A Magical Day at Taft High School
by Cleopatra Pirpiris, Taft PTSA, Public Relations

Amid glittering blue and white star balloons with posters celebrating: Taft's Academic Center Ranking #10 among the entire State of Illinois Middle Schools by the Chicago Sun Times, students served cake and other refreshments to thousands of parents, teachers and students Thursday, April 19 during Report Card Pick-Up. Hundreds of parents and students also endorsed letters to: Mayor Daley, Arne Duncan, Rufus Williams, Alderman Doherty and Alderman Levar.

Most of the people signing the letters expressed the prevalent feeling among the Taft community that as a neighborhood high school, Taft has been consistently overlooked in favor of the selective enrollment high schools. Look for the new window clings given to everyone that signed the letters, which proudly state: Taft Eagles - Watch Us Soar! Members of the Taft Local School Council (LSC) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) also recruited more than one hundred students and parents to participate in the Mayor's upcoming Green & Clean on May 5, 2007 which this year will have as one of its focuses the Taft HS school grounds and the school’s immediate neighbors. Mrs. Joan [O’Reilly] Defilippo, a Taft Alum, [class of 1984] life long Norwood Park resident, parent of a Taft freshman and President of the LSC remarked that she was “Thrilled with the number of Taft students that really care about making sure the Taft school grounds look good because they live here in the neighborhood.”

“We originally had ordered only 50 shirts for the volunteers” continued Mrs. Defilippo. “Now we are going to need at least twice that many. I think this kind of turnout is GREAT and reflective of the fact that Taft is truly becoming a neighborhood school again. I see my daughter and her friends exhibiting the kind of pride we had regarding Taft back when it was the ‘Jewel of the Northwest side’. It’s exciting!”

Some of the volunteers will be prepping the foundation for the base of the new athletic storage container that is being donated by the Taft Alumni Association. “We are very lucky to have such a supportive base of Taft Alumni” added Mike Bernauer, another Taft Alum [class of 1977], whose daughter is also a Taft freshman and who serves as the Parent Vice President of the PTSA. At the end of a very long day, as the exhausted PTSA volunteers walked out of the building, one of the balloons flew off into the distance - it reflected the high hopes of all involved.
Taft Class Reunions

June 1957 (50th Reunion)
Date: October 5-7, 2007
Place: Doubletree Hotel - Arlington Hts.
Contact: Bob Fizzell - 608/365-0096 or BobFizz@sbcglobal.net

1958
Interested in forming committee
Place: TBA
Contact: Barbara Stewart

June 1959 (50th Reunion)
Date: September 27-29, 2009
Picnic, dinner, football game, school tour
Contacts: www.taftreunion1959.com
Larry Marsh - fairseas2u@earthlink.net
Pat Lutz - plutz@chicagonorthwest.com
Kent Meyer - clmokm@comcast.net
Sue Willers Bruce - mmmrsjbruce@verizon.net

1966 41st Picnic Reunion
Date: Saturday July 28, 2007
Place: Deer Grove East #4
Palatine, IL
Contact: Linda (Kelly) Sak
Lulusak@aol.com (847) 725-9808 (let ring 8 times for voice mail)

1987
Date: July 28, 2007
Place: Westin - Chicago North Shore, Wheeling, IL
Contact: Joe Barthel - (847) 368-8014
josef425@comcast.net

1997
Date: November 28, 2007
Place: Gibson’s Steak House, Rosemont IL
Contact: Latosha Howard – Ishelby10@yahoo.com

All Taft Classes - 6th Annual Reunion Picnic
Date: Sunday, March 16, 2008
Place: Ft. DeSoto Park, St. Petersburg, FL
Shelter number 14 - 11AM to 5PM
(park phone number - (727) 582-2267)
Contact: Leon Kathan (if needed)
117 Monte Real Blvd.
Sebring, FL 33876-8056
(863) 655-4559 - leonkathan@yahoo.com

Elementary School Reunions

1975 - Hitch School
Date: Saturday, July 21, 2007 7-11pm
Place: Colletti’s (Elston/Central) Chicago
Contact: Kathy (Schaudenecker) Amato
kathy_amato@designpac.com

1958 - Norwood Park School - 50th Reunion
Date: Summer 2008
Place: In planning stages
Contact: Jerry (Beesley) Bloom (June 62)
(920) 743-8449 or jerrybloom@fales.org

Lost Classmates

Are you looking for old classmates you've lost touch with? We will help you in your search by publishing the name(s) in this newsletter. If that party responds to us, we forward that person's name and address to you.

Send your request and/or response to Taft Alumni Association c/o Taft High School, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago IL 60631 or email us at taftalum@cox.net.

The suggested donation for this service is $5 per name:

Randall Adkins, class of 1969 looking for Dale Conrad, class of 1968. contact RLB33Adkins@aol.com

Howard Nelson, class of January 1944 looking for James Love, class of January 1944, contact nelsonhg@comcast.net

To TAA:
I would like to locate a June 1955 graduate, James Kangles. I married him in 1957, divorced him in 1961. Our daughter, Cynthia Ann, born January 8, 1958, is having health problems and her cardiologist and neurologist say a family history of health from both sides of the family would be extremely helpful. Jim could contact her at her email: ccpowertl@hotmail.com or me at this address: 1002 Brentwood Ln, Mt Prospect, IL 60056-1348.

Judy (Carlson) Borta (June 1955)

TAA Board Meeting
May 10th at 7 pm is the date and time for our next board meeting. All interested alumni and friends of Taft are welcome to attend.
1940s

FLOYD GILBERT
(JANUARY 1941) lives in Chicago and is retired.

GENE QUINN (JUNE 1941) lives in Parachute, CO, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

THOMAS WRIGHT (JUNE 1941) MARRIED SUE (SCHIESSER) (JANUARY 1946) they live in Belmont, CA, have 2 children, 2 grandchildren, are retired. Sue is an artist and Tom is manager of Stanford Golf Range.

NORMA (TESS) CHERRY (JANUARY 1942) graduated from Lake Forest BA 1947, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

BETTY (LEMKE) STEWART (JANUARY 1942) graduated from North Park 1945, lives in Chagrin Falls, OH, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired receptionist.

MILLICENT (SADLEIR) DAVIS (JUNE 1942) graduated from Southwest MO State BA 1947, Nat’l College of Education MA 1975, lives in Waukegan, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired reading consultant.

MERCEDES (WARNER) INDA (JUNE 1942) lives in Freeport, IL, has 1 child, 3 great granddaughters and is retired.

