

November 2022

From our Graduates and friends:

Judith Hamff Murphy: Anne Bateman Myers' visit to Gander, Newfoundland was very interesting. If anyone wants to know more about the Gander situation after 9/11, there's a very good documentary floating around our streaming services somewhere. I saw it—it's very heartwarming, but sorry, I don't know the streaming source.

I "second" Howard Dudgeon's remarks about our high school teachers. I have always felt I got a really good high school education—and I made a B in my Freshman English class! No A's for anyone.

Your Waterside Restaurant list: Our favorite spot for years when my friends and I want to treat ourselves to a really nice lunch has been Jake's Del Mar. The food is great and you can't beat the view!

I'm glad to see the new contributors to your newsletter--David Dibb and David Ditto. They offer some new perspectives.

Debbie Ryan (rhs '72): "I really liked reading about Barbie. My first Barbie had a black pony tail and the black/white striped swim suit. I ended up breaking off part of her leg throwing it up the fire escape at the school next door to my grandparents. I also liked the one about remembering the old times: black and white tv, eating at the table and, of course, asking to be excused! I can see us sitting at the table now."

Bev Murphy Wells: It was fun reading about Robert Wilson's experiences with the cowboys of older days and going on trail rides and giving them encouragement. Reminded me that I did get to see Tex Ritter at the Waco Theater which I'm sure many of you did too, but my fave was when John Wayne came to Waco and when he stepped out of the parade and came over and stood by me, a picture landed in the Waco Tribune. Don't recall date but do recall that I thought John Wayne was the most handsome man I had ever seen in my life!

Enjoyed reminiscing about the trip David and Anita took to Cologne (Koln as they call it). The Cathedral is beautiful. So glad Hitler didn't destroy it! I agree, the train travel in Europe is phenomenal! Stopping at the Berlin train station on the way to Munich was an experience. Isn't it amazing the Blue Danube really isn't blue. The clear blue sky reflects accordingly though.

A Broadway play was made about the The Newfoundland story; almost went to see it but decided on another play and wished we had seen "Come From Away" instead!

My daughter still has all of her Barbie dolls and clothing and she's almost 56.

Thanks to all who have been praying for the victims of Ian. There's still a lot to do and many people will no longer have homes to return to, many of them seniors. Still more prayers needed and prayers are always appreciated!

UPDATES:

All of our Florida graduates (to my knowledge) have been spared from the wrath of Ian.

Carol Leskin Allen: I am sad to report that Carol lost her husband, Steve, last month. I have no other details or information regarding his passing. Tampa has been home to Carol and Steve for a long time. The good news: the only damage Ian did at Carol's home was blow down a palm tree.

Bob Easter "I have an appointment at the Mayo Clinic Oct 25 at 7:30 AM. There is a process of applications and multiple Doctors approvals before acceptance. Once I am there I meet with one Introduction Doctor and then She/He gathers a Team of other Doctors who look at my health history and this team of Doctors continue to diagnose the issues and find out what is causing the sudden issues which have caused the limited walking and other issues. The Team stays with me until they figure it out. Carolyn and I leave Sunday morning at 6:08 AM to fly to Rochester MN. We do not know the length of stay but Mayo said 5-7 business days. Your continued prayers are appreciated."

Gayla Miller Webb had her shoulder surgery. She is home and slowly healing, but said her body is not responding as well as she would like. Gayla said it surely was great to hear from so many friends and classmates. Thanks to those who contacted her.



1. Who said only boys had paper routes when we were growing up?

Anne Bateman Myers (whs 62) : “I had a paper route when I was young. I rode my bike and then folded the papers as I went. I got pretty good at getting the paper on the porch close to the front door. It was an afternoon route – back then there was a morning and afternoon paper. Actually, my step brother had the route and when he went to A&M my step sister took it over and when she went to UT I took it over. I think I was almost 14 when I took it over (if memory serves me correct). My step sister was the first girl in Waco to have a route, as I recall, and she was featured in the paper before I took it over. I just remember that my route included 30th, 31st & 32nd street from Waco Dr. south several blocks.

