

## AUGUST 2024

### FROM OUR GRADUATES:

The picture on the left was in the Waco Paper on November 8, 1957. It is of **David Dibb, Richard Quick, and Alan Maples** getting ready to receive their **Eagle Scout** awards. The **Eagle Scout Award** is the highest achievement in Boy Scouts and only about 4-7% of Scouts will pass all requirements for this honor. David is in the center with Richard on the right.



The Dibbs: John (brother) Jake, David, Anita, and Brian

(father/son)

David's grandson, Jake, just completed his Eagle Scout requirements. David asked the Scoutmaster (who happened to be Jake's father/David's son) if he could participate in the ceremony as David wanted Jake to receive his 67-year-old medal when Jake was presented his award. All agreed, so on June 30, David and Anita made the 7-hour trip to Virginia for the event. This was David's speech that he wrote for the event:

"Jake,

*The fraternity of Eagles that you join today has many chapters in addition to the historic one here in Shenandoah. I started on my trail to Eagle in a Cub Scout pack in Ft. Worth, TX, where my dad (like your dad) was Cubmaster.*

*When we moved to Waco, TX, a few years later, I had completed the last Cub Scout challenge, the Arrow of Light, and I joined Boy Scout Pack 24, sponsored by a local Baptist church. Although my dad was not Scoutmaster, he helped with a lot of the activities, and one year, he even joined a few of us on a trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Another highlight of my Scouting experience was attending a National Jamboree in Valley Forge, PA, in 1957, with over 52,000 other Scouts.*

*I completed the requirements for Eagle in 1958 (with substantially less than the 72 merit badges you earned). At that time, I was a member of Explorer Post 24, wearing this shirt, which I wanted to wear today, but it has shrunk considerably over the years. So, this Eagle badge I hold in my hand is 67 years old. I'd like to pass it on to you, and perhaps one day you will have a son or grandson who continues our tradition."*

David reported that his "3-generation presentation almost brought several folks to tears. Just think, if Jake passes it on to his grandson, it could be 125 years old."

What a wonderful idea to pass along that tradition! Congratulations to all who have earned the Eagle Scout Award. It is a great accomplishment that requires a lot of determination.

**Marvin Schutza:** “Thank u so much for keeping us aware of our classmates’ health issues. Sending wishes for improved health and prayers for all.”

**Tim Lasseter Latta:** (Ruidosa fires) 😊 “So glad for good news of Kay & Ralph Sparks’ family and Steve Brown.”

**Bev Murphy Wells:** (About Graduate luncheon): “Really enjoyed seeing all the pictures! Everyone looked like they were really enjoying themselves. Great seeing Linda Sue doing so much better and thank you Linda Sue for all you do! Thank you picture taker! Hope Robert is getting better! Sad to see the long list of past graduates though. Agree with Jeanne, stay well, safe and cool!”

(About July Town Crier): First of all a belated Happy 4th to all! We really do live in a great country!

Also thanks to Linda Sue for her dedication to all the luncheons especially while coming out of a devastating health concern.

Learning about some of our classmates who have endured loss and close calls out west and south Texas; so thankful you are back home and it seems all are ok.

How exciting it was to read about all the famous people Robert Wilson rubbed elbows with and Mickey Lavy’s story about Mr. Penny and taking a sneak into his closet. Always loved Pennys along with Sears, Montgomery Wards, Goldsteins, and others. Hope Robert is getting stronger and feeling better. The story that I was rolling on the floor (in my mind, because literally or I would still be on the floor in my Fabletics) was Jim Moning’s and his escapades with Randy Turner. All I can say is “boys will be boys!” Reminds me of “Bueller’s Day Off!” Poor Mr. Rooney would still be looking for them! What fun memories!

Prayers for all our classmates who have health issues. Prayers for Betty Luedeker Gatlin’s grandson, Nathaneal. God has special plans for him!

Stay healthy and be of good cheer!”

## UPDATES:

**Gwen Ewing Hodges:** “I am starting a clinical trial drug July 9<sup>th</sup>. I am healthy for the condition I am in! Prayers appreciated.” We surely hope the trial drug will be beneficial for Gwen and will not present any difficult side effects.

**Betty Luedeker Gatlin** reports on her grandson: “Nathanael is doing pretty well. He prays to be able to sleep at night, keep his meals down, and for his fever to stay down so he can fully participate in his physical therapy. He has another surgery on July 29 for the burns and to assess the entry and exit points. Thanks to everyone for their prayers. We still have him. He has a long recovery to come.”