FRIEDA (OELBERG) FAKLARIS (JANUARY 1943) lives in St Charles, IL, has 3 children who all graduated from Taft and is retired.

RICHARD BOOS (JUNE 1943) graduated from Northeastern BS 1950, lives in Portland, OR, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

MARALYN (ELLIS) TOMAN (JUNE 1943) graduated from Roosevelt 1950, U of I Medical School 1956, lives in Dunedin, FL, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is a retired doctor.

JACK WALTER (JUNE 1943) lives in Los Lunas, NM and is retired.

CLAUDE (CHULAY) AGGER (JANUARY 1944) graduated from U of I BS 1947, MS 1949, lives in Northfield, IL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and is a retired biology teacher.

DOLORES (ANDERSON) JOHNSON (JANUARY 1944) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 1 child, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERT MILLER (JANUARY 1944) MARRIED PAT (BERG) (JANUARY 1945), they live in Park Ridge, IL, have 4 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and are retired.

HOWARD G. NELSON (JANUARY 1944) graduated from Northwestern BSBA 1949, North Park AA 1948, lives in Roselle, IL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired CPA.

JEAN (NOVAK) SMITH (JUNE 1944) lives in Olympia Fields, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is a housewife.

EVELYN (EVENSEN) PINTER (JANUARY 1945) graduated from Eastern BS 1967, MS 1971, lives in Waverly, FL, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and is a retired home economist.

JOANNE (CROCKETT) FISH (JUNE 1946) MARRIED JOHN (JUNE 1945) they live in Paso Robles, CA, have 2 children, 4 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and is a retired buyer.

ADELE (WOJDK) FREEBUS (JUNE 1945) lives in Albuquerque, NM, has 4 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

BARBARA (WHITTING) HANSON (JUNE 1945) graduated from Northwestern PhD 1951, Western Reserve U MA 1961, lives in Northbrook, IL, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

EDMUND MAZUR (JUNE 1945) graduated from U of I BS 1952, U of WI MS 1972, lives in Edgewater, FL, has 9 children, 13 grandchildren and is a retired architect, now a watermedia artist.

JERRY MOE (JUNE 1945) graduated from Luther College BA 1949, Theological Seminary B Th 1963, Edinburgh U Scotland 1957, lives in Valparaiso, IN, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, he is a retired Lutheran minister, has a classical music program on WGFA-FM.

VIRGINIA (CUMMINS) WEIT (JUNE 1945) lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 6 children, 19 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren and is a retired secretary.

BILL AVERY (JANUARY 1946) graduated from U of I BA 1950, lives in Stuart, FL, has 3 children and is a financial advisor.

RICHARD BECKER (JANUARY 1946) graduated from Loyola BBA 1951, lives in Mundelein, IL, has 6 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERT MITCHELL (JANUARY 1946) lives in Goshen, KY, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

WALTER ROGERS (JANUARY 1946) graduated from Roosevelt BA 1951, Chicago Teachers 1957, lives in Monroe, NC, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired assistant principal from Amundson.

HELEN (JOHNSON) AILS (JUNE 1946) graduated from Harvard Comm. College RN 1970, lives in Joppa, MD, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and is a retired nurse, now a writer.

ED CARLSON (JUNE 1946) lives in Ft Collins, CO, has 3 sons, 4 grandchildren and is a retired electrician.

DONALD DAHL (JUNE 1946) graduated from Northwestern BA 1956, lives in Sequim, WA and is a retired geologist.

DOROTHY (WOLF) GARRITY (JUNE 1946) lives in Rolling Meadows, IL, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and is retired.

ROBERT LENDY (JUNE 1946) MARRIED FERN (SCHULTZ) (JANUARY 1948) lives in Elk Grove, IL, has 5 sons, 15 grandchildren and is retired.

CONNIE (COLLAR) MYHRE (JUNE 1946) graduated from Wright 1950, lives in Bellingham, WA, has 8 grandchildren and is retired.

MARY JANE (PADDI) STRUBERG (JUNE 1946) graduated from Beauty School 1942, lives in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and is a manicurist.

JULIANNE (STAMER) HOLLANDER (JANUARY 1947) lives in Punta Gorda, FL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is retired.

BETTY (GREULICH) RUBOYIANES (JANUARY 1947) lives in San Jose CA, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren and is retired.

EDMUND SCHMELZLE (JANUARY 1947) lives in Key West, FL, has 3 children, 10 grandchildren and is a jeweler and Shriner member.

DONALD BROKAW (JUNE 1947) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 5 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

BURTON CALKINS (JUNE 1947) graduated from Northwestern Mech. Engr. 1956, lives in Bloomfield, IN, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired mechanical engineer now has a
cattle and Christmas tree farm.

EDWARD (PRZYBYLSKI) PRICE (JUNE 1947) graduated from OH State BA 1956, lives in Peachtree City, GA, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired senior systems engineer.

WALTER STECHER (JUNE 1947) graduated De Pauw 1951, lives in Terap Springs, FL, has 4 children, 8 grandchildren and is retired.

SHIRLEY (HUNTMAN) TAYLOR (JUNE 1947) lives in Holiday, FL, has 3 children and is a retired musician.

SODERSTROM (JUNE 1948) lives in Wayneville, NC, has 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and is a retired accountant.

WARREN WELLENS (JUNE 1948) graduated from Northwestern DDS 1954, lives in Mead, WA, has 4 children, 3 grandchildren and is a retired dentist.

BARBARA (HECKEL) WHITING (JUNE 1948) graduated from Purdue BS 1952, lives in Prescott, AZ and is retired.

DUANE WIECHMANN (JUNE 1948) graduated from U of MO 1959, lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired senior auditor.

NARDELLE NORDGREN (JANUARY 1949) lives in Chicago and is retired.

NORBERT ANETSBERGER (JUNE 1948) graduated from Bradley BS 1957, lives in Palm Harbor, FL, has 2 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

DON BRETWISCH (JUNE 1948) lives in Waupaca, WI, has 7 children, 15 grandchildren, he is a retired carpenter.

RICH EVERITT (JUNE 1948) lives in Prescott, AZ, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

KENNETH KAITSCHUCK (JUNE 1948) graduated from USC BS 1956, lives in North Hollywood, CA and is a retired banker.

BARBARA (KRIETA) KOEHLER (JUNE 1948) lives in Kissimmee, FL, has 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren and is retired.

HENRY SANDERSON (JUNE 1948) lives in Chicago, has 4 children, 13 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren and is a retired bricklayer.

