



Bushy Tales

Dedicated to all who attended London Central High School
at Bushy Park, London England from
1952 to 1962



Issue #2

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Gary Schroeder (55), Editor gschroeder4@comcast.net
Visit the Bushy Park Web Site at <http://www.bushypark.org/>

Class Representatives



1953 - Jackie (Brown) Kenny
JKYKNY@aol.com



1954 - Betsy (Neff) Cote
betsycote@atlanticbb.net



1955 - Nancie (Anderson) Weber
nancieT@verizon.net



1956 - Glenda (Fuller) Drake
gfdrake@swbell.net



1957 - Shirley (Huff) Dulski
shuffy2@msn.com



1958 - Pat (Terpening) Owen
CHS1958@sbcglobal.net



1959 - Jerry Sandham
j_sandham@comcast.net



1960 - Ren Briggs
renpat1671@unedspeed.net



1961 - Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



1962 - Dona (Hale) Ritchie
DonaRitchi@aol.com

Roster Changes

New Email address

Walter Costa (54) (no picture available)
grtwaldo@281.com

Classmates Who Have Transferred To The Eternal Duty Station

Our love and prayers go out to the family and friends of our classmates who have gone on before us. We will miss them, yet we can find comfort in knowing that one-day we will all join them for the greatest of all reunions



Kay (Ervin) Ebetino (56)

From her Brother Lindsay Ervin (60)
lbe@lbe golfcoursedesign.com I am very saddened to sent the following information that, my sister, Kay (Ervin) Ebetino

(class of 1956), passed away on February 26, 2008 in Estero, Florida after battling cancer for three years. She was buried in Waterloo, Iowa next to our mother and her oldest son, Freddy. She was a great sister and was loved by many. I have attached a photograph of her and myself (on the left) taken in the summer of 1957 at some ruins in Rome, Italy. We were on a bus tour of Italy, with my mother, and we stopped to view these ruins plus at that time Kay had a cigarette break and while doing so this guy came up and lit up and started talking to her, trying to pick her up and as you can see I am not too happy about the situation because she just drew the guys and I was always there to "guard" her and try to get these amorous guys to hit the road. Fortunately nothing bad ever happened but as her brother, I was on guard all the time. If anybody would like to write or call with any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the following.

Lindsay B. Ervin
 1686 Village Green, Suite 204
 Crofton, Maryland, 21114
 e:mail: LBE@LBEGOLFCOURSEDESIGN.COM
 Phone: 410-793-0310



Jane (Milburn) Reid (60)
 This is from Edwina Edwards (61)
 Whitehead Please visit the *Notice* for **Jane M. Reid**.

<http://www.legacy.com/Link.asp?I=LS000105028287X>

Reunions

(Editors Note: See Reunion Notice on the last 3 pages of this newsletter.)

Memories of Bushy



John Strand (58)
jsstrand@sbcglobal.net

Hi Gary - saw the message from the Berrymans in the current issue - here's a picture taken either fall of 52, or spring of 53 of Mrs. Seaton's 7th grade class on a field trip to Windsor Castle - seems like the girls had a different guide - top left to right: Joe Berryman, Chris Salmon, Norman Simmons, David King and Robin Hopkins - bottom left: Sammy Williams and bottom right: Howard Wood. Henry Parker was also in that class, but I don't remember if he was absent or just not there yet. I took the picture and it is the only one that was taken on the trip. Robin and David have copies that I sent several years ago. Seems like the class took advantage of being in England and went on these trips - I think one of the favorite ones was to an ice skating rink. The next year as 8th graders with Mr. McFarland we were housed first semester on a soundstage in the old Denham Village Film Studios and the spring semester we had a classroom at Eastcote School before coming back to Bushy as freshmen in the fall of 54.



Here's a picture of the Ruislip Chapel Choir - left to right - Marilyn Burch - unidentified military wife - a lovely Welsh lady who loved to sing and I learned to love the Welsh tune "Aberystwyth" from her - Maud Merson whose dad was a civilian employee

on the base - he tutored me building my first radio - Maud had a really beautiful soprano voice - and that's me with no identifiable voice at that point in time in the back row. Marilyn's father was the chaplain - the organist was Charles Smart who was quite a renowned performer and whose son was a pop organist named Harold Smart - he played weekly on a BBC show called "The Show Band Show" - the choir was invited to Charles home several times where we met his French wife as well as his son. Harold was kind enough to get us tickets to the "Show Band Show" broadcasts several times, where I met both Bert Weedon (electric guitar) and Mme. Maria Korchinska (harp) - Bert went on to have quite a career as a pop and rock guitarist. Mme. Korchinska spoke no English, but was also quite a luminary in the harp world at the time and these days, in the harp circles is legendary. I am really honored to have met her - at the time, who knew??? Google those names today and you get a wealth of history -



