

**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD**  
Serving The Classes of the Great '50's Decade. Photos & Stories Welcome!  
Published by Jack M. Phillips, Class of '54: [jack@jackmphilips.com](mailto:jack@jackmphilips.com)

## I Was In A "New York State of Mind" (Billy Joel)

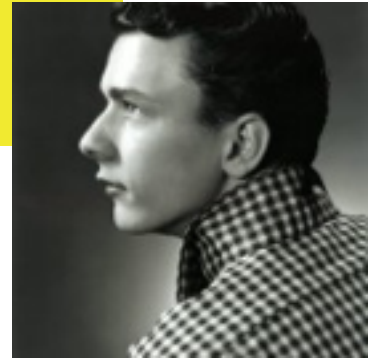
Part Six In The Series On

### *Myron Lee and The Caddies*

By Myron Lee Wachendorf '59



**Myron Lee  
Wachendorf '59  
WHS Senior Photo**



**T**he 1963 Dick Clark's "Caravan of Stars" Tour started the first week of November. I had received the contract from Clark's manager in October with the names of the acts that were on the show. They wanted me to have the band size at seven musicians, but I talked them into six because that made it possible for us to get to New York City in my station

wagon pulling a trailer. The contract called for me to be paid \$1,200.00 per week plus all expenses paid, which was okay money in those days. I had purchased the hit records recorded by the acts on the show and we had a lot of the rehearsal work done before we even left town.

I remember that morning we were getting ready to leave like it was yesterday. The guys were all excited but I was nervous and I made a comment to my wife Carole that I was wondering how we were going to be able to take on such an undertaking. She said "Myron, you go through this every time you go on tour and it always turns out great and it will this time too."



**Dick Clark with  
Myron Lee  
and The Caddies**

Here we were, 21-year-old kids leaving home for five weeks. We stopped at McDonalds on East 8<sup>th</sup> Street for a 15 cent hamburger and a malt and we were on our way on the old two-lane Highway 16 with no interstate in those days until we got to Wisconsin. We drove non-stop and as we got to within 100 miles of New York City it seemed like we were in the city already. We drove through the Tunnel into Manhattan to check into the New York Sheraton and all I could hear were taxi horns, probably honking at us with our South Dakota license plates showing.

We checked in, unloaded everything and I drove my station wagon and trailer to a Harlem parking ramp to be stored for the five weeks. *The Ronettes*, who were on the show, lived there and had arranged this for me. I was in new and strange territory and as I paid the attendant and left, I took one last look at my new station wagon thinking I may never see it again. From then on we would be traveling in one of



*The Ronettes*



Dick Clark's two custom busses.

The next morning, we boarded the busses for a short trip across the bridge to Teaneck, New Jersey where we rehearsed for five hours to get ready for our first show there that evening. The band was on Bus #1 with Dick Clark sitting up front across from the bus driver. There was a total of 58 people on the busses including Clark's road manager who was a former drill sergeant in the Army and he was still playing the part.

The band consisted of myself, Stu Perry (drums), Curt Powell (guitar), Jerry Haacke (bass), and Fred Scott and Joel Shapiro (saxophones). Only the two horn players read music and the rest of us read chord charts. As band leader, I was responsible for putting it all together and I had a notebook with each acts list of songs they would be performing.



After running through around 50 songs that day, it was 5:00 pm and time to go to the dressing room to get ready for a 6:00 pm show. I was a basket case and wanted to sneak out and hop a plane back to safe little Sioux Falls, South Dakota. As I walked into a noisy dressing room with all the guys on the show laughing and having a great time, the first person to walk over to me was Dick Clark. He shook my hand and I'm sure he could sense that I was a little nervous and I still remember what he told me. He said that he had heard from Bobby Vee how good the band was. He also said that he had been listening as we rehearsed and not to worry about any little mistakes that may happen the first show because the people in the audience won't even notice them. He also said that by the third or fourth day things will all come together and will be tight. Was he ever right! On the fourth day in Utica, New York, I stood on the stage listening to the band and boy did it sound good.