ELEANOR (SCHWARTZ) SODERSTROM (JUNE 1948) lives in Fontana, WI, has 1 child and is retired now with a Barber Shop group.

JAMES OFENLOCH (JANUARY 1950) lives in Algonquin, IL, has 9 children, 15 grandchildren and is retired.

DORIS (ANDERSON) ALLISON (JUNE 1950) graduated from Augustana BA 1954, lives in Wheat Ridge, CO, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

ANNETTE (MATULA) KISTLER (JUNE 1950) graduated from Washington U BS 1954, lives in Carmel, IN, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired office manager.

VELNA (LEWIS) KOLODZIEJ (JUNE 1950) lives in Oak Park, IL, has 4 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

MARLENE (DIETZEL) LAWSON (JUNE 1950) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 2 children who are both Taft grads and is retired.

ARNOLD PEDERSSEN (JUNE 1950) MARRIED DONNA (HOLLANDER) (JUNE 1952), they live in Columbia, SC, have 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and are retired.

ED ARCHAMBAULT (JUNE 1951) graduated from Coe College BA 1953, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

ARLENE (WALDORF) DAHLLORS (JUNE 1949) MARRIED TED (JUNE 1949), Ted graduated from Coe College BA 1953, they live in Keller, TX, have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and are retired.

RONALD LEMANSKI (JUNE 1949) lives in Niles IL, has 6 children, 16 grandchildren and is a retired LT Niles firefighter.

MARVIN WEBER (JUNE 1949) graduated from MI State BS 1958, MA 1968, lives in Spruce, MI and Panama City Beach, FL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

1950s

ARTHUR LARSON (JANUARY 1950) graduated from Lake Forest 1957, lives in Fontana, WI, has 1 child and is retired now with a Barber Shop group.

CHARLES FITZ-HUGH (JUNE 1951) graduated from U of I BSEE 1956, Lake Forest MSM 1973, lives in Mundelein, IL, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a retired electrical engineer.

BRUCE GEISERT (JUNE 1951) graduated from U of I BS 1956, lives in Midland, MI, has 1 child and is retired from Dow Chemical.

LUCY (BRUNDRETT) JEFFERSON (JUNE 1951) graduated from U of Chicago BA 1954, BA 1955, MA 1957, lives in Boston, MA, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a retired family therapist.

ART NAUMAN (JANUARY 1952) graduated from U of I BA 1956, lives in Sacramento, CA, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired newspaper journalist.

THOMAS VRABEC (JANUARY 1952) lives in Lake Barrington, IL, has 4 children, 5 grandchildren and is a builder and business owner.

LESLEY (LENIAK) PARRISH (JUNE 1952) lives in Moab, UT, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a paramedic.

MARIYLIN (PAULSON) KETCHPAW (JUNE 1952) graduated from Wright AA 1956, lives in Winter Haven, FL and Elkhorn, WI, has 5 children, 8 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren and is retired.

EARL HEGEMAN (JANUARY 1953) graduated from Wayne State BS 1957, MS 1979, lives in Warren, MI, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren and is a pharmacist, hospital administrator.

RICHARD SCHIEFELBEIN (JANUARY 1953) graduated from Ripon College BA 1961, Northern MS 1981, lives in Watertown, WI and North Ft Myers, FL, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired science teacher.

MARCIA (LIEN) WRISLEY (JANUARY 1953) MARRIED BUD (JANUARY 1953), Bud graduated from U of CO BA 1957, they live in Valley Center, CA, have 7 children, 7 grandchildren, 5 great
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grandchildren, Marcia is retired, Bud is a CPA real estate consultant.

CONNIE (KAMINSKI) CONIGLIO (JUNE 1953), lives in San Bernardino, CA, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

CHARLES EDIE (JUNE 1953) graduated from U of I BS 1958, lives in Hampshire, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is retired, now owns a small farm.

JUDITH (MOERS) HARDMAN (JUNE 1953) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 5 children, 14 grandchildren and is a housewife.

DOUGLAS GIFFORD (JUNE 1953) graduated from IA State BS 1958, lives in Carol Stream, IL, has 3 children, 10 grandchildren and is a manufacturing rep.

MATT JOSWICK (JUNE 1953) graduated from IL Benedictine BS 1970, has 1 child, lives in Glen Ellyn, IL and is retired.

CAROLE (GREEN) LUBECKER (JUNE 1953) graduated from Wright AA 1964, De Lourdes BS 1977, lives in Fox River Grove, IL, has 4 children, 11 grandchildren and is retired program manager for AT&T.

BLANCHE (REINHARDT) PETERSON (JUNE 1953) lives in Chicago and is retired.

JIM REGITZ (JUNE 1953) graduated from Carroll College BS 1957, lives in Fullerton, CA, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

DANIEL RICE (JUNE 1953) graduated from Northwestern BA 1957, Drew U BD 1961, PhD 1966, lives in Chicago, has 4 children, 2 grandchildren and is a college professor.

CAROL (SCHEIHING) RUSTER (JUNE 1953), lives in Ft Wayne, IN, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

BARBARA (ROESS) SIWIK (JUNE 1953) lives in Ridgevale, MO, has 4 children, 9 grandchildren and is a reservationist.

LOIS MAE (SZROR) STRACHAN (JUNE 1953) lives in Rotonda West, FL, has 6 children, 12 grandchildren and is a retired accountant.

DARREL TATE (JUNE 1953) graduated from IL Wesleyen BA 1957, lives in The Villages, FL, has 2 girls, 5 grandchildren and is a retired insurance broker.

JOSEPH O’ DONNELL (JANUARY 1954) lives in Williams Bay, WI, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and is a retired salesman.

MARCIA (TRIDEMY) RATAJK (JANUARY 1954) lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

JOHN SAGAN (JANUARY 1954) MARRIED GLORIA (CHOWANEK) (JUNE 1957), they live in Elk Springs Village, AR, have 1 child, 1 grandchild and are retired.

W. KEITH WEINWURM (JANUARY 1954), graduated from St Olaf BA 1962, lives in Troutville, VA, has 4 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

LE ROY BEENING (JUNE 1954) graduated from Wright AA 1959, lives in Crawfordsville, IN, has 5 children, 7 grandchildren and is retired.

GREGORY JAEGER (JUNE 1954) graduated from Northwestern BSBA 1959, lives in Arlington Hts, IL, has 3 children, 3 grandchildren and is semi retired.

RICHARD KELLICK (JUNE 1954) lives in Morton Grove, IL, has 3 children, 2 grandchildren and is a typesetter.

