Ball, Hockey, PTA, school and church activities, I entered into real estate with a well known firm in the western suburbs. I retired from real

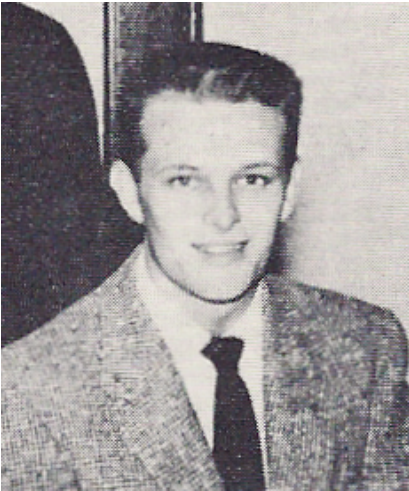
Grandchildren: Four, all in the Sioux Falls area.

Hobbies: We are both involved in our church, University of Sioux Falls, and other community involvements. We enjoy lots of family gatherings, reading, playing bridge with friends etc. I enjoy participating in an Investment Club, Book Club and also have just begun to play Mah Jongg.

Best Summers: Being at Lake Madison with family and friends.

Best trip taken by the 2 Sharon's: Israel

Best Winters: Three months in Palm Desert, CA      The end.



**Merle Johnson, USD Law School, '55.**  
**Merle graduated from Alcester High School**



**Bill Frank & sister, Sharon Frank Johnson, at 2005 All School Reunion.**

Had really, yes really begun.

For now there were two—two of us, what fun!

There were two Sharon Frank's, not only just one!

The phone would ring and the people would say,

"Who is it calling, who's calling today?"

"Sharon Frank, it's me, Sharon, calling", I would say

Oh! The confusion it brought, as the answer they sought.

"Would it be Sharon Rae or could it be Sharon Faye?"

Who is it really that's calling today?"

Said Sharon Faye,

"Enough! This can not be!

I must change my name or we'll all be insane"

She looked and she looked—'twas not easy you see

"For, it must be a Johnson, it must be a Johnson for me".

Merle Johnson, yes Merle is perfect, my life to spend  
Full circle we've come, for this story to end.

And, oh by the way, our children do highly recommend

This... the confusing... Johnson/Frank, Frank/Johnson blend.

First brother and sister, then sisters and all friends

Yes, friends and close family--- good friends to the end.      The end.



estate in 1998.

Children: We have 3 sons, Steve and Greg, in Minnesota, one in Brainerd and one in Plymouth with their families. Our third son, Eric and family live in Prescott, AZ.

Grandchildren: Eight, delightful, of course!

Hobbies: SD pheasant hunting for Bill along with our sons, cousins and the Johnson family. Bill is a recent, but enthusiastic golfer and a great cook. I play a bit of golf and am recently interested in Pickle Ball. I belong to a wonderful book club and enjoy movies and discussions.

Best Summers: On Steamboat Bay, Gull Lake, MN where Bill enjoys working on his golf game.

Best International Couples Vacation: Villa in the Italian Alps with Sharon and Merle where we were the only English speaking people!

Best Winter Vacation: Three months in Palm Desert, CA  
The End.



**Bill Frank & wife, Sharon Johnson Frank, at the Class of '54's 50th reunion in 2004**



**BILL  
FRANK**  
President  
'52  
Pep  
Club.



**1952 PEP CLUB - BILL FRANK PRESIDENT.**

Pep Club, l. to r., Front row: D. Dennis, D. Bishop, S. Roggen, E. Sunderman, C. Roth, P. Dornberger. Second row: A. Jastram, J. Harrington, J. Jacobson, R. Schmidt, S. Frank, A. Erickson, B. Howalt, O. Parsons, D. McNamara, K. Briggs. Third row: B. Frank, D. Robar, K. Kolb, C. Hoyme, R. Dean, B. Carlson, H. Poletes, R. Minor. Fourth row: E. Brown, S. Dougherty, G. Swenson, M. McNerney, D. Irwin, D. Hopewell. Fifth row: J. Wiebe, S. Berry, D. Viehweg, B. Bringgold, B. Hyden, L. Harrington.



