Celebrate Mepham’s 75th Anniversary!!
Today’s Involved Mepham Students
The cafeteria originally was on the third floor, across from the library. It had two sections, each accommodating 240 students. In the center was the food aisle. Students were not allowed to leave the school at lunchtime.

Entitled: A New High School Opens Its Doors
Printed in the Nassau Daily Review, September 25, 1937

L to R front: Mrs Clarence J. Walker, Trustee; Anton Hyde, President of the board of education; Wellington C. Mepham, District Superintendent for whom the school was named, Walter Swenson, Trustee; Sanford H. Calhoun, Supervising Principal. Back: Mrs. E. Nock Smith, District Treasurer; Mrs. William Uribe-Troncoso, District Clerk; Mrs. Eleanor Hyde and Alice Moore.

At Jones Beach: the Flanagans, (Trudy Kohlweis ‘46 and Tom ‘43), and the Gangels (Ruth Woodruff ‘43 and Frank Gangel ‘43 [in the 50s?])

Rosemary Esposito ‘46 and Jane Muhlbauer ‘46, wearing typical garb for the time.

Yachi Hughi was the first fraternity at Mepham. Their slogan was “Fellowship, Fun, and Frolic.” There were fraternities and sororities in the 40s, 50s, and 70s, but we haven’t heard of any recently. Are there?

Raynors Stationary Softball Team 1952

Mepham Footballers ‘39

Entitled: A New High School Opens Its Doors
Printed in the Nassau Daily Review, September 25, 1937

Library Pass for Frank Iocca ’53
[Editorial comment: Notice how “often” he used it. No wonder it was still in good shape.]
President’s Message

We will soon be celebrating the 75th anniversary of Wellington C. Mepham High School. As this magazine goes to press, we are in the process of finalizing our plans for a worthy commemoration of this wonderful milestone.

The kick-off will be the annual All-Class Picnic on Saturday, September 8 at Wantagh Park [details on page 29]. The following day, Sunday, September 9, we hope you will be able to attend the program that the alumni association will host at 1:00 at Mepham. We look forward to the participation of students, who will provide a musical interlude, and teachers who will share stories about the innovative programs that have been introduced at Mepham. In addition, we will proudly recognize Who’s Who recipients of the past and members of the most early Mepham classes of ’39, ’40 and ’41. There will be a tour of the school, during which you can visit the auditorium and admire the map that was so beautifully restored. And since our library project will come to fruition this summer, you can join us at our “ribbon-cutting” ceremony. You are also invited to partake of the light refreshments that will be served.

The following week of September 10th, the students will celebrate Spirit Week with a Pep Rally and soccer matches on Friday the 14th. The Homecoming Parade and football game will take place on Saturday, September 15, with an after-game carnival for all ages at the school.

So, I invite you to walk with the alumni group in the Homecoming Parade (step off at the Bellmore train station at 12:00 noon), attend the football game at Mepham and bring the kids or grandkids to the carnival. It is a wonderful opportunity to honor the school that prepared us so well for our future.

Hope to see you in September.

We appreciate your continued membership in our organization.

Best Regards,

Carol Farina Kilgallin ’72

* See Editor’s Note on page 22.

Oops!

Mistakes have been made. One of them is ours. In the winter issue of Quarterdeck the Donor list that was printed was for the 2010 year instead of the 2011 year. So the proper listing is in this issue (see page 24).

However, the other, the delivery of Quarterdeck, has been one gigantic headache. First the mailing house left information off some labels, making them undeliverable. In addition, they had problems with wastage so that we were left with no extra copies, and had to wait to get more printed.

Then the Post Office left us not knowing about failures of delivery on their part (which, apparently, were not inconsiderable). We have expressed our dissatisfaction to the mailing house, and have been very fortunate to have the help of our printer at Printing Emporium. Unfortunately, there seems no such recourse at the Post Office.

If you never got Quarterdeck this winter and want a copy, let us know and we will try to get one to you.
The 2012 winter issue of *Quarterdeck* covered a description of the **ELITE (Enriching Learners in Tomorrow’s Education)** program, which inspires students with after school and weekend enrichment opportunities. The eclectic list of programs offered from December through May included:

- CSI Exhibition (hands-on experience, matching DNA to solve crimes, crime scenes, forensic labs, etc.)
- Poetry Out Loud Competition
- Italian Cooking Class
- Fetal Pig Dissection
- Trip to United Nations
- Sharpie Line Workshop (creating 2-Dimensional designs)
- Seven habits of Highly Effective Teens (identifying each habit and implementing each skill in their lives)
- Virtual Field Trip (experience the culture, music, and food of Mexico)
- Chandelier Day (French traditions and preparing crepes)
- Author Visit (Matt Blackstone, author of *A Scary Scene in a Scary Movie*)
- Using the Greenhouse to grow your own herb garden
- Open Mic Night (highlighting Mepham’s finest poets, singers, and musicians)
- Music and Trigonometry (using love of music and oscilloscopes and tuning forks to create graphic designs)
- Let’s Salsa! Latin Dance Class
- An Afternoon of Improv
- DNA Key Chain (using floral wire and beads to create a double-helix key chain)
- Literary Circle (discuss Kathryn Stockett’s *The Help*)
- Art and Transformations (applying transformation skills and properties to favorite drawings; tangrams)
- Poem in Your Pocket Day (poetry-inspired activities)
- Scavenger Hunt
- NYC Historical Walking Tour
- Beach-bound Bike Tour
- Eighteenth Century Warfare (recreating famous battles)
- Outdoor Yoga
- Creative Writing in the Courtyard (Ekphrasis & Inspirational Poetry discussed)
- Speed and Agility Training

Is that an amazing variety or what!! And kudos to the Mepham teaching staff who come up with the offerings and to their volunteer effort in carrying them out!!