RAYMOND MIKKELSON (JUNE 1954) lives in Plantaton, FL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is a retired LT Chicago Fire Dept.

RAMONA (AMADO) NEMETH (JUNE 1954) lives in Norridge, IL, has 3 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired.

HERMINA (KIPKOWSKI) SASSE (JUNE 1954) lives in Franklin, NC, has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and is a retired US customs officer.

THOMAS SOWKA (JUNE 1954) graduated from U of I BA 1958, lives in Decatur, IL and is a retired insurance broker.

ROBERT YATES (JUNE 1954) lives in Huntley, IL, has 2 children and is a retired electrical engineer.

ANITA (ZABEL) GRIZZAFFI (JANUARY 1955) lives in River Forest, IL, has 4 children, 13 grandchildren and is a re-developer.

RONALD SCHOEENBERG (JANUARY 1955) graduated from Wright AA 1960, Northwestern BS 1975, lives in San Francisco, CA, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren and is retired.

JUDY (CARLSON) BORTA (JUNE 1955) graduated from Chicago Teachers BS 1961, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

HERB BRANT (JUNE 1955) lives in Buena Park, CA, has 3 children, 9 grandchildren and is retired from the Air Force.

SUE (UNGK) OBERHEIDE (JUNE 1955), graduated from Northwestern 1958, lives in Park Ridge, IL, has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and is retired.

SUE (BURHOP) ORIGER (JUNE 1955) lives in Palatine, IL, has 7 children, 22 grandchildren and is a housewife.

DIANNE (KESHER) PATTERSON (JUNE 1955) graduated from U of I BSA 1959, MA 1960, lives in Elmhurst, IL and is a retired H.S. teacher.

JOHN BEALL (JANUARY 1956) graduated from Clenson BS 1960, lives in Newton, NC, has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, is retired now living in a motor home, traveling US training coordinator.

MARY (MURPHY) RICHARD (JANUARY 1956) lives in Pana, IL, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren and is retired.

RAYMOND SCHIEFELBEIN (JANUARY 1956) graduated from Ripon College BA 1960, Concordia Theological BAM DIV 1972, U of WI MSE 1981, Concordia Seminary BMIN 1992, lives in Independence, MO, has 1 child and is a pastor.

CHESTER KOWALSKI (JUNE 1956) graduated from IIT BS 1967, lives in Norfork, AR, has 3 children, 4 grandchildren and is retired.

DON OSTMORE (JUNE 1956) graduated from St Olaf BA 1960, MA 1970, Washington U PhD 1972, lives in Minneapolis, MN, has 3 children and is retired.

DIANE (GOTZ) RANIERE (JUNE 1956) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 1 child and is retired.

LINNIE (SWANSON) ROOT (JUNE 1956) graduated from U of I BSA 1960, Northwestern MA 1962, lives in Woodstock, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired speech/language pathologist.

JEAN (MC COMB) CUTCERA (JANUARY 1957) graduated from Northwestern BS 1962, Benedictine BSN 1983, lives in Ft Mill, SC, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is an RN-clinical auditor.

RONALD ENCK (JANUARY 1957) lives in Algonquin, IL, has 2 children, 4 grandchildren and is a retired analyst.

MARIYN (LANE) KELLERMAN (JANUARY 1957) lives in Des Plaines, IL. Has 2 children and 5 grandchildren.

CAROLE (LEWIS) LANKA (JANUARY 1957) lives in Crystal Lake, IL, has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and is a retired medical claims processor.

LYNN TERRY (JUNE 1957) graduated from CO BA 1962, San Francisco St. MA 1971, lives in Sedona, AZ, has 1 child and is a retired sales executive.
LYNN (ANDERSON) LEE (JUNE 1958) graduated from De Pauw BSN 1962, lives in Three Lakes, WI, has 1 child, 2 grandchildren and is a retired nurse.

WAYNE SCHIMPF (JANUARY 1959) graduated from U of WI BS 1963, Northern MS 1971, lives in Chicago, has 2 children, 1 grandchild, been a Scout since 1949. Horticulture and biology teacher at Von Steuben.

NANCY (PETERSON) SMITH (JANUARY 1959) lives in Mesasha, WI, has 4 children, 5 grandchildren and is a gift shop manager.

ANNETTE (ROOS) ONDRAKA (JUNE 1959) MARRIED JOSEPH (JANUARY 1954), she graduated from Andrews U BA 1987, lives in Fallbrook, CA, has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and is retired.

1960s

KAEN (JOHNSON) GAPINSKI (JANUARY 1960) lives in Des Plaines, IL, has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and is a benefits manager.

DENNIS DZIAK (JUNE 1960) graduated from Wright 1966, De Paul 1975, lives in Palm City, FL, has 3 children and is a retired CPA.

PAUL VERISARIO (JUNE 1960) graduated from Northern BA 1968, lives in Inverness, IL, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is an insurance executive.

NANCY (PITTATSIS) MILLER (JANUARY 1961) MARRIED TOM (JANUARY 1958) they live in Mt Prospect, IL, have 2 children, 3 grandchildren and she is a payroll assistant.

NANCY (WALKER) ROBERTS (JANUARY 1961) lives in Chicago and is a children’s librarian.

JOHN PROCHASKA (JUNE 1961) MARRIED CINDY (LUDTKE) (JUNE 1964), he graduated from Northern BS 1966, MBA 1970, CPA 1974, CIA 1975, CBA 1980, CFE 1989, Cindy graduated from U of I 1968, they live in Park Ridge, IL, have 3 children, 3 grandchildren, Cindy is retired, John is chief administrator & CFO at Hektken Institute. John recently has a Staph infection that damaged his heart and eyesight, had two strokes but has now recovered.

LORETTA (PHILLIP) SAMBORSKI (JUNE 1961) graduated from Chicago Teachers College BA 1964, lives in Beach Park, IL and is a water-billing clerk.

BONNIE (LUCKNER) SCOVILL (JANUARY 1962) graduated from Eastern BS 1966, lives in Broken Arrow, OK, has 4 children, 2 grandchildren and is retired.

JAMES BACH (JUNE 1962) lives in Chicago, has 3 children, 1 grandchild, retired from CPD now in real estate sales.

DARLENE (BRUEMMER) HENDRICKSEN (JUNE 1962) graduated from Northern BA 1966, lives in Hawthorn Woods, IL, has 2 children, 3 grandsons, owner of RW Hendrickson Co.