Please continue to pray for the difficult time **Norma Cissell Smith** and her family are enduring.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

- 3 Angie Plemons Lehman  
Cathey White Land
- 4 LouAnn Hilton Brady
- 10 John Mullen
- 19 Dill Bailey
- 20 Charlie Sligh
- 21 Charlotte Suttle Kleibrink
- 22 Pat McGlaughn Dooley
- 27 Bonnie Burson Chapman

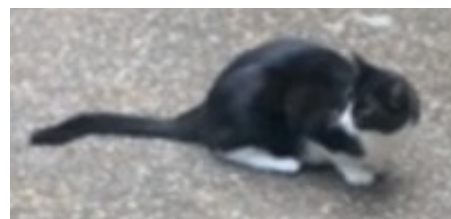


### **Have you ever been bitten or scratched by a cat? - *Jeanne Holland Harman***

"Not ever having had a cat nor having been around one, I know nothing about cats. In fact, I have always been afraid of them. However, new neighbors moved in behind me who have a beautiful Tuxedo cat named BOOTS. Boots has really taken a liking to my yard....and to me. Every time I go in the back yard—here he is in a flash! I guess he thinks I am playing with the leaves or whatever. He likes to play with the rake, hoe, or whatever tool I might be using. He is just a most curious cat, always loving on me, wrapping in and around my legs, even jumping up in my lap wanting attention. However, after Boots bit me I quickly learned a few things:

1. A cat can be fickle, very quickly! Its mood can quickly change for reasons that only the cat knows, and it can scratch or bite you all the while he is "loving on you" making you think he wants your love in return.
2. Cats have sharp teeth and nails that can puncture deeply. In my research, everything I read said to contact a doctor immediately after being bitten by a cat, especially if it is a stray cat. A stray cat can carry rabies so a doctor should be seen within 8 hours. If you know the owners of the cat, you might want to get the cat's shot history. I did not call a doctor as I knew Boots had recently had his shots.
3. The first thing to do for the bite is flush out the wound for about 5 minutes. Then sterilize and briefly bandage it. However, a cat's bite will heal quicker if left open and exposed to air. Keep the wound clean and continue to use an antibiotic cream. I also used an Epsom salts-vinegar-warm water soak that really seemed to help.
4. The important thing is to act quickly after a cat bite and be alert to any signs of infection. Use your own discretion about a doctor's visit.

This was just my experience with a cat bite. Cat owners can probably enlighten us with better ways to care for a bite/scratch. But a few things I now know: Boots did not love me nearly as much as I thought he did, I was lucky that my bite did not become infected, and I am most dubious about being friends with Boots although he is a beautiful cat with a very outgoing personality.





## DID YOU KNOW

### 1. **Howard Dudgeon** on interesting things at Baylor:

**Baylor** had a car stolen around Christmas one year. In December each year Development officers used to make a big push for yearend donations. One of the DO was making a call in Austin. He went in to see a donor and left the car engine running. When he came out, the car was gone.

About a week later I got a call from the police in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The police received a call about a car in the Walmart parking lot. The caller told the police where the car was and that the keys were in an envelope under the front seat. My guess is some UT student took the Baylor-owned car to get home for the holidays.

**Baylor** had a Porfirio Salinas painting valued at \$15,000? stolen. It was insured. The thief who stole it was employed in Waco. He left for a Corpus Christi job and took the painting with him and insured it. He reported it stolen and collected insurance. He left his job in CC and went to New Mexico. He took the painting with him to New Mexico. An insurance investigator tracked down the man and the painting that he had stolen twice. The painting came back to Baylor, and I had to certify before a grand jury that Baylor owned the painting.

**Baylor** probably had 8 or 10 airplanes that I was responsible for insuring. Baylor had a small 2-seater out at the McGregor airport. It was used for air sampling by Baylor's Environmental Studies Department. It was taken out of service and put up for sale. I got a call from a preacher about purchasing the airplane. I told him the history of the plane and he said would bring a cashier's check the next day and he would meet me at Waco Regional/Madison Cooper Airport and pay for the plane. He flew in paid for the plane and had a ride ready to take him to McGregor. I asked him what he was going to do with the plane. He said it was going to be used in a movie and crashed in the movie. He said was going to fly the plane out that day to New Mexico. He called me when he left McGregor and when he arrived in New Mexico. I don't know what movie.

**Over** the years there were several expert student burglars. They mainly targeted portable items video cameras, musical instruments, some type scales from science departments and easily portable things. We never caught them. The US Marshall Service or the FBI caught several of the students because something they stole went across state lines. These were uninsured losses because of Baylor's high deductible.