**DICK DAHSE, '54 - BATTLING CANCER**

I speak to Dick frequently and he would enjoy hearing from any of you. He is in Hospice in AZ, but send your cards to his sister at, 5409 S. Drexel Rd. Sioux Falls, 57106. Dick is pictured above with '54 classmates, Warner Brown, left & Bob Zimmerman, right, who visited him recently.



**DICK RONKEN, '54**

I spoke to Marilyn Ronken last week & Dick is back in a care facility in Sioux Falls. He would love hearing from any of you at 2412 S. Elmwood Ave. S.F. 57105.

### Establishment of a CLASS of '54 "REUNIONSHIP"

Recently I have become aware that a few of our '54 classmates cannot financially afford to attend the All-School Reunion. This, of course, has saddened me as I am sure it does you. In an effort to financially assist these classmates, I am proposing the establishment of a **Class of '54 "REUNIONSHIP"** fund to assist with a portion of their reunion expenses. I propose that the fund only be used for this 2010 reunion and if there are any unused funds they be returned to the donors.

Anyone wishing to contribute may send a check for any amount to Jack Phillips at 2261 Lauren Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134. All donors (with their permission), will be acknowledged in future Orange & Blacks, but recipients of any financial help will forever only be known to myself. If you wish to attend the reunion but are unable to due to financial reasons and I am unaware of your situation please feel free to contact me. No one will ever know of your call.



**DR. KEN KESSINGER, WHS '43**, is probably the most consistently dominate athlete & coach in SD over the past 65 years. If you graduated from WHS within the last 70 years you no doubt know and cherish him for all he has done for WHS, Augustana & SD athletics. Ken's latest task on behalf of WHS is to locate, prior to our All-School Reunion, the oldest living WHS student and teacher. He has already found two student alumni that are 101 years of age. If you know of any alumni that is that age or older, or a long retired teacher contact Ken at [ken.kessinger@sio.midco.net](mailto:ken.kessinger@sio.midco.net).

Ken also told me that there are only a few copies left of his book, **"Sioux Falls Washington High School Sports Heritage, 1899 to 1989"**. If you follow SD sports it is a must have book.

And soon, check out the WHS Historical Committee's excellent web site, **"Sioux Falls WHS Historical Committee"**. It is dedicated to preserving the inspiring heritage of WHS.

# CLASS of '53 RECORDS

## MISSING & DECEASED LISTS

After receiving several requests for information on the Class of '53, I made several inquiries starting with everyone's good friend, Al Borgen. I had been told that he had done a great deal of work in the past on maintaining the class of '53 records. Al said that after their 50th reunion in 2003 he "retired". After speaking with about 20 other class members I have come to the conclusion that no Class of '53 updates have occurred since their 50th reunion, 7 years ago.

Al then sent me the 2003 "Missing List" with 73 names on it and the 2003 "Deceased List" with 67 names on it. Al also sent me 9 additional names that needed to be added to the list. Since then I have come with 9 more names that need to be added and then Frank Owens sent me 11 more names, bringing the current total to 96.

Sadly I suspect that there are more deceased members of the '53 class to be found. I feel that way because currently there are 107 names on the Class of '54 Deceased List and they are a smaller class.

So far I have only been able to find 4 of the people on the Missing List, bringing it down to 69. But with your help we can update both lists. Below you will find both lists. Please read them carefully and send any information you might have on the possible whereabouts of any of them to me at [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com). All updated information that is collected will always be available to any one from the class of '53.

### WHS Class of '53 - 73 Missing Classmates.

Please help us find the following people by sending any information you might have on their whereabouts to [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com).