Here is a picture of Mr. Poole most likely taken the spring of 55. I think that is Freddie Buhler to the right -



Editors Note: Here is another picture John sent but I'm not going to tell you who it is – first one to tell me who it is gets a free issue of this newsletter. 😊)



Ray Millar (62)

ray.millar@verizon.net

I attended Bushy Park as a freshman for just one year, 58-59. Central High was my 9th school and 4th country. My father was stationed in Norway at the time and we didn't have an American High School, so off to England I went. This made me a weekender dorm rat.

I remember Bushy 50 years later with lots of fond memories. We went to Stonehenge, Old Vic Theater, Changing of the Guard, and several other trips sponsored by the school.

The event that stands out most in my memory happened on the base one weekend.

One of the dorm counselors rounded up all the boys who were hanging around the dorm one Saturday and walked us over to the small Air Police station not far from the front gate. Then we were all seated in a small front room and one at a time taken into another room. The counselor went with whoever was being questioned.

I was one of the last waiting in the outside room. I had no knowledge of what was going on. As each person's questioning was finished, he was escorted out of the building without being allowed to say anything to the rest of us.

While waiting for my turn, a couple of AP's came in escorting Speedy Thomas and another dorm rat.

(I don't remember the name of the other person.)

They, too, were taken into the back room. They were brought out back out a little later and sent on their way. By then I was the last dorm rat left in the outer room. My turn had finally come, and I was taken into the back room. They questioned whether I had any knowledge of or involvement in windows being broken out in the school and dorms during the weekends. This was the first I had heard about it. I wasn't doing it, nor did I know of anybody who was.

After my interview finished, I went back to the dorm. I ran into Speedy (Everett Thomas, 61) and asked him what he had done to be brought in by the AP's. He said that the two of them had been caught climbing over the wall **into** base close to the boy's dorm. They had attempted to do this so they wouldn't have had to walk all the way to the gate, and then back to the dorm. (In actuality, this had been something many of us had done frequently but had never gotten caught doing.) He then said something about the AP's having saved the "hard case", (me), for last. I cherished that statement because I had never thought of myself of being a hard case or very tough.

A few years ago, I reconnected with Speedy for a short while, and asked him who the other person had been. He told me that he didn't remember the incident at all, much less the other person.

I returned to Bushy last summer (2007) and found, that the **entire** base, except for the flag pole, had been totally removed and the land turned back to the park.

This and That



Carol (Smith) Benjamin (59)
carolbenjamin@knology.net

And what a special guy you are! Thank you, Gary, for all you do! You're an ace amongst men! I've already gotten a

letter from Dave McManigal (see Below) saying that he knows Mrs. Carey through his church. Mr. Carey was my 8th grade teacher. He's also met the Carey's daughter, Meredith, who was one of my classmates in the 8th grade. Well, imagine my surprise at actually hearing from someone because of my article. Thank you for publishing that!

And here I was so skeptical<BG> God bless you always.



Dave McManigal (56)
dmcmanigal@cableone.net

Carol,

Your note in the Bushy Park newsletter was interesting to me. Mr. Carey's widow is a member of our church and a good friend of my family. I've met Meredith on several occasions. Mr. Carey had passed on before I met his widow, Thelma.

I was at Bushy Park from 1952 to 1954, in the class of 1956. After June 1954, I never encountered anyone else who had been at Bushy Park until my wife and I retired to her hometown, Miami, Oklahoma, in 2002. That's where we met Thelma Carey. I learned of the BP connection when, during a dinner at my home, Thelma mentioned that she had been there. Of course, I had to get out my yearbook so we could reminisce about it.

It was some time after that when I found the BP website and got connected again. Now, of course, I've learned quite a bit about old schoolmates, and I expect to learn even more at the October reunion in Nashville.

Thelma still lives in Miami, but she is no longer able to live alone as she did when we met. She is in a nursing home a couple of miles from my home here. I'm not sure if she is still able to handle e-mail, but her address the last time I heard from her was catlover8@sbcglobal.net. I think you'll agree with me that it really is a small world, and it's getting smaller all the time.



Sherry (Burritt) Konjura (57)
sherger@juno.com

It really is a small world! I recently attended a training for a Tour Company which I work for and met another Tour Guide named Sandy Wurster. Found out her husband graduated from London Central in 1964 - so a shout out to fellow alum Doug Wurster. It was nice to meet your lovely wife!