**2 David Dibb:** "On Father's Day, our church gives special recognition to the oldest father. So, this year, our Pastor started by asking all the fathers 80 years or older to stand (if they could). He said, "let's give all of our **Octogenarians a round of applause.**"

I know he meant it as a badge of honor, because he is my age, and I love him dearly, but for some reason that name suddenly made me feel really old. Octogenarians? Really?

I say let's stick with Gramps, Poppy, or Senior Citizen, and leave the 13-letter words to the Jeopardy contestants."



**3. Jeanne Holland Harman:** “There is a novel, “**11-22-63**”, written by Stephen King about a time traveler who attempts to prevent the assassination of John F Kennedy. Considerable research for the novel was required in order to portray accurately the time period of the late 1950’s/early 1960’s. Stephen King said he had never written anything quite like this and it was like ‘breaking in a new pair of shoes’. The novel was adapted into a television series on **Hulu** in 2016. Most libraries should carry the book or the DVD. It really is interesting. If you have not seen the series, you might research how you can stream it. Stephen King wrote a poem that is incorporated into the film. The words are very intriguing, as is the movie. Here is the poem....and yes, ...we did not ask for the hand that was dealt us in life but, “**let us dance**”.

**We Did Not Ask For This Room**

We did not ask for this room,  
or this music;  
we were invited in.  
Therefore,  
because the dark surrounds us,  
let us turn our faces toward the light.  
Let us endure hardship  
to be grateful for plenty.  
We have been given pain  
to be astounded by joy.  
We have been given life  
to deny death.  
We did not ask for this room,  
or this music.  
But because we are here,  
let us dance.

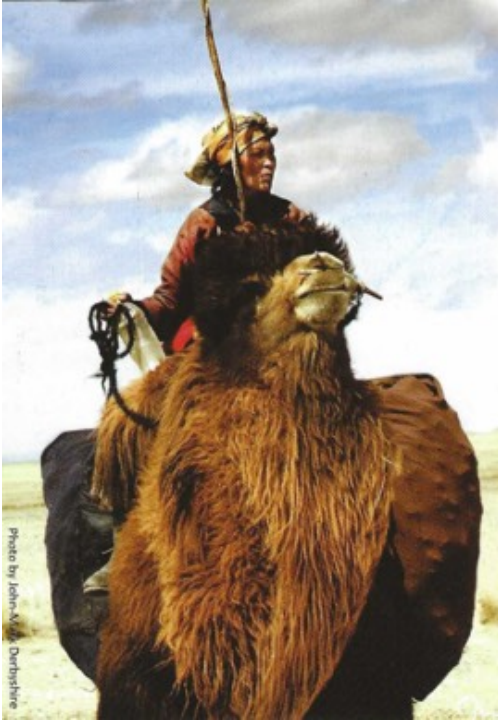
**4. Old Wives Tale??** Some say if in the morning you can drink a glass of warm water mixed with a tablespoon of apple cider vinegar, it can help with arthritis pain and stiff joints. There may not be any scientific proof to this, but it might be worth a try. If you suffer with the problem and decide to try this, let us know if it works.

**A NEAT IDEA:**



**PICTURES:**

John Anderson and his friend Judy have just returned from Mongolia. John reports it was a 24-hour flight home. He said Mongolia is a delightful place that soon will be the “in” place for tourists. John said 30% still live in yurts and move from place to place. He and Judy stayed in yurts (large canvas tents) and met the locals. Then it was back home to California while awaiting their next trip which will be to South Africa (Cape Town) and the Garden Route followed by a drive through Namaqualand. I hope he will send another postcard for all of us to enjoy. It is so exciting to see and hear about some of his wonderful travels. I would imagine if a prize were to be given to the most traveled 1960 WHS graduate, it would be John!



Yurts

## HUMOR

### **Can You Remember?? A few remarks made in 1955:**

Did you hear the Post Office is thinking about charging 7 cents just to mail a letter?

If they raise the minimum wage to \$1, no one will be able to hire outside help at the store.

When I first started driving, whoever thought gas would someday reach 25 cents a gallon? Guess we would be better off just leaving the car in the garage.

Did you see where some baseball player signed a contract for \$50,000 just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they will be making more than the President.

The fast-food restaurant is convenient for a fast meal, but I seriously doubt they ever catch on.

**"I might be older than dirt, but those memories are some of the best parts of my life" -unknown**

**NOT TO BRAG  
OR ANYTHING  
BUT I CAN FORGET  
WHAT I'M DOING  
WHILE I'M DOING IT.**











"FUN SURE IS A LOT OF WORK."

[www.whs60.org](http://www.whs60.org)