**Mepham Kares** is a group of students, teachers, and administrators, and alumni who were inspired by the Kony 2012 video to take action for those around the world in need. Mission statement: “Uganda is our inspiration, but from Central Africa we intend to go wherever the need may arise and to educate, inform, and assist however we can.” To raise awareness of the situation, they will be making and distributing 1000 bracelets, each dedicated to a victim of Joseph Kony’s reign of terror.

**Athletes Helping Athletes** is a student leadership program for students who are drug and alcohol free. It trains them to deliver positive and instructional messages about high school to elementary school students, promoting involvement in positive activities such as sports and clubs to prevent drug and alcohol use by serving as positive role models for younger students.

The Class of 2012 partnered with **First Book** (which provides books for children to read) for their Senior Service Learning Project. Through a variety of fund raisers, including Mepham’s Battle of the Classes and a partnership with Cablevision’s Charity Champions, the Class donated over $4,000 to First Book. In addition the seniors donated over 2,000 new books to the Leo F. Giblyn Elementary School in Freeport, distributing three brand new books to each member of the first grade, then working with them on various reading activities, creating a lasting relationship with a neighboring community. We are proud of the Class of 2012!

The **Mepham Chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)**—in their 9th Annual SADD Benefit Walk—raised nearly $3,000 for Mepham Friends and Family Fund, set up to provide assistance to families in the Merrick-Bellmore community. The SADD Chapter also holds an annual Senior Citizen Prom, where students share a meal and dance with the seniors.

**Mepham’s Habitat for Humanity Club** went to Mastic Beach to do yard work (shoveling topsoil, digging holes for fence posts, getting rid of ditches, cleaning up).

With focus on ways to continue to build a supportive and understanding school community, students have participated in a “Day of Service.” They collected non-perishable food items, “gently used” backpacks with school supplies for families in need; also participated in a District Blood Drive.

Continued on page 6
W. C. Mepham High School’s 75th Anniversary!!
Come and Help Us Celebrate This Wonderful School!

History: On Sept. 8, 1937 a new freshman class walked into a new school building in North Bellmore. They were accompanied by students who, two years earlier, had started their junior class in an old wooden school building in Bellmore, (plus the sophomore class and some freshmen, who started there.)

Seventy-five years later we alumni of Mepham High School will celebrate that occasion with a week of joyful activities and memories. Please join us.

Great plans are in the works! The Administration and the Alumni Association are partners in putting forth a week of events.

Saturday, September 8, 2012. Get a head start at the All-Class Pirates’ Picnic. (Details on Page 29)

Sunday, September 9, 2012, 1–3PM—the W. C. Mepham Alumni Association presents:

Mepham’s 75th Anniversary Program

In the Auditorium
- Greetings, Carol Farina Kilgallin, President, W. C. Mepham Alumni Association
- Musical Selections, [under the direction of Michael Mitchell, Mepham Choral Director]
- Stories About Some Mepham Programs: hear from Mepham teachers how Mepham students get involved. (Read about some programs on pages 4 and 6.)
- Alumni from the three early classes will be recognized.
- Past Who’s Who Recipients will be recognized.
- While you are there, admire the Restoration of the Map and see the display in the foyer.

In the Library
- Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony of the newly refurbished Library.
Light refreshments will be served after the program.
Tour of the School will be offered, with student guides.

September 10–14, School Spirit Week (Different themes for each day.)
Friday, September 14, 2012
- 5 PM Girls Varsity Soccer, 7 PM Pep Rally, 7:45 PM Boys Varsity Soccer
Saturday, September 15, 2012
- Homecoming Parade: 11:30 AM, meet at Bellmore Rail Road
  At noon walk to Mepham with the alumni.
- Homecoming Football game: Mepham vs Kennedy. 1:30 PM. Support your school’s team.
- After-Game Carnival—Rides, games, and vendors from the community

Library Update

After a year’s delay, the library restoration should have been completed by the time many of you are reading this. Between holidays and other work scheduled for the building, this summer was the earliest the work could commence (which it did, on June 25).

The timing worked out well and the completion and “ribbon cutting” (Yes! we’re having a ribbon cutting!) will kick off the 75th anniversary celebration in September. As we did for the mural restoration, we’ve lined up a student photographer to document the project, from the removal of the books, cleaning, sanding, restoring—down to the last brush stroke of shellac. Watch for photos in future publications and, better yet, come in September and see the results for yourself!

Frank Setteducati ’70
Continued from page 4.