The most recent newsletter included a message from Carol Smith Benjamin (69). I was surprised to see her PS - that she graduated in 1969 from S.D. Lee High School in Columbus, MS. I took a teaching job at S.D. Lee for the school year 1971-72. I Was attending MUW in Columbus while Carol was at Lee High. Later all three of my sons graduated from S.D. Lee High! I gather Carol's Dad was at the Air Base outside Columbus?

Finally, Leola Joy Sickler Heslin (55) writes that she is moving to Tulsa, OK - actual address in Broken Arrow. My younger brother Duane and his wife reside in Broken Arrow! Makes me wonder just how often we've all crossed one another's paths without ever knowing it? Yes, it is definitely a small world.



Mike Murphy (58)
Oldsalt1223@aol.com

Hi Gary. Wow, 8 years and a great job you do. Judy and I were in Miami the first part of February. We had a great time. Took a tour of Miami and South Beach, Little Havana, and a boat tour of all the wealthy people who live there. As you know, the class of 1958 is having their 50th reunion in Dallas in October. I still can't believe I have been out of high school that long. I am hoping that as many 58ers as possible will attend this function. There will be other classes there too. I have found a map of England and have earmarked all the RAF bases that our students lived. There are quite a few with Burtonwood being one of the furthers (is that a word). anyway, The map will be at the October Reunion. if anyone would care to send me where they lived, I will post it on the map. I am still in contact with Gail Martha Kelly, art teacher and she is sending me a map of London proper. Also thank god for all of our alumni. We are a unique group to say the least. See some of you in October.



Jack Fisher (61)
jack@mauirealestatebroker.com

We've had some colder-than-normal weather for Maui. Attached are a few photos of snow on the top of Mt. Haleakala, extending from the summit (10,300 ft.) down to about the 7,000 ft. elevation. Yikes!



Lydia Ropp Crewdson (62)
lydiacrewdson@yahoo.com

Gary, So glad about your daughter's recovery. My husband and I are in rehearsal for the play "Damn Yankees". Imagine this ole lady being a 20 year old wife. Last year I played a 10 year old little girl. I guess I am continuing what I started back in Bushy.... Being a ham.

The Story Continues



Walter E. Hunt (56)
walt@lobo.net

BICYCLING EUROPE ON \$1.00 A DAY:

A Cold War Geographic and Cultural Memoir

Chapter 12 - July, Oslo, Norway

I arrived in Oslo and went immediately to the American Embassy. I had to do two things: cash a traveler's check, and see if they could contact my father at the Embassy in Germany. They told me where to go to cash the check, and they got Dad on the phone. I asked him if he could send my warmer, down sleeping bag since the one I had was not heavy enough for mountain camping. I also asked if he could send \$50.00 to the post office in Newcastle, England. I knew that in another week I would run out of money, and that I would be there to pick it up. It would last until I got home. I stayed in Oslo three days while waiting for the sleeping bag. I set up camp at Bygdoy, which was great camping. It was cheap, it was private, and it was close to downtown Oslo and directly on the Fiord. It also sounded like "Big Day." The campground was located close to the Viking Museum, where there was a spectacular, restored original Viking ship.

While waiting for my sleeping bag to arrive, I visited a number of museums, including the Viking Museum, and went to see the terrific carved stone figurines at the Vigeland Park. This park was, and remains, the most vivid memory of places I visited in Oslo.

Vigeland Sculpture Park
(An Internet article edited by the author.)

An artistic highlight of Norway is the Sculpture Park in Oslo. The park contains 192 sculptures with more than 600 figures, all modeled in full size by Gustav Vigeland.

The initial focus of the park sculptures was a Fountain. A model was presented to the city council in 1907 and Vigeland was commissioned to make it. As time passed and not enough money was raised to build it, Vigeland had time to add many more granite sculptures that were later placed around the park. In 1931 numerous sculptures were added on the parapets and grounds. For the

rest of his life, Vigeland continued to model new sculptures for the park until his death in 1943.

Vigeland was born in 1869 in the south-coast town of Mandal. His artistic talents were first revealed in his drawings and woodcarvings and at the age of fifteen, his father took him to Oslo to apprentice him to a master. The death of his father two years later forced Vigeland to return to Mandal and relinquish hopes of becoming a sculptor. In 1888, Vigeland was back in the capital, this time taking with him a bundle of sketches for statues, groups and reliefs, their themes mostly deriving from Greek mythology and the Bible. The sculptor, Brynjulf Bergslien, impressed by his drawings, took him into his studio and gave him his first practical training.

