

News of the Month – May 2016

Memorial High School – Class of 1959



Eau Claire, Wisconsin
May 1, 2016



Dear Classmates,

A very heartfelt “Thank You” is going out to all of you today for responding in such a big way to John Schaaf’s and my request for donations to our class treasury. You’re amazing! After paying for the costs of sending the yearly newsletter, we now have about \$2,700.00 in our treasury. That means that our class members donated about \$1,000.00 to our class fund during the past month, and we will be able to pay the down payment for our venue for our 2019 Class Reunion, and we will know we have a contract and a place to hold our reunion events for sure. In addition, we’ll be able to continue to send annual snail mail newsletters to all of our class members next year too. Thank you all – so much. If anyone has not donated to our class expenses, and you would like to do so, please send your donation to John Schaaf, 4306 Meadow Lane, Eau Claire, WI 54701. We’re glad to accept donations any time! And, if you did not complete your updated address information form and haven’t sent it to me, please do that also. It really helps to know we have the correct addresses and updated information for every one of you every year. Many of our classmates have moved through the years, and we want to be able to find you and keep you on our mailing list forever. We are so glad to be part of the ECMHS Class of 1959. Thank you for all you are doing to stay in touch through the years.

I’ve tried to follow-up on the snail mail newsletters that came back with no forwarding addresses. As a result, we have learned that our classmate, John P. Ahneman died on July 9, 2014. Then, Sandy Olson Vincent wrote to tell us that Janet K. Poling Bergeson died in November 2015. And, since the annual letter was mailed, our classmate, John Soley, died on March 30, 2019. In addition to these people, there was an obituary in the *Eau Claire Leader-Telegram* for our classmate, Phillip Millwood, who died on April 1, 2016, in Anchorage, Alaska. That means that the lists you were sent with the annual letter need to be changed and that we now have had 139 classmates pass on through the years. Also, Janet Anderson Johnson, wife of our classmate, Steve Johnson, died on April 16, 2016. Janet was a loving wife, mother, and teacher. Her obituary is on the Class of 1959 website also. We send our sympathy and loving thoughts to the families of our friends.

On Friday, April 29, 2016, a meeting of the 60th Class Reunion Committee was held at Mill Ridge Estates Community Center. Our classmate, Philip Melby, lives at Mill Ridge and made arrangements for the rental of the Community Center for our class. We did not have a big turnout for the meeting, but those who were there reviewed the decisions that have been made for the 2019 Reunion and will contract with The Lismore Hotel in downtown Eau Claire for the three-day event as soon as the new hotel opens on May 4, 2016. Our 60th Reunion will take place on September 13-15, 2019. We will let you know about the details in the *June Website Newsletter*. Thanks to you, we have the money, and we have the dates, plus the decisions about the events, so we’re ready to go!

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