DENNIS RAMSUSSON (JUNE 1962) graduated from IL State BS 1969, College of St Thomas MA 1971, lives in St Paul, MN, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a retired teacher.

SUSAN SCHMID (JUNE 1962) lives in Downers Grove, IL, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a Home Depot designer flooring specialist.

PHYLLIS (SHELDON) WHARTON (JUNE 1962) graduated from Northern BS 1967, MS 1977, lives in Palatine, IL, has 5 children and is a retired teacher.

JOHN KNEHT (JANUARY 1963) graduated from U of I BSEE 1968, Loyola MBA 1973, lives in Chicago, has 2 children and is an electrical engineer.

LINDA (BILLESBACH) HEINZ (JUNE 1963) graduated from Roosevelt BGS 1985, MBA 1988, lives in Ft Myers, FL and is a college professor.

GINNY (DEVEREUX) MC CARTHY (JUNE 1963) graduated from Wright AA 1966, lives in Venice, FL, has 1 child and is in customer service.

JAMES OHLSON (JUNE 1963) graduated from Wheaton College MA 1972, lives in Rockville, MO, has 2 children and is an FBI agent.

MARY (FIJAK) THOMAS (JUNE 1963) MARRIED JIM (JUNE 1963) she graduated from U of I BS 1970, lives in Canada, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and she is a controller.

JACK WILLIAMS (JANUARY 1964) MARRIED PAULA (STEEEN) (JANUARY 1965) they live in Rolling Meadows, IL and have 4 children, 5 grandchildren.

KAREN (KUEHL) ADAIR (JUNE 1964) lives in Ft Wayne, IN, has 2 children and is in real estate sales.

GLENN SZURGOT (JUNE 1964) lives in Schaumburg, IL, has 2 children and is a painting and wallpaper contractor.

LOUISE (ANDERSEN) HANDLEY (JANUARY 1965) graduated from Eastern BS Ed 1969, lives in Scottsdale, AZ, has 3 children, 2 grandchildren and is a retired teacher.

BONNIE (STEWART) JILEK (JUNE 1965) graduated from Northern BA 1969, lives in Sleepy Hollow, IL, has 1 child, 1 grandchild and is senior H.R. generalist.

GINGER (NORBERG) YACTOR (JUNE 1965) lives in Palatine, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife/H.S. student supervisor.

CHARLES EDWARDS (JUNE 1966) lives in Chicago and does consulting.

JUERGEN RUSNAK (1970) graduated from Northern BA 1974, MBA 1983, lives in Des Plaines, IL and is a software consultant.

INEZ (LAVSKIS) INKA (1971), graduated from MacCormac Business College 1981, lives in Barrington, IL, has 3 children and is a housewife.

PAT (HIGGINS) WEATHERS (1971) lives in Lake Villa, IL, has 1 child, 1 grandchild and is a software engineer and freelance flight instructor.

EDWARD PEARSON (JANUARY 1967) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children and is a supervisor.

LYNN (MC GRAW) MEYER (JUNE 1967) lives in Huntley, IL, has 2 children, 1 grandchild and is a project analyst.

LINDA (ARCHAM) SEREK (1968) lives in Chicago and has 2 stepchildren.

KATHLEEN (MARQUARDT) TELLEFSEN (1968) graduated from Southern BS Ed 1972, lives in Eden Prairie, MN, has 3 children, 1 grandchild and is a homemaker.

TRUDY (STROMQUIST) CALEF (1969) lives in Lake Forest, IL and has 2 children.

PATRICIA (ANDERSON) PFEIFFER (1969) lives in Naperville, IL, has 8 children and is a hairdresser.

MICHAEL WOJCICK (1969) lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 1 child and is in hotel service.

1970s

JUDY MANOWSKI (1970) lives in Arlington Hts, IL and is a dietary specialist who is semi retired.

LINDA (CLOUD) MUSIAL (1970) graduated from Western IL BA 1974, lives in Mt Prospect, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife.

JUERGEN RUSNAK (1970) graduated from Roosevelt BA 1974, MBA 1983, lives in Des Plaines, IL and is a software consultant.

INEZ (LAVSKIS) INKA (1971), graduated from MacCormac Business College 1981, lives in Barrington, IL, has 3 children and is a housewife.
CLASS NOTES

NANCY (MATELING) CIBIC (1972) graduated from Roosevelt BS 1998, lives in Chicago and is an FAA airport program manager.

DIANE (MAHERAS) PARKS (1972) graduated from Ohio Wesleyan BA 1976, Northwestern MA 1978, lives in Elkhorn, WI, has 5 children, 6 grandchildren and is a piano instructor.

CHRISTINE JACOBS (1973) graduated from Wright AA 1975, De Paul BS 1993, lives in Kabetogama, MN and is the owner of Moosehorn Resort in Kabetogama.

ALAN MADER (1973) graduated from U of I BS 1979, PharmD 1996, lives in Lake Zurich, IL, has 2 children and is a pharmacist.

GARY METELAK (1973) graduated from U of IA BS 1979, lives in Lockport, IL, has 2 children and is a Captain for Northwest Airlines.


NANCY (STECKIEWICZ) SWANTEK (1973) graduated from De Paul 1977, lives in Norwood Park, has 3 children and is a music teacher at St Eugene’s.

NICK CHIUSOLO (1977) lives in Prospect Hts, IL, has 2 children and is a VP of division sales for wholesale produce.

STEVEN BRAHM (1978) graduated from U of TN BS 1983, U of Alabama MAS 1986, lives in Huntsville, AL, has 3 children and is a manager for a defense contractor.

GREGG LAMEKA (1979) lives in Cary, IL and is an auction manager.

1980s

ELIZABETH (WOLFF) HILB (1980) lives in Vernon Hills, IL, has 2 children and is a housewife.

SHEILA HARRIS (1981) lives in Chicago and is a CPA.

In Our Memories

Mrs. Mary Rapp, teacher at Taft in 50s, 60s and 70s died March 31, 2007 in Chicago. She taught mathematics for 37 years at Taft and also worked in the school’s programming office for many years.

Dan Vrabec, class of June 1945 passed away in January 2007.

Andy Lendy, class of June 1946 passed away on December 12, 2006.

Laverne (Fergon) Travosek, class of June 1947 succumbed December 2006 at home in Ocala FL under the care of Hospice and loving family.

June (Martin) Christensen, class of June 1947(?) died in December 2006.

Caryl (Anda) Stecher, class of January 1950 died in her home in Tarpon Springs FL on January 4, 2007. Her husband Walter was from class of June 1947, her son Lynn Terry was from class of June 1957 and her brother Paul Anda, class of January 1945.