**Schools Fight Hunger, School of Distinction award** was given as a result of French Honor Society members making bagged lunches, with a snack and drink at the request of INN. They also “adopted” a family at the holidays through the Volunteer Social Services of Nassau Cty. (fundraising and shopping for and wrapped gifts, which teacher Betsy Siegelau delivered to the appreciative family).

Mepham’s **National Italian Honor Society** students hosted their tenth Italian Culture Night with poetry, song, food, raffles, and Tombola (Italian-style Bingo).

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**Outstanding Achievements in Sports—2012**

**Austin Kowalsky Swims Past 30-year-old Record**

Senior captain Austin Kowalsky broke the Nassau County record in the boys’ 50-yard freestyle with a time of 21.1 seconds, one-tenth of a second faster than the record set in 1982. Kowalsky also took second in New York State for the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 45.9, another new school record.

Kowalsky also swam backstroke or butterfly races if the team needed him to, which made an impact on his younger teammates. Coach Rob Kaefer praised Austin in stating, “the other kids look at him as a great swimmer and what dedication can get you.”

Kerry Giovannello, a ninth grade student, placed first in the individual 100 yard freestyle at the Nassau County. Aquatic Championships. Her time of 52.75 seconds set a new school record. She is a member of the relay team that set a Nassau County record of 1:39:47 in the 200 yard freestyle relay, as well as a member of the 400 yard freestyle relay team, placing first in the Nassau Cty. Championships which set a new school record of 3:39:04. She also has dedicated countless hours to participating in a private swim club.

In addition, Kerry is an outstanding student enrolled in two Honors courses with a first quarter overall average of over 96, is a member of the Key Club, and has participated in Mepham’s annual Battle of the Classes.

A freshman? Wow! Just imagine what lies ahead for Kerry and Mepham!

**Wrestling: Two Nassau County Champions**

Sohomores Louis Hernandez (145 lbs.) and junior Danny Tracy (152 lbs.), two of Mepham’s four All-County honorees (others, junior Steven Lambert, 152 lbs., and junior Jamie Dunn, 106 lbs.), were crowned Nassau County Division I Wrestling Champions in February 2012. It was the first time since 2005 that Mepham had an individual champion, and to do it in back-to-back fashion is simply amazing.

Hernandez, who wrestled at a very high level all season, was dominant with two major decisions, a six point win over the top seed, and a pin at 1:25 of the first period in the final. Tracy, his workout partner, overcame a two point deficit in the final 15 seconds of the two point deficit in the final 15 seconds of the final 15 seconds of the final 15 seconds of the final 15 seconds of the final, and worked his way to a 7-3 decision in the final. Of the 42 teams competing, Mepham, under head coach Rich Anderson (who was voted Nassau County Coach of the year), finished in seventh place.

**Mepham Varsity Kickline** placed 2nd in Jazz and 3rd in Pom at the National Championships in Orlando, also won “Superior Showmanship” and “Innovative Choreography” awards. Congratulations to the entire team and Coaches Geller and Dennis.

Read about **Mepham Girls’ Basketball** on page 28.
Today’s Outstanding Students

Bilal Siddiqui, senior, was selected as a finalist in the 2012 Intel Science Talent Search competition, the nation’s most prestigious pre-college competition. The title of Bilal’s science research project is: Investigating Endogenous Expression of Indoleamine2, 3-dioxygenase [IDO] in Metastic Melanoma, which looks at human melanoma tissue to determine if melanoma cells were exploiting IDO and expressing it in order to inhibit T cell responses against tumors. The ultimate application of this research is that it demonstrates that utilizing drugs that block the IDO pathway will improve the efficacy of current cancer therapy. Bilal is the Valedictorian of the Class of 2012, an AP Scholar with Distinction, and has been inducted in the Math, Science, Spanish, History, and National Honor Societies. He has won numerous awards, including First Place Grand award in the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair. Along with volunteering countless hours of his time, Bilal maintains a rigorous academic schedule and has interned at the Houghton Laboratory at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center for the past two summers. [Going to Harvard.]

Nina DeFranco, senior, was selected a finalist and presented her research at the International Sustainable World Energy Engineering Environment Competition 2012 [1-SWEEP]. Nina spent six weeks last summer participating at the Michigan State University High School Honors Science Program. Her project is titled Evaluation of Catalytic Activity of Metal Doped and Pure TiO2 Nanopowder Exposed to UV-C and involved the evaluation of catalyst in a photocatalytic membrane reactor, a new water filtration technology designed to remove viruses from water. [Going to Boston University.]

Brendan Donahue, senior, is a Semifinalist in the prestigious National Merit Scholarship Competition. Brendan has held the position of Class President of both the freshman and sophomore classes, and has worked tirelessly to unite his class and implement school-wide programs. He is a member of four honor societies, and earned numerous accolades for his achievements. He is a three-season athlete, captain of the cross country, winter track, and spring track teams, and named All-Conference. He is a member of the Key Club, Mock Trial, and Fragments Literary Magazine. A positive role model, he spends his summers helping others through his work as a lifeguard for the Town of Hempstead. Brendan is also a recipient of the 2011 National Council of Teachers of English [NTCE] Award in Writing. His “Best Writing” piece was a short story entitled Remora about two very different boys whose worlds collide. He wrote about Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll for his “Impromptu Writing,” which was a topic designated by NTCE about a significant literary work. [Going to Tufts.]