There were 15 acts on this show. The show would start out with us playing a song and then I would announce "From ABC Television and American Bandstand, Dick Clark". Dick would then introduce each act and they would each do four or five songs. They all had hit records: *Brian Highland, Linda Scott, Jimmy Clanton, Paul and Paula, Little Eva, The Ronettes, The Essex, The Dovells, Freddie Cannon*, and the headliner who closed the show: *Bobby Vee*.



Bobby Vee and Myron Lee

After playing Teaneck, New Jersey, we headed south playing a show each night. We would pack up and drive anywhere from 100 to 500 miles to the next town, get some sleep and do it all over again.

There are a lot of stories to tell and I'll do that next time. One of them will be what we ran into when we arrived in Dallas, Texas around 10:00 am on November 22, 1963.

End of Part Six.

# 2015 All School Reunion September 18, 19, 20, 2015

Have you reserved these dates on your calendar?  
If not, please do so now!

This will be our 6th All School Reunion,  
And Every One Has Been A Super Fun Weekend!!!  
**YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!!!**

# 2015 WHS Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Banquet Huge Success!

This year's WHS Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony and banquet held on Oct. 11th was indeed a grand event. It was held in the old WHS library in The Washington Pavilion. This year's committee was made up of Jeff Herbert, Chairman, Jim Luce, Vice-Chairman, Nate Malchow, Dave Bakke, Jenni Breum, Don Erickson, Brain Hermanson, Ken Kessinger, Don Goeman, Jill Joyce-Hazard, Lynn Reding, Mike Moller and Jim Trett. As always the committee did a wonderful job honoring this year's eight inductees.

There were two inductees this year from the fifties decade; "Athlete", Mike Gibson 1956 and "Contributor", Jack Phillips 1954. Both Mike and I felt truly honored by the award as did the other six inductees as evidenced by their heart felt acceptance speeches. If you have never attended the event you really should. It is always a wonderful WHS evening. I would like to particularly thank all of my friends that attended the event on my behalf. Your presence meant a lot to me. Jack



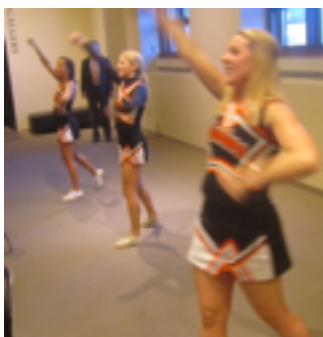
**Jeff Herbert '74**  
Hall of Fame  
Committee Chairman



**Lowell Hansen '57**  
Master of Ceremonies



**2014 Athlete Hall of Fame Inductees:** Front row: Josh Rave '01, Pam Johnson Murra, Coach, '81 - '91, Phil Hamman '76, Rich Hall '68. Back row: Jack Phillips '54 Contributor, Mike Gibson '56, Justin Reilly '99. Roger Christion '99 was absent.  
Photo courtesy of John Simko '57



**WHS Cheerleaders.**  
John Simko's '57  
Granddaughter, Kate,  
closest to camera



**Marilyn Rush  
Simmons '56**  
**Tom Simmons  
'55**

Photo to the right is showing half of the capacity crowd standing to sing the WHS fight song. In front is John Simko '57, Glen Jamtgaard '55, in rear, Jeannie Redfield Kracht '54 & Ted Belbas '47. Dean Belbas '50 was also in attendance, but is hidden behind Ted.







**Carla Thaelke Gibson '56  
& Inductee, Mike Gibson '56**



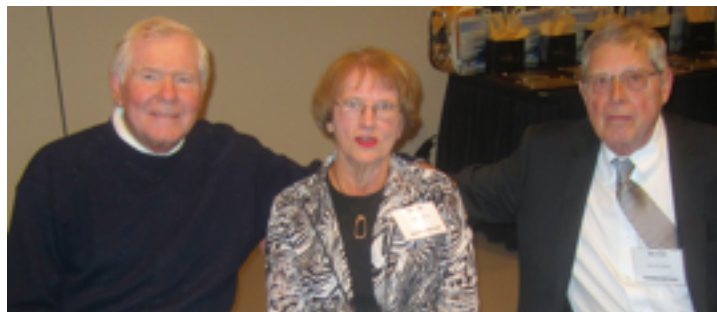
**Inductee, Jack Phillips '54  
& Debra Phillips**