Florence Anderson **Deceased**  
Joyce Anderson  
Dave Bates **Deceased**  
Norman Bingham  
Gerald Borden  
Lois Bunt Burton  
Delores Caswell Gordor  
Mike Conner  
Eva Crain Tyler  
Muriel Demots Fuller  
Lila Duggan McPhail  
Darlene Eisenraun Myers  
Ron Erickson  
Minnie Essem Lundgren  
Jim Faust  
Bob Fie  
Jeanne Flynn  
Gloria Hansen  
Shirley Hanson  
Robert Hanvelt  
Kenneth Johnson  
Ralph Johnson  
Eileen Keintz Kirschenmann  
Shirley Kimball Marrnitte

Marlene Kimzey  
Horace Klinefelter **Found**  
Judy Krogstad Bias  
Helen Krueger Merchant  
Carol Kuhns  
Robert Kutter  
Douglas Lease  
Orville Lind  
Darrel MacArthur  
Donna Martin Busness  
Bettie Martins  
Susan Matson Meinert  
Anthony May  
Jeanette McKenzie Brenner  
Lavonne Messner Anderson  
Glen Michael  
Marlene Myers  
Connie Nelson  
Dennis Nelson  
Wylum Nelson  
Dick Olson  
Janis Ostby Byrnes  
Marlene Peters  
Barbara Peterson

Dean Peterson  
Mary Ann Peterson  
Dick Prosser  
Kenneth Reaves  
Evangelin Reiff  
Mary Reiter Long  
Judy Rima Thomas  
Joanne Roberts Sorenson  
Rodger Robinson **Found**  
Perry Ryno  
Robert Scott  
Rozella Seubert Hofer  
Barbara Smith Murphy  
Donna Smith  
Lorraine Snyder Pfoenhaver  
Sherry Steinmetz Bierwagen  
Beverly Straight Larson  
Bob Sweesy  
Barbara Thompson Gates  
Arlene Varns Lubbers  
Betty Wallquist  
Marianne Weerman  
Paula Williams Young  
Kathy Wood Jones  
Allen Youngren (73)

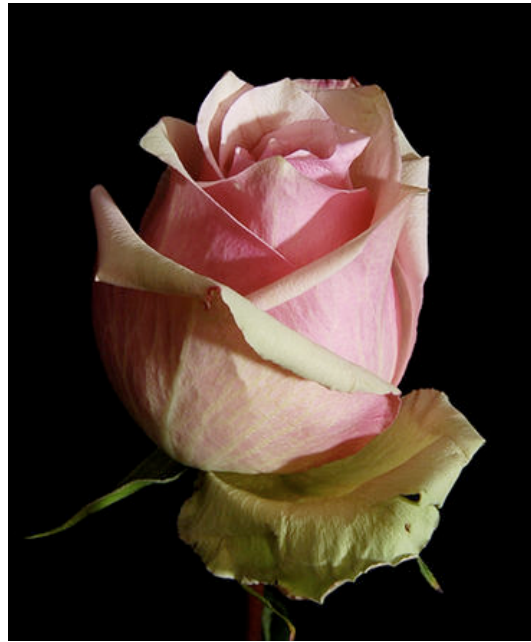
**Some men have dogs and not wives because  
the later you are, the more excited your dog is to see you.**

# *96 Deceased Members of WHS 1953 Class*

Updated April 15, 2010. This base list was prepared on 8-15-2003 for the 50th Class Reunion.

\* indicates 9 updates from Al Borgen: \*\* Indicates 9 updates from Jack Phillips: \*\*\* indicates 11 updates from Frank Owens.  
Your help is needed to further update the list. Please send any additions or corrections to [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com).

Dick Amundson  
 Florence Anderson \*\*  
 Stanley Andrew Barbas \*\*\*  
 Dave Bates \*  
 Roger Beckstrom  
 Alan Benson  
 Glen Bethke  
 Keith Bissell \*\*  
 Jerry Borden  
 Johnnie Boyd  
 Rev. Ono Brandt  
 Rob Brenner  
 Bruce Bringgold  
 Phyllis Brooks  
 Theresa Burhenn  
 Jane Butler  
 Charlene Callanan \*\*\*  
 Wanda Carlson \*\*\*  
 Eldon Christensen  
 David Dalthorp  
 Audrey Doorn  
 Dick Erickson  
 Mary Fokken  
 Norman Foster \*\*\*  
 Shirley Fredrickson  
 Coralie Frost  
 Eileen Gage \*\*\*  
 Harold Gerry  
 Maynard Getman  
 Blaine Gilcher  
 Carolyn Graff  
 Lavvonne Gunderson  
 Luanne Gunderson \*  
 Jim Hagen  
 Sylvan Hagen  
 Claude Hamilton  
 Shirley Handel  
 Sonja Hanson