Barbara (Hollander) Echever, class of January 1951 died January 1, 2007 from complications of hospital-acquired pneumonia.


Nancy Burkhart, class of June 1953 died in the fall of 2006.

Gloria (Dinnella) Bernheim Strauss, class of January 1954 passed away on February 12, 2007 in Boston MA,

Merle (Bonne’) Wevang, class of June 1959 died suddenly of heart attack on February 22, 2007 at Resurrection Medical Center where she had been a nurse, due to retire in July. She was the sister of Margit (June 1962), Marilyn Sue (deceased, class of 1955) and Lloyd (class of January 1957).


Darius Gordon, class of 2007 died from unknown causes shortly following a Taft basketball game he was playing on January 25, 2007.
“Grease” Followup
by Jerry Bloom

It was the fastest eleven weeks for me - ever! I looked forward to each Sunday evening with eager anticipation, even though I knew none of the contestants, nor was I involved with the production that opens this fall in New York City. But, being a passive participant through my (unbiased) voting each week, I felt a connection to Jim Jacobs (June 1960) and his successful musical production, “Grease”. The show was “Grease: You’re The One I Want” and was basically the drawn out audition for the two main leads for his Broadway show. And we picked the finalists!

Congratulations to the two winners, Laura Osnes (age 20) from Eagan, MN and Max Crumm (age 21) of Phoenix AZ for their success in earning the lead roles of Sandy and Danny. It was very tough competition and audience and viewer participation was extremely vocal. If you had the misfortune to miss this show, and are interested in 50s nostalgia, you can still see excerpts on www.NBC.com and ‘click’ on “Shows”, the “Grease: You’re the One I Want”.

The “Grease” revival has everyone fired up! Linnea (Orsan) Lindh, Class of Jan 1965, and husband, Bill, writes, “We took [granddaughter] Taylor to see “Grease” at Marriott’s Lincolnshire Theater yesterday. Of course, I had to make her the poodle skirt to wear.” Linnea was often found back stage working on Taft productions when she wasn’t singing in Mixed Chorus. It’s nice to see her enthusiasm spanning the generations.

Letters to the Editor

Hi Kay & Jerry,
While I was at Taft today, one of Taft’s teachers, Jay Katzman related the following to me: Jay was in a Dr’s. office waiting his turn when an elderly gentleman noticed Jay’s Taft jacket. The man introduced himself to Jay as Arnold Lund and told Jay that he was in the 1938 Graduating Class at Taft. They had a lengthy conversation re “school days” past and present. After the gentleman was called to see the Dr., the man's daughter told Jay that her father rarely goes out of his way to meet people but that after talking with Jay her father seemed to walk a little taller and sprier as he walked to the Dr’s. office.

Mr. Lund gave his current address as 632 N. Home Ave. - Park Ridge, IL. 60068, and was wondering if any other old time school mates from his era were still around and if so he’d like to hear from them. Jay was hoping we’d put something about this in the next issue of the newsletter.

Frank Heyer - class of 1948

[Frank, We didn’t have a 1938 graduating class, but perhaps some of his classmates will respond and remind him of the correct date. The doors opened in 1939 and the first graduating class was in 1940.  J. Bloom, TAA Newsletter Editor]

Hello,
I am Jacqueline Totsch, married to William Totsch (1969). We live in Park Ridge, haven’t settled very far from the nest... I’m getting to a stack of stuff “to do” that’s been on my desk, and I guess this task is a tough one because it’s taken me a while to get to it.

I wanted to be sure you knew of the death of James R. Machnicki, class of 1969. He was my husband Bill's best friend at Taft - and one of mine - and we remained very close over the years. He died on July 23, 2006 at his home in Chandler, Arizona, three months after being diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife Cindy, daughters Melissa, Kate, and Emily; his mother Wanda, and sisters Julie (Taft ’67?), Jane (Taft ’71?) and Joy (Taft ’74?).

Bill was grateful to be able to spend a few days with Jim in mid-June, when he was able to take a few walks and a few rides in Jim's cool Z-something convertible. When Bill spoke at Jim's memorial there was of course fond mention of their days at Taft — on the football team, on the driver's ed course, in the counselors' offices with all our parents after an illegal lunchtime trip to Superdawg. Then, and in the nearly 40 years since, we shared countless good times with Jim, and was always there for us in ways we long to recount to anyone who cares to listen! He was personally responsible for one heck of a lot of laughter and love in our lives, and we still can't believe he’s gone.

We lost two of our close Taft friends in 2006 - Jim and Greg Duda (you mentioned his passing in your summer newsletter). Ouch. But we are lucky to be left with cherished memories of Taft and far beyond.

Jackie (Martin) Totsch (1970)

Hello,
I am a member of TAA but I just never read who was running the newsletter. It was one of the group at our bi-monthly luncheon that clued me in. [We get
You may recall last year briefly my name and work was mentioned in the newsletter [see Spring 2006 issue]. At one of our luncheons several members expressed interest in “the other” work I do and suggested I contact you to see if there was a way to mention it in the newsletter. That “other” work is actually a labor of love. Having lived and studied in Switzerland and having dual citizenship there, for the past 23 years I’ve conducted two-week tours there including surrounding countries. Is there some way this info along with details can be mentioned to the readership without appearing commercial? I’d like to make them aware of the opportunity to join us this year, Sept. 12-27. While I still have last year’s program up (I’m in the process of putting this year’s up), if you go to www.chestnuttours.com you’ll get an idea of what we do.

Wayne Barton - 1955

Dear Mr. Heyer,
Enclosed please find our check to be added to the Graven Memorial Scholarship fund. Dr. John Graven was a dear friend of all in our family. He was Principal of Horace Mann School in South Shore before he went to Taft and his years at Horace Mann are remembered with great pleasure by all who knew him. He was involved with each and every child in a most personal and memorable way. John Graven was often the first to arrive at Horace Mann, prominent on the school grounds and closely involved with each child. He took on so many wonderful special projects; he taught a Great Book project to students which he shared his enthusiasm for the books. He and Anastasia are the finest of educators and we are happy to know of your memorial for John. Anastasia is also a dear friend and she gave me your name. Every Success to Taft,

Sincerely, Mary Appel

To whom it may concern,
My name is Yaryna Klimchak and I am a senior at Taft High School. You may remember me as the student who wrote the article for your Alumni newspaper “The Original Rydell High.” [See Winter 2007 issue] I am writing you in regards to the scholarships the Alumni offers seniors. I would like to know where I could get the form so that I may apply for it. When I went on the Taft website I couldn’t find it. I would really appreciate it if you told me where to find it.