Louis Marzella, senior, is a recipient of the 2011 National Council of Teachers of English Award in Writing. His submission for “Best Writing” was a memoir recounting the loss he experienced after the sudden and unexpected passing of a classmate. For “Impromptu Writing” was Gregory Maguire’s Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West.

Louis has been inducted into the national Honor Society and the Italian Honor Society; his passion lies in the study of languages, studying French and Italian outside of school. He contributes to Fragments, Mepham’s art and literary magazine. He is an accomplished musician and finds time to contribute to Habitat for Humanity, a World of Difference, and a number of fund raisers throughout the school year. His future plans include pursuing English as his undergraduate major. [Going to SUNY Geneseo.]

Jonathan Speigel, freshman, won the Grand Prize in the EmPower Solar Essay Competition. EmPower Solar is a leading solar engineering and contracting company that serves residential markets in LI and NYC, and commercial markets in the tri-state area, committed to the advancement of renewable energy and the promotion of renewable energy education. Jon’s essay on the importance of renewable energy earned him a $1,000 prize and an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. for the DOE Solar Decathlon Competition.

Julie Fithian, has been recognized by Nassau BOCES as the 2012 George Farber Outstanding Student, presented to a student who demonstrates passion, perseverance, enthusiasm, character, scholarship, and a willingness to help others.

Justin Plotnick, junior, a finalist in a contest for emerging student photographers sponsored by Photographer’s Forum magazine (a national publication), will have his submission featured in the Spring 2012 edition of PDNedu magazine. He placed in the top 100 of the thousands submitted by high school students internationally. See his photo in Scrapbook on page 31.
Collaboration and community service remain top priorities as the Mepham community continues to enrich and inspire students. Academically, Mepham High School remains ranked among the best schools in Nassau County with more than one out of four students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses. Students, staff, and parents were involved in a number of community-minded activities, such as our holiday toy and food drives and our building wide efforts in support of *First Book* and the *Special Olympics*. Students were proficient on state assessments and worked diligently with their teachers to develop the necessary skills to be successful in college and beyond. Our Science Research Program also continued to flourish and many of our students presented their findings at local, state, and national competitions. For the second year in a row, a student was selected by LISEF to represent Long Island at the International Science and Engineering Fair. Additionally, for the second year in a row a student had two seniors recognized with NCTE Writing Awards and others have garnered prestigious local and state awards. Our district-wide pre-engineering program and our Virtual Enterprise class continue to provide Mepham students with unique educational opportunities and prepare them to be successful in the 21st Century, as well as our Senior Experience Program that offers students the opportunity to intern in a field that interests them.

Our extracurricular programs have experienced continued success. The drama club put on two great shows: *Rumors* and *All Shook Up*. The SADD club ran its eleventh annual Senior Citizen Prom that was attended by well over 100 “seniors.” Our students conducted numerous clothing, food and toy drives to help the needy, but the highlight of our year stemmed from the efforts of our senior class. This year they chose to focus all of their service learning and fund-raising efforts on one cause: *First Book*. Through various fund raising activities, including a memorable Battle of the Classes event, Mepham High School was able to present money and books to help promote literacy in less fortunate communities! This spring, Mepham continued its caring ways by raising money for the *Special Olympics*. Lastly, many students rallied around our efforts to help children in Uganda as a part of our newest club, *Mepham Kares*. School-wide fund raisers dedicated to helping others have become the hallmark of our school and I am proud of the actions and efforts of our community.

In an effort to provide students with additional opportunities to make connections to the real world, the Mepham faculty and administration continued to work with the Alumni Association to offer the after school enrichment program to our students. Mepham’s ELITE Program (Enriching Learners in Tomorrow’s Education) embraces the mission of giving students the skills they need to become well-rounded, active citizens, as well as deep and thoughtful thinkers by providing a series of learning activities. The program continues to be successful as it demonstrates true student engagement and real teacher commitment.

Our athletes continue to compete admirably. All of our athletic teams achieved the honor of being designated as “scholar-athlete teams” by New York State. Several of our teams reached the Nassau County playoffs and many of our athletes received post-season honors. More importantly, our athletes continue to represent Mepham High School with character and sportsmanship, on and off the athletic field.

Thank you to Carol Kilgallin and the Association for their constant support and inspiration. The pride in Mepham High School demonstrated by the members of the Alumni Association continues to serve as a model for our students and staff and the bond between Mepham’s past and present continues to grow stronger each year. The Alumni Association’s contributions to our school continue to be outstanding and I am very blessed to work with such wonderful people. We look forward to planning our 75th Anniversary Celebration and honoring all those who have made and make our school community the very best!

**Michael Harrington**

We want to give a special “Shout-Out” to the Mepham Advanced Science Research Program—which includes: Dr. David Kommor, LoriLee Geraci, Jeannette Spargifiore, and Science Chairperson, Dr. Patrick Mannion—for all they do to help Mepham’s students achieve so much.

Kerry Dennis and Bill Morris were recipients of Honorary Life Memberships from Mepham PTA at their Founders Day program.