**Betty Bishop Hodge '49, Keith Hodge '54,  
Wayne Gustafson '54 & Beverly Kaiser**



**Dick Wold '53, Larry Kracht,  
Jeannie Redfield Kracht '54, & Jeannie Radamacher Wold.**



**John Simko '57, Judy Erickson, Don Erickson '54**



**It was such a thrill for me to see  
& visit briefly with the one  
& only, Mr. Ken Kessinger '43**



**Jim Luce '57 presenting Inductee Mike Gibson '56  
with his official Hall of Fame Plaque.  
Photo courtesy of John Simko '57**



**Don Erickson '54, presenting  
Inductee, Jack Phillips '54, with  
his official Hall of Fame Plaque.  
Photo courtesy of John Simko '57**

**Have I reminded you that the  
2015 All School Reunion is  
September 18, 19, 20, 2015?**

# “Former Sign Maker Now Paints”



Gary Hartenhoff '53  
WHS Senior Photo

Ed. Note: A special thanks to Don Brown '53 for providing the O&B the following November 8, 2014, *Argus Leader* story by Dorene Weinstein on **Gary Hartenhoff '53**.

Don went to extra lengths to provide me the story in good reproducible resolution. Over

the years Don has submitted many really great stories to the O&B. I always truly appreciate his contributions.

A special pleasant note on this story is that Don had purchased for his home in Santa Barbara, CA, the still life, “*Bouquet*”, shown on the right, at the Pavilion in September. Thanks Don for all you have contributed to the O&B, and enjoy your beautiful painting!



Don Brown '53  
WHS Soph. Photo



“*Bouquet*”, a still life by Gary Hartenhoff.

**Gary Hartenhoff** started his art career in Sioux Falls, striping cars in high school. He moved on to painting holiday greetings in the windows of Phillips 66 gas stations and taking every art class in school.

Next, Hartenhoff became a sign painter at a furniture store, decorating the windows and helping with the displays, eventually owning his own sign company here, Hart Signs and Graphics, from 1962 to 1989.

In 1976, he started three years of study in stained glass. In 1981, he took more painting classes and drawing workshops and ultimately moved out west to perfect his art.

He spent 18 years in southern California learning everything he could about oil painting and honing related skills such as stretching canvases, framing and matting.

Hartenhoff, 79, has returned to Sioux Falls, where his art journey continues with a variety of artistic endeavors.

For example, commissioned by the Rock County Arts Council in Luverne, Minn., Hartenhoff conceived and painted a mural on the side of the Habilitative Services building, 123 W. Main St., in 2011. It features 11 postcard-type images of

landmarks and citizens in the community. “It involved fine art skills but also sign-painting skills, which are almost obsolete these days,” Hartenhoff said in an interview with the *Argus Leader* at the time.

He also completed an image of a buffalo called “This Land Was my Land” for the clinic at the Ellsworth Air Force Base in western South Dakota; seven of his paintings hang at the Sanford Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls; and a couple of paintings are in the Avera Cancer Institute.

Hartenhoff shares his philosophy of painting.

**QUESTION:** Describe your art and media.

**ANSWER:** I do representational art, the type of art you can look at and recognize what it is. I prefer using oil — it’s the most forgiving media. You can paint over and over it, and you can change it more than any other paint, and it’s the strongest.



It's the most lucrative type of painting; it's more valuable in consumers' eyes. Watercolors and acrylics seem to be worth less.

**Q:** What draws you to painting?

**A:** The pure pleasure of it. It's the same as playing music. I paint to express myself. It's the opportunity to express myself, but I also do it for the audience.

**Q:** What is your favorite subject?

**A:** Landscapes and still lifes are my favorite things to paint. The still lifes especially, you control the placement and background and have all the time to paint them.

I also do plein-air painting. It draws you to the landscape.

**Q:** What are your most popular paintings?

**A:** The best-selling paintings are cowboy art, Native American art and horse art for collectors, but I like to do landscapes.

In the summer, I work in the garage or outside almost daily; in the winter time, I work in the basement.

I like to paint outdoors in the early morning or late afternoon. The north light is the best light for artists. You can utilize the shadows to express yourself.