Alvina Hartman \*\*  
 Herb Hawkey  
 Richard Hayne \*\*  
 John Heide  
 Jim Higgins  
 Marjorie Homandberg  
 Lann Horr  
 Andrew "Buz" Hyden \*  
 Doug Johnson  
 Kenneth Johnson \*\*\*  
 Earlene Jones  
 Mary Jordan \*\*\*  
 Jerry Kosier  
 Jerqle Leesch \*\*\*  
 Duane Leisinger  
 Janet Lee Lewis \*\*\*  
 Douglas Lind \*\*\*  
 Dick Lokken  
 Dick Millage  
 Ronald Neish

Melva Neuberger \*\*  
 Jack Neuroth \*\*  
 Maren Nielson  
 E.D. "Bud" Olson \*\*\*  
 Colleen Ormseth  
 Lorna Otten  
 Bob Parker  
 Lorin Parks \*\*  
 Ed Pennock \*  
 Bayard Phillips  
 Edwina Pierce  
 Vernon Plucker  
 Loren Posey  
 Myrna Rasmussen  
 Audrey Reichelt  
 Dr. Marv Rimmerman  
 Robert Schriever \*\*  
 Perron Shinneman \*  
 Lorraine Shipper  
 Bob Shrader  
 Geraldine Smelser \*  
 Connie South \*  
 William Stockstad \*\*  
 Beulah Straw  
 Kay Swenson  
 Fred Sykes  
 Donna Tracy  
 Wanda Troemel  
 Jerry Vandenberg  
 Duane Wardell  
 Jill Wear \*  
 Larry Whaley  
 Jack White  
 John Wiebe \*  
 Shirley Wiebers  
 Carl Wilson  
 Johnnie Winter  
 Leslie Young

(96)

# 2010 REUNION ADDITIONS

*The following events are unofficial activities and are open to members of ALL CLASSES.*

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9:30 AM BREAKFASTS:** For those of you that are attending the reunion and don't like eating alone, The Holiday Inn City Center is again providing us with the "**Restaurant Terrace**" to gather for breakfast at 9:30 on Friday and Saturday. This is an unofficial, event and requires NO reservations. Just be there at 9:30. You can order off the menu or go through the buffet line.

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY 1:30 PM - SOCIAL AFTERNOON:** If you are not planning on attending the golf or tennis tournaments on Friday and/or Saturday afternoons and have completed your tours of Sioux Falls, The Holiday Inn City Center is going to make the "**Pub Terrace**" available to anyone that would like to just gather for an hour or two of visiting and socializing. The Pub Terrace is just off the lobby bar and refreshments will be available at the bar. All classes are welcome.

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:** If you need hotel accommodations while in Sioux Falls a block of rooms have been reserved under the name of "Class of '54" with an excellent nightly rate of \$79.00. All class members are welcome to make their reservations in this block. The hotel's number is 605-339-2000.

**PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED ANY OTHER INFORMATION ON THE REUNION.**

## Argus Leader Story On Veteran, Marvin Fara, Class of '54

Roger Malcomb, '54, sent me the nice article the Argus Leader ran March 16, 2010, on '54 classmate, Marvin Fara and the Veterans Administration's program to place veterans in private homes as opposed to nursing homes. Marvin, is an Air Force veteran and has lived in Barb & Tom Lefdal's southwestern Sioux Falls home since May 2009. The story is too long to reproduce here, but if you would like the entire story I will be happy to send it to you.

## Medical foster home comforts veterans



*Barb Lefdal visiting with  
Marvin Fara, WHS '54*



I sure enjoyed my 2 Class of '54 visitors to Las Vegas last month. Above, **Beverly Ceasar Baartman, '54**, & her husband, Howard at Vegas's newest hotel/casino, The Palazzo. (It is the year of the tiger.) Below, **Chuck Balin**, the 1952-1953 SD State Tennis Champion at Bali Hi Golf Course where we had lunch.