While this issue has highlighted the involvement of Mepham’s students, there is much left to be said about the teachers at Mepham who mentor them, inspire them, and encourage their involvement.

In the next issue of *Scuttlebutt*, it is our intention to tell you more about them, what they do, and their devotion to the students.
**Alumni Association Student Awards**

With gratitude to our alumni’s generosity, we were able to give out awards on May 23, 2012 at the annual Mepham Awards Assembly. This year’s presenters were: Carol Kilgallin ’72, Vin Proto ’70, Robert Warkala ’78, Mildred Palladino Peluso ’60, and Joanna Foster VonSeydewitz ’60

**H. Walton Alderfer Award**—$1,000 to a student for vocal achievement, intending to pursue a choral career. To Nicholas Cipriano.

**Alumni Wrestlers Scholar Award**—No award was given this year. The funds will be retained for next year’s award.

**Sanford H. Calhoun Memorial Award**—$1,000 to person of integrity who exhibits hard work and the courage to hold on to principles and inspires to do their best. To Jessica Dato.

**Gangel Family Memorial Award**—$1,000 each to a graduating boy and girl entering a science-related career. To Bilal Siddiqui and Ada Wong.

**Jacob Gunther Memorial Award**—$1,000 to “most choir-spirited” student. To Jillian Randell.

**Hunte Memorial Award**—$500 each for a graduating wrestler and a graduating soccer player. (In memory of Ken Hunte, coach for wrestling and soccer). To Steve Fotinos for soccer. [There was no award for wrestling given this year.]

**Klein Family Award**—In memory of Viola Odenheimer: $500 awarded to a student desiring a career in medicine or dentistry. To Lisa Li.

**Mepham Pride**—$1,000 in memory of our founder Richard Wilgenkamp, to a student who has exhibited pride in Mepham, its values and traditions. To Brendan Donohue.

**One Diverse Community Award**—Two $1,000 awards to seniors who have contributed most to the understanding and acceptance of diversity in the school. To Miguel Shaw and Chandni Patel.

**Student Photography Award**—At a separate time $200 was given to the student with the winning photo for the cover of *Scuttlebutt*. This year’s winner, Natalie Gibbons, a junior.

The three top photos are shown on the right.

**George L. Pritchard Award**—$1,000 in tribute to Mepham’s first band director. To Keith Mumolo.

**J. Denny Ryan ’59 Memorial Award**—$1,000 given in memory of Denny Ryan to a student of integrity who has given outstanding service to Mepham and the community. To Benjamin Hechtman.

**Nick Sabetto Athletic and Academic Achievement Award**—$1,000 to the student with outstanding sportsmanship and initiative, and at least a “B” average. To Stephen Polimeni.

**School Spirit Award**—Two $1,000 awards to students showing the most “school spirit,” while maintaining high scholastic standards. To Werda Alam and Joshua Haimson.

**Dr. Frederick H. Stunt Leadership Award**—$1,000 to the student showing outstanding leadership. To Sophia Varsos.

**Vietnam Era Veterans Award**—$1,000 in memory of a student who passed away during the Vietnam War, to a “student with strong convictions, whatever they may be.” To Steven Wasserman.

**Matthew F. Warkala ’80 Memorial Award**—$500 to a male or female member of the Cross Country and/or Track and Field team who has demonstrated the most improvement or best spirit over the course of his/her senior year. To George Lawoo.

**We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.**

*Winston Churchill*
Ex-Crew Speaks

1939  To go surf casting at Tobay Beach and other fishing spots along the south shore of LI with my father. Fred Noa

1940  Going to my first baseball game at Ebbets Field; then changing allegiance to the Mets; playing 2nd base at Mepham, also cheering on Sprig Gardner’s championship wrestling team that won 100 straight matches. Wallace Christensen… Too far back to remember cuz I am 89. June Green Williams… Wrestling. Gilbert Pike… High school, where I had many dear friends, the Yachi Hughi band [See Flashbacks], the Drama Club, the Library—an escape for me from a life of poverty and being second oldest of 12 children; prepared me for coping and a future of trials and happiness. Dorothy Vouaux Hauslein

1941  1) Ice skating on Wantagh Pond, fire, marshmallows, ice, and happy friends. 2) Pick-up baseball on empty lot, corner Sunrise Hwy, and Newbridge Rd. Arthur Berger… Enjoyed Sprig Gardner lead our wrestlers to 100 undefeated matches; going to Coney Island, Montauk light house, and empire state lookout; walking Brooklyn bridge and George Washington bridge. Hans Schneider… My hobbies: photography, chemistry, and radio. Jerry Worthing

1942  Bike ride on the wooded path alongside the parkway with Maxine Ferstl, Selma Shirfin, and Muriel Carey. Elizabeth Goedde Wagner

1943  Mineola skating rink, Wantagh Park, Bellmore creek. Fred Breidenbach … Rahn’s Ice Cream Parlor, Merrick. Alberta Settanni

