



News of the Month -- April 2008

Memorial High School Class of 1959

Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Dear MHS Classmates,

The picture of the little girl at the top reminded me of a “happening” at Randall School when I had Miss Nellie Nelvick as my teacher in fourth grade. She taught our class how to tell directions and thought we all knew how to put “North/South/East/West” on a map appropriately. However, our classroom desks faced South, so when we took our test, we all put “South” at the top of the paper and “North” at the bottom of the paper. I still remember her shaking her head in disbelief when she graded our papers. At least I haven’t forgotten the lesson learned that day. I’ll bet everyone else in that class never got directions mixed-up again either!!

This story leads me directly to a question about teachers and our 50th Reunion. Last summer the class of 1962 invited MHS teachers, who were at Memorial during the years their class went through and are still in the Eau Claire area, to be their guests at their 45th class reunion. They had about fifteen or sixteen there. People who were there had a great time talking with the teachers and indicated the teachers had a great time too. I talked with John Bowman recently, when he and I happened to be walking out at the mall at the same time, and he said there are only about thirteen or fourteen still around, but he said they really had a good time at the reunion. (Many of you know that Cy Berg passed away several months ago.) Anyway, give me some feedback. Would you like to have former teachers at the 50th Reunion? Send me an email soon!

Also, the 50th Reunion Committee is meeting on April 17, 2008, and won’t meet again until fall, so if you have any other ideas or suggestions for our next reunion, please email those too!

We have found another “Missing” person from our list, so the girl at the map above is serving a two-fold purpose with this letter. Not only did she inspire my story about Miss Nelvick, she’s also looking very hard for the other members of our class who haven’t been found yet! She reminds me of Linda Curtis, who has been such a help in “tracking down” our missing people. Linda recently sent me the names of several siblings of missing classmates, so I have been calling to follow-up and find the last few. John MacLaren has been found, as a result of a phone call to his sister in Illinois. John is in Reno, Nevada. I talked with him and sent him a copy of our last newsletter. It’s always fun to ask, “Did you graduate from Memorial High School in Eau Claire, WI, in 1959?” and get a resounding, “Yes!” Now, just a few more “Yes” answers, and we’ll have everybody!

Don’t forget lunch at Mogie’s the second Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m. It’s my fault that there is no photo for March. Steve was on vacation, and I was going to take the picture. At the last minute, I couldn’t be there, and I didn’t think to ask someone else to bring a camera. I’m sorry because there were several people there who haven’t been before. I did collect the names from those who were there, and they are listed instead of the photo, but I certainly “goofed” that time!

Carolyn Gabrielsen Barstad

4292 Mill Ridge Circle
715-835-5080

Eau Claire, WI 54703
cjbarstad@charter.net