**Letter from Keith & Mary Ann  
Lofswold Hill, Class of '50.**  
Sorry, no photo available of Keith.

## **CLASS of 1950 LUNCHEON**

Keith W. Hill, '50  
Mary Ann Lofswold Hill, '51  
7211 S. Bitterroot Ct.,  
Sioux Falls, SD 57108  
605-334-6114

I left Sioux Falls in October 1954 to become a member of the U. S. Border Patrol stationed at McAllen, Texas. In order to be closer to Mary Ann's parents I transferred to the northern border in April 1959. After two years in Portal, ND I was re-assigned to Grand Forks, ND. I finished my career there retiring as Deputy Chief Patrol Agent of the Grand Forks Sector in January 1987. We decided to make the move back "home" in 2008. We've been residing here since August 2008.

The WHS class of 1950 will have a luncheon meeting at the Cherry Creek Grill, 3104 East 26th Street in Sioux Falls, June 26, 2010 at 12 Noon. Cost is \$15.00 each to be paid at the door.



On Apr 5, 2010, at 3:08 PM  
Jim & Pam Damm wrote:

## **Jim Damm, Class of '58**

905 Hunter Ridge Rd  
Prescott, AZ 86303  
Grad '58  
Pam - spouse



After a successful 30 year career in the computer industry, the last 12 years of which I spent at executive level in electronics heaven (Silicon Valley in CA) Pam & I decided to take our love of sailing to the ultimate level.

In 1991, we retired early and sailed our 40 foot PASSPORT sloop out the Golden Gate to began a trip around the world. We sailed 35,000 miles, visited 35 countries and finished in July of 1996. IT WAS WONDERFUL. More tales to tell than any classmate could bear!

We now reside in Prescott AZ about 100 miles North of Phoenix. We're above 5000 feet so we have 4 pleasant seasons without the blistering heat of PHX. We even get about 20 inches of snow a year in 2 inch increments which usually melts off the streets by noon.

I play golf regularly and Pam and I continue to travel worldwide as we can't escape our wanderlust. I also sell real estate part-time.

We invite any classmates we knew to call &/or visit when you are in the area.



*Jim, Class of '58, & Pam Damm on their 35,000 mile, 35 country, around the world trip. Haven't most of us dreamed of an adventure like that? Way to go Jim & Pam!*





*On left, Fred Klawiter, '54 & Les Larson, '54*

Les,  
thanks for  
the nice  
letter and  
great  
photos.  
Jack

Letter dated 3-6-10



**Les Larson, WHS '54, landing a King Mackerel off the East coast of Florida.**

Jack,  
Fred Klawiter and his wife recently visited us in Naples Florida where we spend the Winter months. We toured the Everglades and enjoyed a lot of fresh fish dinners.

Fred and I have been friends since we started kinder garden at Emerson grade school. We continued school together until we graduated from the South Dakota School of Mines. Fred comes to Rapid City every year where we do a lot of fly fishing in the beautiful Black Hills.

Fred claims we have actually been friends since birth because both of our mothers were in Sioux Valley Hospital at the same time.

I do a lot of fishing in the Gulf and back waters, bike a lot and play tennis 3 or 4 times a week. Attached are a couple of pictures of Fred and me and a King Mackerel.

I enjoy your O & B updates!!

Best regards. Les Larson

### 1956 to 1959 YEARBOOKS

To assist me with publishing the Orange & Black newsletter I would like help acquiring the above yearbooks.

### YOUR STORY IS NEEDED!

From the feedback I receive from you, the readers of the Orange & Black, you most enjoy the stories written and submitted from our classmates so please keep them coming. 'Enjoyable' is certainly not the right word, but I feel an equally important feature of the paper are the Class Deceased Lists. They are always such a sad list to read, but one we all want to read. Your help is so appreciated and needed to maintain all the class deceased lists and the "missing lists". Thank you.

Speaking of Fred Klawiter, Check the photo below of Fred on the 1950 or '51 "YMCA Tri-State Basketball Tournament" championship team. l. to r. front row, Dick Bakke, deceased, Dennis Luce, Fred Klawiter. Back row, Dick Ageton, Nafe Alick, Dale Colwill, deceased, Jack Phillips, Norm Westby and coach Miles Brown. The entire team were members of WHS class of '54 and all but Ageton & Westby were alumni of Emerson Grade School. Beginning at Emerson Fred was always a really good (and smart), basketball player.