1944  Going to the Sat. afternoon movies at the Gables Theater on Merrick Road (Is it still there?) [No, it isn’t.] What with a minimum of two features, Fox Movietone News, a cartoon, a serious episode (“Flash Gordon” w/ Buster Crabbe my favorite), quite a bargain at 15¢ especially in those depression times! Sometimes you’d hit the jackpot with a Tarzan adventure topping the bill. But, alas, occasionally you’d have to sit through a Jeanette McDonald/ Nelson Eddy bummer which made for a very tedious afternoon (too much singing and kissing!) Jackson Hambley

1945  Once a child, always a child; love to swim, love the woods and ocean, gardening, sports, and nature. Russell Randall… Sandlot baseball or football field. I never did excel in these sports, but really enjoyed playing them. Also the Old Mill Pond (between Bellmore and Wantagh); great in the summer for the water view and nature, and in winter ice skating. William Rockwell… Ringling Bros. Circus, held each year in Flatbush, under the Big Top.” Ed Schultheis… Ice skating on all the beautiful lakes and ponds we once had, and family vacations upstate to my father’s cousins’ farms. Florence Smith Noll… Holiday trips on the LIRR to NYC with Mom and sister Betty ’44 to catch the show at Radio City Music Hall, lunch at the Automat, and an afternoon show at the Paramount or Roxy. William Steenson

1946  Enjoyed all the musicals, concerts, etc; played in the band all four years. Muriel Becker Lawry… Softball, catching for my buddy, Ginny Brem; still have my old catcher’s mitt; also hitchhiking (with friends) to Hempstead stables and horseback riding. Clare Eastwood Worthing… Roller skating on Sat. mornings with brother Bill ’43 at Mineola Skating Rink to live organ music; going to movies in Merrick on Sat. afternoons for 10¢; spending summers at Woodgate in Adirondacks. Edna Rusch ’44 and Mary and Rose Desposati ’46 visited me there. Marilyn Hesse Welz… The little library in Merrick and a tree on an empty lot on Kirkwood Ave. where I climbed and read my books in that peaceful setting. Patricia Jost Watson… To my dancing lesson; after my father died in 1937, my mother had to go back to work [legal secretary in NYC] and we moved into my grandparent’s home; when 8 years old took the bus to Freeport Bus Terminal, the bus to Baldwin Harbor to the dance class; dance a very special thing in my life. Jane Muhlbauser Hurley… Proudly, in first grade at Bellmore Grammar School, Miss Justine Denquer selected me to be one of 15 to act in a Christmas play, each one holding a card spelling “Merry Christmas.” My card read “a” and my line was “A as in apple, eat one a day to keep the doctor away.” From that beginning I always wanted to be in a school play; after 6th grade finally “woke up” to find I had stage fright, and now a ham was a lamb. In 8th grade was in one play and took a week to memorize one line—my acting days were over. Charles Nastasi… Ebbets Field to see the Brooklyn Dodgers! Jane [Macdonald Paladino ’50] and I witnessed the record breaking game win streak #10 to open the 1955 season, beating Robin Roberts and the Phillies; 1955, the magical year when the Dodgers won the World Series against the NY Yankees; broke my heart when they moved to LA in 1958. Carl Paladino… Go to the Bellmore (Itch) movie run by Mr. Fox. Nicholas Piller

1947  Riding motorcycles—auto competition. John Lacy… Grey’s Ice Cream Parlor to meet friends. Helen McKinney Turner… Friends from Mepham and other local high schools went to each others’ sport events, plays, and concerts; great fun supporting each other, from Amityville to Baldwin; ended up having parties a each others’ homes on weekends. Joyce Cassidy Garing

1948  Brownings Pond, but watch out
for the shot gun. Albert Brown... Fishing in the Merrick-Bellmore “Rez.” Frank Cerreto... In 6th grade got permission to join our movie group; lived in No. Merrick; would get on the bus at 1:10, meet my friends; Freeport had two movie theaters; spent our time on the bus deciding which to see; trying to sit by someone I had a crush on always a challenge! Fran Crocini Otten... canvassing a four-block area of my neighborhood in No. Merrick to add more customers to my lawn mowing “business,” and going on summer vacation with parents and three siblings to either Upstate NY, PA or New England. Thomas Cammisky... Radio City Music Hall for Christmas show a yearly excursion by our parents; afterward treated to a dinner at the Chinese Garden restaurant overlooking Times Square. Gladys Dennett Bieber... Going to Mineola Skating Rink with friends Joan and Helen. Grace Heuermann Lichtenberg

1949 Library, swim in ocean, NYC. Yvonne Chevalier Cromwell... Sister and I looked forward to mother taking us to the annual Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall, featuring the fabulous Rockettes; then visited Rockefeller Plaza to view their beautiful tree; Come Easter, again to Radio City Music Hall show. Nancy Blaner Nastasi... Meeting friends at the movies on Sat. afternoons (the “Itch” on Pettit Ave.) You got a long afternoon’s entertainment for your money! Elizabeth Schreiber Ries

1950 A collaboration of education, clean exciting fun and real life ahead of us. No other school was like that! Lucky to be a part of that, and it shows in our teachers, coaches and graduates! Casper (Bud) Pepitone... Belmont Lake State Park, our teenage fun place; the row boats and canoes bring many memories back as we always had someone in the group who had to dunk us in the lake. Juanita (Jay) Schwarz Haines