Thank You,

Sincerely, Yaryna Klimchak (2007)

Comments To TAA Board:

On this Chase Stevens person who is e-mailing members... I have received 4 of these e-mails and just delete them. My career took me out of the State for 20 plus years. Last June I moved back to Illinois & as such have a new internet provider & e-mail address. My address IS NOT given out except to friends and business contacts who know nothing about the Taft Alumni Assn. HOW THEN did this guy get my e-mail address, except by an officer of the Taft Alumni Assn.???? You better start looking at “Your Own” and investigate who has access to the list. As a side note, within a month I will be changing internet providers and will give you my NEW address. I wonder how long before this Stevens person contacts me.

Ken Wyse (June 63)

When our alumni request to be listed on the Taft e-mail directory, we deliberately do not post the address as a hyperlink to make it as difficult as possible for “bots” to harvest them into massive junk mail lists. However, once posted, it is available for viewing by the world.

I see that you are listed in our e-mail directory. Please let me know if you’d like your listing removed or changed and I’ll do so immediately. I’m sharing this response with the board to make them aware that the problem persists. Paulette English - Secretary, TAA

Sincerely, Dick O’Connell (Houston TX)

[Sorry Dick. We haven’t heard of any plans. Maybe this might spur others on to get something going? J. Bloom, TAA Newsletter Editor]
Dear Jerry,

I just want to thank you and your staff for your very successful efforts and publishing of the TAFT ALUMNI NEWSLETTER. This Winter 2007 edition is particularly well done and interesting with its major focus on Jim Jacobs and his current Grease Academy TV hit. How blessed we Taftites are to have been put on the map by Jim's prominence and success in the theater and Hollywood. Congratulations, thanks and best wishes to Jim.

I also want to share news of the "overwhelming success" of our First-Ever 45th Reunion for the Taft class of January 1961. Thirty-three 45-year out-of-touch Taftites rallied together from both coasts- and more than 20 states in between -to a Colletti's pizza party on Friday, September 8, 2006, and a Taft tour by Dr. Tarvardian on Saturday the 9th before the Del Webb Prairie Lodge dinner celebration in Huntley with 50 partiers.

*********************************************************

Class of January 1961 Taft tour September 9, 2006

Hi Jerry,

The attached photo is a group of Garvy (1969) and Taft (1973) grads. We are fortunate to be able to get together for cards and camaraderie a few times per year. From the left we have Greg Capacce, Mark Wiklund, Ed Rozalewicz, Steve Jancovic, Dan Kudo, Don Lang and Alan Mader.

To TAA,

Thanks to the photographic talents of Mariann (Leversen) Erlenbach (January 1946), this group picture of the All-Class reunion shows most of the people who attended. A few alum had already left by the time we organized the group picture, but as you see, those that stayed were having a good time. Some attendees were locals, living only a few miles from the reunion site, but others traveled quite a distance - such as Marilyn (Erickson) Kapinchuk (June 1953) from Oakdale, CA! The span of years was also fun to see. The earliest class represented was with Barbara (Ellis) Olson from February 1941 class. And the latest class graduate was Helen Thorne from January 1966. There were sisters, cousins, mother-daughter, and even grandparents with a future Taft potential in their grandson attending. Also, life-long friends came together from friendships kindled at Taft so many years ago.

Holly (Nielsen) Rogers (January 1961)
Saint Helena CA

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Saint Helena CA
March 18th was a fun afternoon at a beautiful setting on Tampa Bay for reminiscing and catching up on lives from old friends who haven’t seen each other for many years. And it was also a great way to meet alum who knew your brother, sister, father or aunt! Thank you, Leon Kathan for making the effort of organizing this annual event. It gets better and better every year!

The following are the 2007 attendees, in no particular order: Adele (Grocke) Miller (June 47), Phyllis (Holowaty) Albrecht (Jan 52), Jane (LaMarche) Adair (Jan 52), Judy LaMarche (Jan 65), Jeanette (Olsen) Gilbertson (Jan 63) with husband Tom, Marilyn Erickson Kapinchuk (June 53), Judi (Moers) and Fred Hardman (both June 53), John LaGorio (Jan 53), Matt & Elaine Joswick (June 53), Paul Pierburg (June 53), wife Ruth (Haining) Pierburg (June 55) and grandson Nathan, Marjorie (Klarquist) Nehlsen (June 56), Annette (Knuth) Gustafson (June 56), Margaret (Hase) Harris (June 54), Evie (Fischer) Miller (Jan 46), Mariann (Leversen) Erlenbach (Jan 46), Paulette (Hase) McGuire (June 56), Leon Kathan (June 56), Joyce Baxter (Jan 61), Eileen Thorne (Jan 63), Jerry (Beesley) Bloom (June 62) and husband Bernie (Lane 52), Helen Thorne (Jan 66), John Mihalik (Lane 53), Maralyn (Ellis) Toman (June 43), Barbara (Ellis) Olson (Feb 41) and Martha (Ellis) Collz (June 47). I hope I didn’t miss anyone’s name. If so, please come again next year and tell me about it!!

Jerry Bloom (June 1962)

L-R: Joyce Baxter (1-61), Helen Thorne (1-66), Leon Kathan (6-56) and Eileen Thorne (1-63)
Here is a picture of the get-together of June, 1952 gals reunion who gathered together last July 9, 2006 for lunch at the Cliffbreaker's Restaurant, Rockford, IL.

(L to R) Joyce (Christiansen) Johnson, Karen (England) Shaw, Joan (McGovern) Clark, Lorry (Olson) Barlow, Carol (Brokaw) Yeaman, Joan (Weir) Lease, and Anita (Nehring) Petersen.

Most of us live in the northwest suburbs of Chicagoland, but Karen (England) Shaw lives up in Wisconsin, so we agreed to meet about halfway. We had such a lovely afternoon getting caught up on old and new times, and the food was good, also. The restaurant just let us stay as long as we wanted, so it was nice not to be hurried.

We hope to get together again this spring or summer for another reunion. There were a few who couldn't make it back in July 2006, but we hope that they will join us for the next one.