2. Tim Lasseter Latta and hubby **John** have recently returned from a trip to Estes Park, CO. She said the aspens had turned and the weather was perfect.



3. Howard Dudgeon was guest speaker in 2005 at our 45th reunion. These are a few of his remembrances regarding the 25th Street theater and neighborhood as told to the group back then.

a. “I saw Dr. Zhivago 13 Sundays in a row at the 25th Street Theater in the mid 1960’s. The Lara character in that movie was actually a real person named Olga Ivanskaya.”

b. “After a movie we would either go up to Robertson’s at 25th and Bosque or down to the Dairy Queen between Morrow and Gorman on 25th. Noah Appleton later worked at 25th Street and Tom Hafford at 18th Street Robertson’s.”

c. Joyce and Janice Player worked at the Waco and 25th Street Theaters in high school and college. They both worked at the Safeway at Lake Air Mall, also. Joyce and Janice Players’ birthday is June 7. I gave Joyce a Floyd Cramer album for her 20th birthday, the “Last Date” album.”

4. **Judith Hamff Murphy** (one of our world travelers) has recently returned from Iceland. She says this is her last trip for a while. Hmm, I just wonder how long it will take Judith before Wanderlust changes her mind ???



Boat trip on a glacier lagoon



Gullfoss Waterfall



Akureyri, largest town outside Iceland's more populated SW corner. Nicknamed "Capital of North Iceland"



Ingolfur Square... a Reykjavik City Square

Reykjavik Foodie Tour Group



Whatever Happened to...?



Marshall Matt Dillon



By David Dibb

My go-to TV channel is the one that runs the old Western movies and series. And my favorite of the lot is Gunsmoke. Imagine my disappointment to learn that Marshall Matt Dillon is a totally fictitious character. About the only real things from old Dodge City that made it into the series were the Longbranch Saloon and Delmonico's.

But over a 20-year period, and a Hollywood-record 635 episodes, James Arness and Warner Brothers built Marshall Matt Dillon into a character that fans knew even better than real Western legends like Wyatt Earp. Gunsmoke aired on the radio from 1952 to 1955. And when the TV version was being put together, they wanted John Wayne to take the part.

But Wayne's movie career was taking off, and he didn't want to get locked into a weekly TV deal, so he recommended his buddy, James Arness, for the part. Arness had appeared in several westerns, and his 6'7" frame helped him stand out from the crowd, but he was hardly a household name in 1955. In today's social/political climate, it's doubtful a new TV series about gun violence would be "politically correct", but Marshall Dillon was shot in the very first episode, and went on to shoot down the man who delivered that shot before the 30-minute show was finished. In the following 20 years, he was shot over 50 times (usually in the shoulder), and killed at least 165 different men (not counting the man he killed in the

opening street fight scene for 13 seasons.) Imagine the viewers' thrill at seeing the iconic gunfight scene in color for the first time in the opening of the "color era" in 1966.

Most of his victims were bad men who "needed" shooting, but in an early episode, Dillon is disgusted by the killing and ready to give up hunting down outlaws, until Chester convinces him he "has to, because you're the only one here who can." His character is built on duty, integrity, and respect for the law. But the draw of Gunsmoke continues to be the characters and the emotional and psychological drama of situations with no clear-cut all good or all bad. His "female interest", Miss Kitty, has a heart of gold, sharp business skills, great courage, an obvious affection for Matt, and they kept an unfulfilled romantic tension going between them for 20 years

His deputy, Chester Goode, played by Dennis Weaver, was notable for his bad leg. In fact, Dennis Weaver had two strong legs, and just added the limp to the character for interest. Ken Curtis's character, Festus Haggen, had enough character quirks that he didn't need to add a bad leg. Arness, however, actually did have trouble with his leg. A decorated war hero, he had an injury sustained from gunfire on Anzio Beach in WWII. For episodes requiring a lot of walking, they would shoot those scenes early in the day while Arness was still fresh.