1951 Grew up near Mepham as they built the school; would take my sister’s doll carriage (Lillian ’48) to the worksite to watch the building going up; would take orders from workers to get snacks from Mr. Benson’s shack; only 4 houses on Camp Ave. then with corn and cabbage alternating each year on Fred Schneider’s farm across Camp Ave. Had a wonderful/adventurous life. Walter Helm... Ebbets Field via LIRR and walk to the ballpark, sit in the bleachers, fill up on hot dogs and peanuts, and root for the Dodgers. Ralph McCormack... Bethpage; caddied from 11 to 18 along with many friends; a great place to work and play... Thomas Miller... Skating at Mineola Rink; took many lessons in dance skating and won a national championship in Livonia MI; also met my husband and we skated competitively until the children arrived. Irene Ryan Warren... Belmont Lake State Park, Hempstead Lake State Park, Carousel in Baldwin. Joan Stanski Williams... Ice skating at night with Dad, roasting “mickeys” in the fire on the island at the pond; Dad played harmonica and sang. Doris Warren Russell

1952 Gray’s in Merrick. Sally Carter Ball... A family resort in Circleville NY owned by a relative; stay for a week or two with many distant cousins; a fun thing to do as an only child at that time. Barbara Gainsburgh Feinstein... Going to Freeport Racetrack to see midget car races. Frank Godigiet... Play in the Band, and basketball on home made court at home. Ken MacCormac... Gray’s for a soda, to meet all my friends. Eleanor Rubin Robinson

1953 Help (really only watched) my father in his home woodworking shop—a cabinet maker by trade. Today enjoy woodworking; never went anywhere special, couldn’t afford it, didn’t even have a cat. Emil Antonucci... Montauk Point at sunrise; the gift from my dad at the school year end for good grades for my sisters (Virginia ’47 and Carolyn ’55) and me. Shadows of fisherman coming up the hill with their catch, the smells of bacon and coffee at their campsites, and the sun rising from the mist are still with me. Doris Bedell Brass... Nunley’s Carousel and Sterns Pickle Works on weekends; to Wilmington VT (Lake Raponda) every summer of my life until we moved here permanently in 1963. Elaine Barney Hazell... To the dock at So. Merrick. Thomas Darrigan... Riding bike paths along Wantagh Pkwy with friends, and exploring the adjacent woods. Harry Smith

1954 Clamming and boating in Merrick Bay. Ted Bailey... Summers in family cottage at Breezy Point; in H.S. worked in Woodlands of St. Regis Paper Co. in NH and ME. Arthur Rankin... Parents would take with sister Joan ’51 to stock car races at Freeport Race Track; so exciting and can still smell the fumes, feel the soot in hair as the cars raced by; today live about an hour from Daytona Beach Speedway, but it will never be the same! Frances Robins Birnbaum... Alley Pond Park on Sundays; right after Sunday School Dad would take me ice skating and sledding in the winter, picnic with family in summer; never forget trying to eat burnt “mickeys” under a tarp on rainy days, but that’s what makes memories! © Nancy Wirkus Wells

1955 Merrick Woods, now a preserve; great place to wander and experience nature. Donald Costello... “Bike hikes” with Martha Shapiro (Kellner) ’55 and others; we took our lunch. Belmont lake State Park, rowing on the lake, birthday parties with the Shapiros. Ellen Ruby... Milkshakes at Gray’s Luncheonette. William Schack... Loved to play baseball and softball; the carousel in Baldwin; roller skating, riding bikes; anything outside. Joan Whiteside Costello

1956 Family trip on Hudson River Dayline to Bear Mountain NY; our big outing for the year. Tom Blank... Picnics at Belmont Lake State Park and Sunken Meadows Park with family and friends. Carol Heidt Hall... The “Itch” (see article on page 14) Valerie Priger Skelly... Once a month family went out for Sun...
1959  The carnival each year (corner Merrick Ave. and E. Webster St.); Dorothy ‘60, Hal ‘58, and I rode the octopus; when money ran out, just sat at the curb and watched. Arlene Bischoff Maynard...

Catch crabs with a killey ring at Sea Breeze in Seaford with my parents. Helen Gallis Stevens... Play ball in the street, something rarely seen any longer. William Green...

Belmont Lake State Park, the canoeing opportunity; don’t know if the park is still in existence [it is], love to kayak still... Going out to eat which my family rarely did; still like that. Susan Levinkind... Janet Schmoller Kowalczyk... NYC; the LIRR was a block from my house; I loved the double deckers. Gerard Winkler

1960  Going to Carvel and the diner for cheese bacon burgers, and going to the “Itch” in Bellmore on Sat. afternoons. Conchetta Bruy Coyne... As a child sports not a factor in my life, but had a bicycle, my passport to freedom; would ride for hours far from home all alone and arrive home for dinner to a worried mother. Marty Cammarata...

Carvel on Sunrise Hwy for a Sun. afternoon treat (marshmallow sundae); also family drives around LI on Sundays. Carol Ellig Huffman...