Anita (Nehring) Petersen,  
Class of June 1952

Deadline Set

Our next issue of TAA newsletter will be published in July, and will include all the new alums from the class of 2007. Be sure to get any items you wish to include in this issue to Jerry Bloom or Tom Kuciak by June 15, 2007.
Students United In Grief

The recent sudden death of Taft High's senior basketball player Darius Gordon brings together a diverse and divided student body. In case you missed seeing the moving article written by Chicago Tribune staff reporter Michelle S. Keller on February 1, 2007, we bring you a few excerpts here. She gave a very real feel of the students and their reactions to a very tragic event.

Ms. Keller started out by saying,

The cafeteria at Taft High School has long been divided territory, just as it is at many urban high schools. "Usually the black kids stick by themselves, the Hispanic and Polish kids all stick in their little groups," said sophomore Anna Czekaj. "Or you see people divided by activities. You have your nerds, your athletes, your cheerleaders."

But the death last week of basketball player Darius Gordon, who collapsed after a home game, has shaken the social order of this Northwest Side high school. The invisible walls between cliques have begun to break down, Czekaj and other students say. And students who once glanced at each other from a distance at lunchtime have banded together to raise $1,200 for Gordon's family.

At Thursday's varsity basketball game, in which the 18-year-old would have played, he will be remembered by all of them.

"Before his death, it was so obvious who was in each clique," said Czekaj, 15, an honor-roll student who recently wrote to the Tribune to ask for help in honoring Gordon. "No one wanted to enter a different clique. But after he died, I saw these girls [from different groups] in the bathroom helping each other emotionally."

The tough kids in the 50s in many ways are similar to the kids of today, deep down, with the emotions stripped away. Jim Jacobs felt it when he wrote "Grease" many years ago. Cliques pervade, as in those days, but we see that today the students still can connect with each other when a common cause arises. Gordon's sudden death, almost in their presence, was a sobering reality that gave the students focus on a common goal. His personality was admired by the jocks, the academics, the cheerleaders, the African Americans, Hispanics, Poles, etc.. He was a mentor and a counselor to many, and loved by all. His classmates wanted to do something to honor Darius and help the family in their time of grief. In that way, they shared the pain as a step towards healing the pain. He will be remembered by each student for years to come, each in their own way.

2007 TAA Scholarships

Thanks to the generosity of several people this year, we have been able to expand the Taft Alumni Association scholarships offered to graduating seniors to five awards. There will be two $1000 scholarships in honor of Dr. Graven, who passed away last year. Then, we have another $1000 scholarship in honor of Robert W. "Bill" Hendricksen, class of June 1960, presented by his widow Darlene (Bruemmer) Hendricksen (June 1962). And, as in the past, there are two $750 awards to deserving seniors from your TAA funds.

The Scholarship Committee, consisting of several TAA board of directors has fourteen applications to review this year. They have their work cut out for themselves, but expect to have the results finalized within the next several weeks. We will present the names of all the scholarship recipients next issue.
TAFT Alumni Bargains

Static Window Stickers: $3.00 ea. (Plus $1 S/H)
"Taft High School - You Can't Hide Eagle Pride"
(Profits go to the Taft Athletic Department)

T-Shirts: $10 each (XXL & XXXL - $12 each)
Light gray with Eagle logo silk-screened in blue.
Sizes - Medium through XXXL

Baseball Caps: $15 each
Royal Blue with NEW Eagle logo in gray/black stitched emblem on front. Adjustable buckle tab - one size fits most.

Jackets: $30.00 each
Blue nylon windbreakers with a white flannel lining and snap front with a drawstring bottom.
The silver emblem on the left breast area reads "TAFT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI" with an eagle in the center: M (38-40) only, (X and XL SOLD OUT!)

Yearbooks: Suggested donation $30
These yearbooks are hard to keep in supply. Requests are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Thanks to all who have tried to replace your lost or destroyed books.

TAFT Alumni Order Form

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TOTAL Enclosed $____________

Send check to: Taft Alumni Association
6530 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

(PLEASE PRINT)
NAME____________________________________
ADDRESS________________________________
_________________________________________
PHONE__________________________________
MONTH/YEAR OF GRADUATION_____________

Be sure to add $6 for postage and handling for each order to the same address. Use separate sheet of paper for orders to different addresses.

Is your E-mail address up to date?
This notice is being repeated as a reminder. Since its inception seven years ago, the Taft Alumni E-mail Directory has become a popular feature of the TAA website. Over 1,500 alumni from the Classes of 1940 through 2002 have registered. The directory, however, can connect classmates only if the information is accurate. As this issue is being sent (additionally) to those former members who have yet to send in renewal dues along with all the new graduates, we feel this information needs to be restated.

Please take a moment and check your entry at www.taftalumni.org (click on Searchable e-mail Directory) to verify that we have listed your name, your year of graduation, and your e-mail address accurately. Write to eagleemail@taftalumni.org if you wish to add your name or make any changes.

For your protection, we do not post your address as a hyperlink. Your bio and street address information should be addressed directly to TAA President Kay Kuciak at taftalum@cox.net.

Thank you for your part in making the Taft Alumni Association a success!
# TAFT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FORM

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**College(s) Attended, Degree(s) Earned, Year of Graduation**

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Other News or Information:

☐ I am enclosing $___________ to defray newsletter cost.
☐ I am enclosing $15.00 for two-year membership.
☐ I am enclosing $20.00 for two-year Husband & Wife membership.

Return to: Taft Alumni Association
6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Chicago IL 60631

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## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President: Kay Kuciak (1963)
Vice-Pres./Treasurer: Shirley DeWeese (1960)
2nd Vice-President: Frank Heyer (1948)
Secretary: Paulette English (1967)
Faculty Representative: Mike Hionis
Newsletter Staff:
Editor - Jeraldene Bloom (1962) - (920) 743-8449
E-mail - jerrybloom@fales.org
Assistants: Kay / Tom Kuciak - (623) 544-0226
E-Mail Listing Co-ord.: Paulette English (1967)
Website Coordinator: Kevin Kreiger
Historian: Anne Lunde (1969)

## RENEW NOW !!

Check your address label for the year of graduation on the lower right corner. Is it correct? Also check the expiration date of your current membership with the Taft Alumni Association. If the date is close, sit down NOW and write out a check for $15.

Not one, but TWO full years of newsletters are yours with opportunities to learn about classmates, reunions, school events and alumni programs. Be sure to use the application above to fill in the latest updates in your life.

The Taft Alumni Association publishes the Taft Alumni Newsletter quarterly. Send all general correspondence and changes of address: Taft Alumni Association, 6530 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 or E-mail at Taftalum@cox.net
Website: http://www.taftalumni.org
Alumni E-mail Directory: eagleemail@taftalumni.org