We do have beautiful country back here. **Even the winter is pretty.**



**Artist, Gary Hartenhoff, at work.**



***"Corn looks ready", oil on linen panel 24 x 36, by Gary Hartenhoff.***  
**End of Hartenhoff story.**

# Letters to the & B



**Jim Zirbes '54**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 2, 2014, Kathryn Zirbes & **Jim Zirbes '54** <kzirbes2@comcast.net> wrote:

Hi Jack – hope this reaches you. Jim Zirbes would like to get the Orange and Black publications for Washington High, Sioux Falls. He also has a DVD of the Nighthawks of which he, Bob and Dick Briggs and Jack Tapkan – plus others including his brother Tom and sister DeeDee. They pantomimed quartet songs on KELO – these were out takes but are fun to watch = are you interested in a copy?? Kathryn Zirbes (and **Jim Zirbes '54**) Our email is [kzirbes2@comcast.net](mailto:kzirbes2@comcast.net)



**Kathryn & Jim at Class of '54's 60th Reunion**



Kathryn Zirbes sent me the Nighthawk's DVD and the still photo on the left was taken from that DVD that was done in the fifties. The guys kneeling left to right & clockwise around Dee Dee Zirbes, Cathedral '56, deceased, are Bob Briggs '54, deceased, Tom Zirbes Cathedral '57, Jim Zirbes '54 and Dick Briggs '54 deceased.



On Oct 4, 2014, **Lula McMaster Robertson '54** <lula3600@yahoo.com> wrote:  
Jack, just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the reunion pics. I was not able to attend this year, but if the Lord willing I will in 2019. Thank you for all the effort you put into our class!  
Hug's Lou

**Left: Lou McMaster Robertson '54 - WHS Senior Photo**



On Oct 6, 2014, **Julie Olson Bramkamp '53** <jbramkamp@sbcglobal.net> wrote:  
Good Heavens; you do a wonderful job; I certainly overlooked the photo quality; Mostly I was impressed that five men about my age could still sit on the floor. You said nothing about whether they could stand up again. **Julie Olson Bramkamp, Class of '53.**

**Julie Olson Bramkamp '53 - WHS Senior Photo**





**Gene Ross '56**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 6, 2014, **Gene Ross '56** [eugene-ross@comcast.net](mailto:eugene-ross@comcast.net) wrote:

Jack - As far as I am concerned, you need never apologize for anything related to Orange and Black. I, for one, am so grateful for all of the time and energy you exert on behalf of all of us WHS alumni. It is great to see pictures from the past and up-dates on classmates we would never have received were it not for your generosity in preparing this resource for us every month and often in between. Thanks so much! **Gene Ross (Class of '56)**

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**Jerry Savold '56**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 6, 2014, **Jerry Savold '56** [<jsavold72@gmail.com>](mailto:jsavold72@gmail.com) wrote:

Jack: No apologies necessary regarding the quality of the photos. I believe I speak for many in expressing our thanks for all of your efforts in publishing the O & B. Also, thankful it wasn't my eye sight.

I had hoped to make it to the induction Sat, but won't be able to attend. Would like to send Mike my congratulations, but don't have his email address. Could you send it to me?

Congratulations to you on the honor as well.

All the Best, **Jerry Savold '56**

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**Jim Wylie '51**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 7, 2014, **James Wylie '51** [<jimwylie@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:jimwylie@sbcglobal.net) wrote:

Thanks for all you do, Jack. Operations problems happen in the world and the new Tech world is no exception.

We were in SF recently for the Augustana homecoming. You are up to speed on the "Sanford" era having come to the Sioux Falls community and indeed the region from the healthcare point of view.

Augie is partnering with Sanford Medical in the area of imageneticcs et al.

Having spend my life in hospital/healthcare it is great to see the home town out in front in the primary area served and in the national picture. **Jim Wylie '51**

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**Jerry Kersten '53**  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 8, 2014, **Jerry Kersten '53** [<jerry-kersten@comcast.net>](mailto:jerry-kersten@comcast.net) wrote:

Jack,

Almost all the pictures (#12-14) came through clear. Only the Argus article about the YMCA destruction was very difficult to read. It looks good this time. I too remember taking swimming lessons in that pool, nude, probably in the late 40s.