While many beloved series, like Friends and the Mary Tyler Moore Show, ended their run with a special "Auld Lang Syne" type of episode, Gunsmoke ended suddenly with Season 20, Episode 24, to the surprise of the cast and fans. Arness went on to make 5 Gunsmoke movies featuring a retired Marshall Matt Dillon, and shot another few dozen men while getting shot and knifed himself. He never gave Hollywood much to gossip about. In 1978, several years after the death of his first wife, he met and married Janet Surtees, and was still happily married to her when he died in 2011 at age 88.

PICTURES:

I think it is time we should "**Head for the Hills**"....

David and Anita Dibb and friends recently visited near Ashville, NC on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Check out some of these pictures David sent! What beautiful colors!!! And to think that Ralph Klatt lives among all this beauty.



Tim Lasseter Latta and hubby John at the Monster Mash Royal Bash in Ft. Worth, TX. This benefits the Women's Center of Tarrant County. They were crowned King Flour and Queen Biscuit. Both are gourmet cooks.



Larry Thomas celebrated turning 80 with all his family wearing matching "Baylor 80" shirts and a nostalgic trip by the old WHS building. He is pictured with the 1955 Volkswagen that he says he probably "scared a few classmates riding with him during his sophomore year."



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 3** Jim Monnig, Sissie Blair
- 6** Barbara Brunett Hunt, Gary Roberts
- 12** Carolyn Wolf Lloyd
- 18** Bob Easter
- 24** Babz Wester Musser
- 27** Nena Hunt Wallace

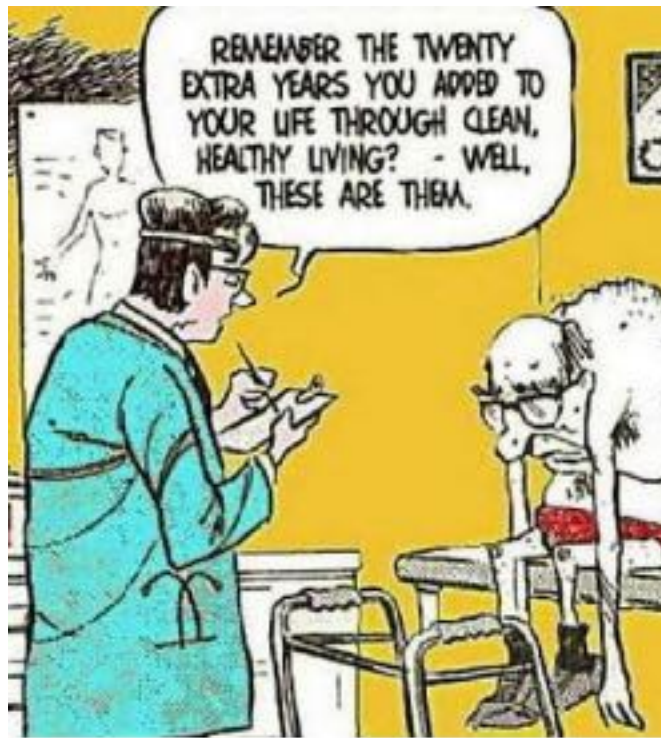
HUMOR:

I have many hidden talents.
Just wish I could remember where I hid them.

The School Called Today
And Said "Your Son Is Telling Lies"
"Well" I Replied "He Must Be Really Good Because I Don't Have Any Kids"

You're old when your last car purchased cost more than the price of the first house you purchased.

"Middle age is when your classmates are so gray and wrinkled and bald they don't recognize you."



As the Kardashians celebrate their 20th season I would like to congratulate myself for never watching a single episode.

**Some days I amaze myself.
Other days,
I look for my phone while I'm holding it.**

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