The work of Auguste Rodin, seen by Vigeland on visits to Rodin's studio in Paris, had a noticeable impact. Rodin's treatment of his relationship between man and woman was influential in Vigeland's life-long development of his sculptures.

"I was a sculptor before I was born. I was driven and lashed onward by powerful forces outside myself. There was no other path, and no matter how hard I might have tried to find one, I would have been forced back again."

The Monolith column, 14.12 meters (46 feet) high carved out of a single block of stone, consists of 121 figures. Modeled by Vigeland in the years 1924-25, it took three stone carvers from 1929 to 1943 to complete, just shortly before Vigeland died. The column is completely covered by human figures in relief, singly or in groups. At the bottom there are seemingly inert bodies. Above them figures ascend in a spiral, the movement halting midway and then rising at a fast pace towards the summit which is covered by small children. Many interpretations of the Monolith have been suggested, including Man's resurrection, the struggle for existence, the transcendence of everyday life.

Surrounding the Monolith are 36 groups in granite depicting the cycle of life. Every sculpture includes at least two figures depicting Man in a variety of typical human situations and relationships. A man and woman sit facing one another with a little child between them. Children play, young men and

women dream and embrace. Old age is represented in several groups. Initially, Vigeland wanted to retain the volume of the granite block. The figures from this early period are broad and simple with a minimal of detail. Later, however, he introduced greater detail and more space was allowed between figures. Although a skilled carver himself, Vigeland did not sculpt directly in granite. He modeled the groups in full size and employed professional artisans to do the time-consuming work of transferring the original models into stone.

The Fountain is the earliest sculpture unit in the park. In the center of the basin, six giants hold the large saucer-shaped vessel aloft and from it a curtain of water spills down around them. The men, representing different ages, may be interpreted as toiling with the burden of life and the effort expended in lifting the heavy vessel varies.

58 bronze sculptures on granite parapets (1926-1933) stand on either side of the Bridge portraying people of differing ages, although there is less emphasis on old age than others in the park. Dominant themes among the groups are the relationships between man and woman and between adults and children. In one sculpture, you find a bronze wheel enclosing a man and woman linked together in a rotating movement. The sculpture may indicate the constant attraction and love between the sexes or a figurative version of the Eastern symbol of "Yin and Yang." After finishing the 58 sculptures for the bridge in the early 1930s,

Vigeland completed a small children's circle located at one end of the bridge next to the small lake. In 1934, he completed the large bronze "Wheel of Life," which is composed of figures swirling in an eternal circle.

Vigeland article reference: See this website for further information and photographs:
<http://www.fortunecity.com/banners/interstitial.html>

Thomas T. Drysdale (AOSHS)
overseasschools@juno.com

Thank you for another excellent Bushy Park Newsletter. And CONGRATULATIONS for being so determined and hanging on for eight years. It might also be encouraging to your contributors to let them know that their stories have been, and are being recorded and preserved by the American Overseas Schools Historical Society, a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) Corporation. As you know, your newsletters are recorded and preserved under your name and London Central High School at Bushy Park, London, England from 1952 to 1962. Warmest regards, and keep up the good work. Tom. **PS — Send an announcement to the AOSHS Archive Director, Nancy Hampel, aoshsoffice@sbcglobal.net and she will arrange to help you spread the word in the AOSHS Quarterly about the Bushy Park Reunion in Nashville on 5-7 Oct. 08.**



Rev. Aaron (Sheldon) Peters, O.S.B. (57)
aaronosb@hotmail.com

It's official, DD-214's are NOW Online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) has provided the following website for veterans to gain access to their DD-214's online: <http://vetrecs.archives.gov/> This may be particularly helpful when a veteran needs a copy of his DD-214 for employment purposes. NPRC is working to make it easier for veterans With computers and Internet access to obtain copies of documents from Their military files. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased Former military members may now use a new online military personnel records system to request documents. Other individuals with a need for documents must still complete the Standard Form 180, which can be downloaded from the online web site. Because the requester will be asked to supply all information essential for NPRC to process the request, delays that normally occur when NPRC has to ask veterans for additional information will be minimized. The new web-based application was designed to provide better service on these requests by eliminating the records centers mailroom and processing time.



It is that time again for the Bushy Park Central High School

Gathering 2008 and the Class of 1958 50th Reunion
October 10th, 11th, and 12th 2008

We have reviewed several locations and hotels and have selected the Dallas / Fort Worth area. As you may not know, Texas has the second highest number of residents that attended Bushy Park. So expect all of them to be there.