One of the pictures from the 50yr reunion identified Jerry Moen. During my HS years I lived next door to Moens. My bedroom window opened to Moen's back door. I remember having several conversations with Jerry's mother, Helen while laying on my bed. Our household (private) joke was: "If you don't like it around here you can go to Helen Moen about it." (only humorous if read out load.) If you have Jerry Moen's email address, please forward it to me.

Thanks for keeping so many WHS alumni informed about their classmates. **Jerry Kersten '53**



**Jerry Moen '52**  
WHS Senior Photo



Annette Hillgren '58  
WHS Senior Photo

On Oct 7, 2014, **Annette Hillgren Bray '58**  
Aneterb@aol.com wrote:

I am amazed at all you have been able to find to produce such a newsletter! Each time I receive this, I have been running off a copy for my brother John, who does not "do" computers AT ALL. Thank you for this way of communication and connections with our former classmates.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of **Karen Carson, Class of '58**, I would be interested in hearing from them...

**Annette Hillgren Bray '58**



Karen Carson '58  
WHS Senior Photo

Do you know  
where she is?



On Oct 14, 2014, at 4:41 AM, Ronald Veenker <rveenker@ec.rr.com> wrote:

I can't really say I knew Grace ( See Sp Ed 10-13-14 Grace Leih '54 ), but I do recognize her senior picture. I'm struck, in reading obituaries, how many of our classmates unbeknown to me led exceptional lives and achieved so much. It's so good to realize this even after they are gone.

**Ron Veenker '54**

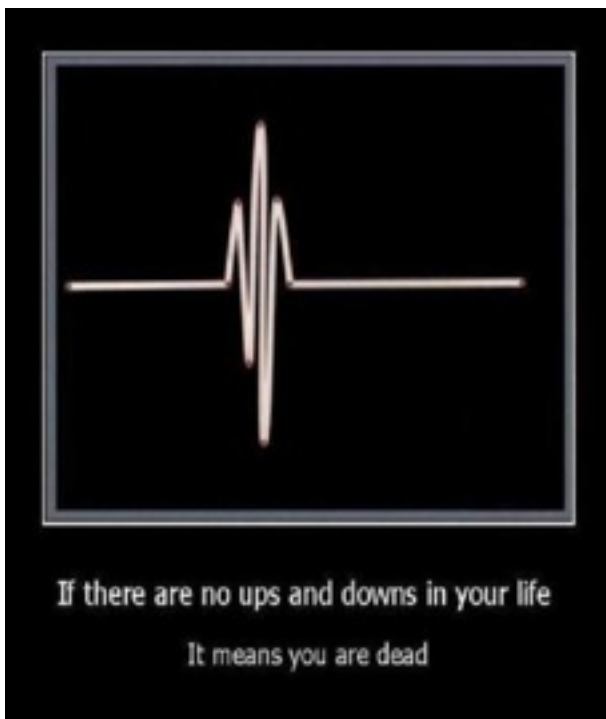
Ron Veenker '54 WHS Senior Photo



On Oct 27, 2014, **Kent Morstad '54** <judymorstad@gmail.com> wrote:

Jack just as an aside—Bonnie's ( See, Sp Ed 10-23-14 Bonnie Fideler '53 ), dad Mike Fideler, was one of the owners/partners of Dickenson Bros. candy & deli shop on Main ave. in the block North of WHS. **Kent Morstad '54**

Kent Morstad '54 - WHS Senior Photo





On Oct 27, 2014, **Jeff Kayl '69**, Jeff.Kayl@everestre.com wrote:



**Robert Donan**  
WHS Biology Teacher

No  
Photo  
Available  
of Jeff  
Kayl '69

Jack, Is this the Mr. Dolan who taught biology at WHS? This link from today's AL:  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/argusleader/obituary.aspx?n=robert-dolan&pid=172953303&fhid=23173>

I believe that he lived in Beresford and farmed near there. I think that he was the bio teacher who had us dissect animals, including, once, a calf that had died on his farm.

