

News of the Month – February 2017
Memorial High School – Class of 1959
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
February 1, 2017



Dear Classmates,

As I sat down to write this letter, it occurred to me that I haven't been on The Lismore Hotel website recently, so I decided to take a look at it before "talking" with you. It was a good decision, because there is so much on the website that will help you see where our 60th Reunion will be located and how easily you'll be able to enjoy getting around downtown during the events that will be happening over our three-day weekend on September 13, 14, & 15, 2019. All I did was enter *The Lismore, Eau Claire, WI*, and it gave me everything – a map of downtown, the Phoenix Park area, and pictures of the hotel – inside and out – with varieties of accommodations and restaurants. So, take a look, and start saving your coins. You may remember that one of our classmates saved a dollar a day for a couple of years before our last reunion, and he had enough money to pay for the reunion and to do some major traveling too.

I spent some time going through our class records and updating them a bit this month also. I have been saving some of the "change of address information" from many of you to work on all at one time, so I had quite a few address changes to make since the last time I worked on them, and I'm happy to say that I "think" I have them all updated and correct as of this evening. It made me realize that our classmates are still moving around and enjoying life a great deal. Anyway, the spring newsletters that will be sent to you via snail mail in April or May will have your updated address labels attached, so if you've moved and haven't sent me your new address, please do so before then.

There are, also, several obituaries on our website this month that you will want to read. Many of you will remember Leatrice Mathison, who was the secretary to the Superintendent of Schools, when we were in school. She was a lovely woman and was married to Don Mathison, who was a teacher and principal at Eau Claire Junior High, during our years there. Leatrice died on Christmas Eve, 2016. Greg Hughes, husband of our classmate, Arleen Morse Hughes, died on Christmas Day, 2016. Greg was preceded in death by Arleen in 2001. They leave four children, grandchildren, and a great-grandchild. Our classmate, Richard Holden, joined the Navy after our high school graduation and came back to Eau Claire to live after his service to our country. Dick died on January 6, 2017. And Ruth Lehman Bremmer, who taught physical education and was a counselor in the Eau Claire Schools, died on January 20, 2017. You probably remember that she married Wally Lehman in 1952. Wally died in 1989, and Ruth married Don Bremmer sometime later. I went to the funerals for Leatrice and for Ruth, because I knew them both quite well through the years. It's hard to lose so many good people who have been part of our lives.

The last two times I've been at Mogie's on the second Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m., the whole back area has been crowded with our Class of 1959 group. Since they made the back entrance totally wheelchair accessible, it's a great place to be. I love their "Cowboy Burgers" and really enjoy seeing everyone and "catching up" on what's going on in our 75-76-77 year-old lives. I hope to see you there soon.



Carolyn Gabrielsen Barstad
2002 Redwood Drive
Eau Claire, WI 54703

cjbarstad@charter.net
715-835-5080