Page two of this letter will provide you with the hotel selection and phone number for you to call for reservations. When you call **PLEASE** inform the operator that you are with the Central High School, London group. That will get you the special rate we have negotiated.

The hotel we have selected is the Marriott Dallas/Fort Worth Airport South. It is a primarily a businessman hotel during the week. The room rates are normally \$239 a night. We have worked it out with the Hotel, and with our large group, we will get the same rooms for \$99.00 a night.

In accordance with Marriott International, the DFW Airport Marriott South is now 100% Non Smoking in all guest rooms, meeting space, public areas, restaurants and bars.

The committee selected this hotel for it's location. It is only 4 miles from DFW Airport and offers complimentary 24-hour Airport shuttle service. It is only 12 miles to Dallas and 15 miles to Fort Worth. South on state 360 from the hotel 12 to 15 miles is Interstate 20. There are 3 high rated RV Parks just east or west on Interstate 20. (see page 4 for listings)

Reservations are your responsibility. The last day to reserve your room is **September 5th**. We have a block of 75 rooms set aside. The hotel has 295 guest rooms so we can go over the 75 rooms and receive the same rate.

However, after **September 5th** you will not get the group rate.

Please make reservations early if you plan on attending. If for some reason you cannot attend, you may cancel your reservation with 72-hour notice.

The schedule of events is as follows. Friday Oct. 10 is arrival. Saturday Oct. 11th we have reserved a banquet/hospitality room from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Class of 1958 is having a special dinner planned outside of the hotel Saturday night. Information will be provided by their committee. Sunday Oct. 12th we have scheduled a luncheon at 12:30 for our Gathering festivity. The banquet/hospitality room is reserved from 11:00am to 5:00 pm. You will note that we have left the evenings open for you to get together with old school mates and friends for your own entertainment. Monday Oct. 13 we have a small hospitality room reserved and it will be departure day.

Please print out page 2 and 3. They will provide you with the information you require. Like all the prior Gatherings, we have costs to cover and we are having a luncheon. This information is **on page #3** and must be mailed to the committee by **September 5th**.

SEE YOU IN DALLAS/FORT WORTH OCT 10TH, 11TH, AND 12TH

Hotel reservations and information

Hotel Marriott Dallas/Fort Worth
 4151 Centerport Blvd.
 Fort Worth, Texas 76155

Location 4 miles south of Dallas/Fort Worth Airport just off state 360

Marriott Reservation 1-800-228-9290 or 1-800-431-8162

All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit, or guaranteed with a major credit card. Hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured by one of the above methods.

Remember to say you are part of the Central High School London for the room rate

Cut-off date September 5th, 2008

Hotel information

- **295 guest rooms (219 king bed and 76 doubles
- **200 of the guestrooms are designed as “the Room that Works”, a Marriott concept featuring a large console table, mobile writing desk and fully adjustable ergonomic chair, specifically designed for the business traveler.
- **All rooms feature 2 telephones, 2 telephone lines and multiple data ports.
- **All rooms include iron and ironing boards, hairdryers, coffee and coffeemakers, and guest voice mail.
- **Indoor lap pool and executive fitness center
- **24-hour gift shop
- **River City Grille Restaurant and Lounge features both buffet and a la carte breakfast and lunch menus, plus an exceptional dinner menu. Room Service will be available from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm.
- **Extensive free parking
- ** Complimentary 24-hour Airport Shuttle Service and complimentary shuttle service to the Trinity Railway Express train station. The TRE is a new train to Dallas or Fort Worth. Ask at Hotel for time information.

Luncheon and operation costs

On Sunday Oct. 12th we are having a Luncheon Buffet. It will be in the banquet -hospitality room. It will be the last day we will all be together. We will have our Gathering festivities and we are also working on some special entertainment. We also have the cost for the banquet/hospitality room Saturday.

Please fill out the requested information, make your checks payable to Ren Briggs and mail to:

Ren Briggs
1671 Monte Vista Dr.
Bullhead City, Az 86442-7216
928-758-2963

Attendee **Please print**

Name: BPCHS Student _____
Female students include maiden name ie: Mary (Jones) Smith

wife/husband _____

other/guest _____

Address _____

City _____

State & zip _____

Phone number _____

E/mail _____

Total number Attending _____

Cost per person \$49.00

Total Cost submitted \$ _____

Note: The hotel charges 20% service/gratuity and 6% sales tax is included in the luncheon cost.

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