**Jeff Kayl '69** Office: 908.604.3189 Cell: 908.391.1715

On Oct 27, 2014, at 1:30 PM, Jack Phillips <jack@jackmphilips.com> wrote:

Yes, Jeff. This is the Robert Dolan that taught at WHS. The first year I can find a record of him teaching at WHS was 1959. Here is his obituary.

Jack

Robert Henrich Dolan 83, of Beresford, SD died Friday October 24th with family by his side. Visitation will be Tuesday, October 28th from 4-7pm with family present at 5pm. A prayer service will follow at 7pm. Mass of Christian Burial Wednesday, October 29th at 2 pm. Both services will be held at St Teresa's Catholic Church in Beresford, SD. Burial will follow at St John's Cemetery.

Robert Henrich Dolan was born November 12th, 1930 on the Dolan farm in Beresford, SD to Joseph and Mary Ellen (Nellie Henrich) Dolan. He grew up and graduated from Beresford High School in 1949. He graduated from the University of South Dakota with a teaching degree in Biology and Zoology. He earned his Masters of Administration in 1967. He spent his first two years of teaching in Elk Point, SD. On August 2nd, 1958, he married Sally Coddington. He then began his long-time teaching career in the Sioux Falls Public Schools (Whittier Junior High, Washington and Roosevelt High Schools). The majority of his teaching years were spent at WHS. His career in education spanned over 50 years, influencing thousands of students. He officially retired in 2006. Bob was a hands-on teacher. He brought the farm to the city (from hatching pheasant and quail eggs to farrowing a sow). He was the Science Department Chair for many years and was awarded the John W. Harris Teacher of the year in 1998. In addition to teaching, and his love for animals, he continued to farm, raising hogs, cattle, and chickens.

Bob was a lifelong member of St Teresa's Catholic Church. He was a fourth degree Knight and had served as Grand Knight. He was currently President of St John's Cemetery board. He was a member of the Beresford Lions for over 50 years and held many offices. He was very involved in the Lion's Eye Bank. He was a strong advocate for the success and growth of Beresford. His vision of a golf course and housing development became a reality. He enjoyed bowling, golf, bridge club and anything involving family.

Bob had a love for the New York Yankees, listening to them on the radio as a young boy. He also had a love for Notre Dame. Most important to him was his faith and his family. Through the years, he never missed any of his children's numerous activities and so enjoyed watching his grandchildren. He was the best husband, dad, grandpa and great-grandpa a family could ask for.

He is survived by his wife Sally of 56 years and their 6 children: David (Kim), Rapid City; JK (Karen), Beresford; Ann (Darnell) Nelson, Sioux Falls; Ellen (Tom) Manning, Casper, WY; Deb (Dan) Bergland, Beresford; Sarah (Brad) Antonson, Beresford. 18 Grandchildren: Ashley (Josh) Kauffman, Matthew (Cara) Dolan, Stephen Dolan; Justin Dolan, Katelynn Dolan; DJ (Andrea) Nelson, Meghan (Fiancee Reagan Clemensen), Benjamin Nelson; Joe Manning, Mandy (Jeff) Hurley, Catherine Koch, Thomas Manning, Mary Ellen Manning; Hunter Bergland, Alana Bergland; Nick Antonson, Maddie Antonson, Jack Antonson. Six great grand children: Ella and Addison Koch, Jeffrey and Allison Hurley, Mya and Jameson Nelson and two great grandchildren on the way. He is survived by two sisters, Lois Ballard of Vermillion and Eileen O'Connor of Sioux Falls, brother-in-law and sister-in-law Keel and Patty Coddington, 9 nieces, 8 nephews and his canine companion, Cody. He is preceeded in death by his parents, four sisters; Florence Dolan, Marjorie (Jerry) Smit, Eunice (Dick) Beacom, Virginia (Kenneth) Thompson, brothers-in-law George Ballard and Robert O'Connor and grandson Thomas John Manning, nephews- Tom and Phil Thompson.

Memorials will be divided among various charities and foundations.



On Nov 2, 2014, **Peggy Servold Teslow '57** [pwolset@sio.midco.net](mailto:pwolset@sio.midco.net) wrote:

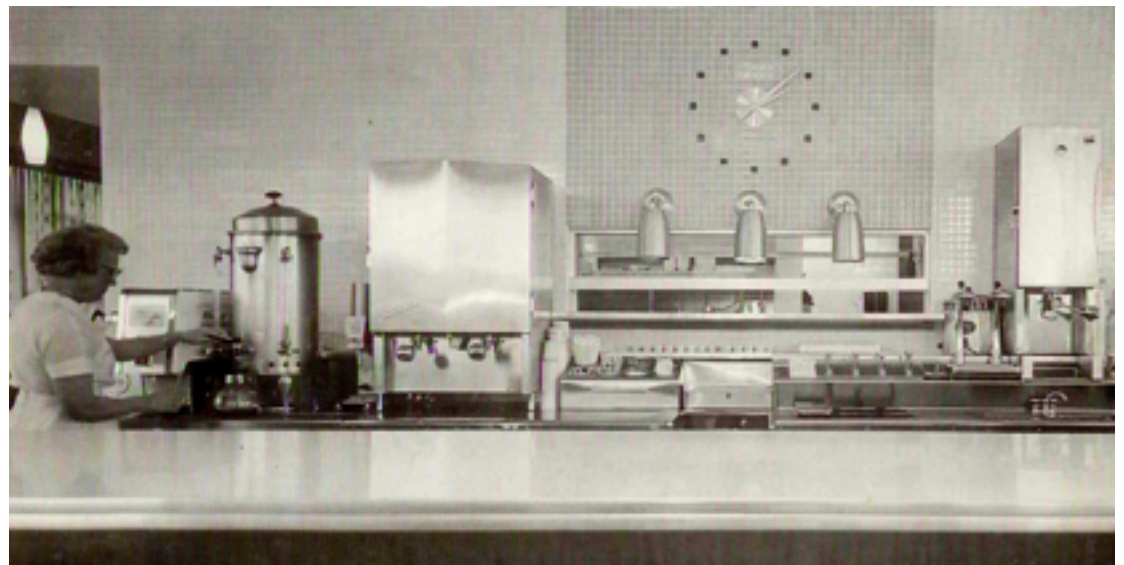
Attached is a picture of the Mark Twain band with Mr. Foss as director. Circa 1949????  
**Peg Teslow '57**

**Peggy Servold Teslow '57**



On Nov 2, 2014, **Peggy Servold Teslow '57** [pwolset@sio.midco.net](mailto:pwolset@sio.midco.net) wrote:

Attached is a picture of the Barrel Drive-In with Esther Beck circa 1953-57. Esther was the mother of Bob, Dick and Ron Beck.  
**Peggy '57**







Peggy Servold Teslow '57  
WHS Senior Photo

On Nov 17, 2014, **Peggy Servold Teslow '57**, [pwolset@sio.midco.net](mailto:pwolset@sio.midco.net) wrote:  
[Don't know if anyone sent this to you or not, Jack.](#)

[Subject: Old Sioux Falls](#)

[Some interesting and familiar places](#)

[Greetings From Sioux Falls](#) [click here](#)

[Click on the box for comments from other readers. Very interesting.](#)

[Greetings From Sioux Falls](#)

A look at Sioux Falls through postcards, current photos, and perhaps the occasional rough sketch on... <https://www.facebook.com/GreetingsFromSiouxFalls?fref=nf&filter=1>

### *Reunion Gifts...*

*There's meaning to be found  
in every moment, in everything  
we think and see and do...  
(while attending the class of '54  
60<sup>th</sup> reunion)*

*There's purpose to be found  
in every challenge and joy  
in every dream that we pursue.  
(by the committee who organized  
a fantastic reunion...Thanks!)*

*There's warmth in every kindness  
that we're given and every kindness  
we ourselves may give...  
(throughout our 60<sup>th</sup> reunion)*

*There's meaning to be found  
in every minute, in every hour,  
in everyday we live.  
(in giving thanks for the blessings  
of friendships and  
great years at W.H.S.)*

*Poet Amanda Bradley*

*(Reunion thoughts by Connie Zimmerman)*

REMAINING  
REFLECTIONS  
FROM THE  
CLASS OF '54'S  
60TH REUNION  
BY  
CONNIE  
HAMMITT  
ZIMMERMAN  
'54