Ice skating on Old Mill Pond; walking home through the woods. Joan Eshtinger Fielding... Many happy hours roller skating at Levittown Arena, followed by ice cream at Jahn’s Ice Cream Parlor with friends. Patricia Filiberto Brangs

1961  Didn’t know it at the time, but wrestling practice had a profound impact on the remainder of my life; Coach Hunte was “The Man.” Thomas McLaren

1962  Ice skating on Massapequa lakes along Merrick Rd; sledding at Bethpage State Park after winter snow, boating on the Great South Bay; growing up on LI was a treat. Kenneth Larson

1964  Waltoffer Ave. Elementary School (now John Dinkelmeier) had a summer program, crafts in the morning, badminton, basketball, volleyball, and board games in the afternoon; the end of season party, with pet contest, best decorated bike, and races, not to forget watermelon and ice cream; everyone had a great time and our parents had a few hours of peace. Also roller skating lessons at the Levittown Roller Skating Rink, making new friends from [other towns], ending the day at Jahn’s Ice Cream Parlor. Mary Lou Abernethy Pane...

Family outing often include trip to Stern’s Pickleworks in Farmingdale; always come home with a gallon of sour dills, my favorite. Janet Lesmann Daly...

Jolly Rogers on Hempstead Tpke, to grab the ring on the Merry Go Round! Susan Lewis Faust... “Sock Hops,” parties, and school dances; I had a closet desire to be a rock and roll singer! Bruce Niels... Nunley’s in Baldwin, had been going there even before moving to Bell-

1957  Coney Island, always a special treat; also parent’s cottage in Southold a great place to go on weekends. Roger Boily...

Hempstead Lake State Park to ride the carousel; grab the brass ring and get a free ride. Judy King Schulein...

“Male bonding” going to ball games at Yankee Stadium with my dad. Herbert Ploch... Can’t choose! Coney Island, Steeplechase, wooden horses, wood slide, the Wonder Wheel, parachute. Wow! Or Wildwood State Park, family camping for a month, absolutely the best vacation—family time, freedom to create, explore, laugh, tell stories, meet new friends. Barbara Potter Sperry

1958  So many! One, choir annual excursion to Mattituck after our performance; Mr. Gunther treated us to lunch at Herb McCarthy’s Bowden Square (Southampton). Annette Dutchen Zervoudakes... Nunley’s Amusement park on Sunrise Hwy. (Husband worked there as a teen; we brought our children on Sundays, also grandchildren); attending fire department picnics with the Santora family (1949); what about the Rinky Dink parade the middle of Bellmore? How many of us got splashed? Dawn Reed Nord... Swim in the reservoir across the tracks in Merrick (before elevated trains) when I wasn’t target practice for the Hazard Brothers. Don Richardson

day dinner; favorite place, Millridge Inn, in winter ice skating on their pond after dinner; parents teaching us good manners and proper behavior in public. Janet Porter Casford...

Loved band concerts in summer, sprawled on the grass and enjoying the music; Mepham’s band, orchestra, and Jolly Rogers the best; couldn’t beat Janet Magnus’ singing; after the concerts, groups walked to Gray’s for sodas; in those days weren’t afraid to walk, few of us had wheels! Nancy Shumaker Flamer...

Merrick Woods between Merrick and Bellmore, swimming in the pristine waters of the creek that ran through the woods. Jan Wilgenkamp
more in 1957 from Brooklyn because had an aunt who lived in Freeport; once we did live in Bellmore, visits were more frequent; will never forget the first time I got the brass ring! Can recall to this day the excitement I felt. Jane Randall... Mill Pond, riding our bikes and jumping off the bridge into the water to swim, then going to the Del for a Devil Dog for 5¢; also initiation into our sorority, The Debbettes was held at Mill Pond. Constance Testa Hayes

1965  Roller skating at Levittown Skating Rink, followed by a hot fudge sundae or the Kitchen Sink with friends. Dolores Kaneth Taisy... Southampton, NYC. Carolyn Noerr Voss

1967  Jolly Rogers in Hicksville, Nunleys in Baldwin. Diane Fellows Zimmer... Going to the top of my roof of my house and seeing the top of the Empire State building and Chrysler building on a clear day (pre World Trade Center). Fran Munkenbeck... Fond memories of Salisbury park on July 4th (except for the amazing traffic). David Klein... Swimming in lake Ronkonkoma; Raynor's Pavillion and picnic at the lake. Susan Smith McMichael

1968 Stock car races in Freeport, where Cookie Visconti displayed her driving skills on the track; after stopping for a burger at the Charcoal Chef on Sunrise Hwy, Merrick. Marysue Cultura Bornholdt... Spertino's Pizza; no one tossed and baked a pie like Humberto Spertino. Russell Feldman

1969 Jolly Rogers in Bethpage (scrumptious burgers, hot dogs, fries, and ice cream), then on the rides at Nunley's (later called Smiley's) Happiland right next to it; besides the great rides and games, a wonderful carousel where we could reach out to grab a brass ring. What a thrill! Also Wetsons, Jahn's Ice Cream Parlor, Levittown Roller Rink, Bethpage State Park, sledding in the winter, horseback riding in the summer, Malibu Beach Club. Wendy Coleman Bernard... Shopping with my friends at A & S; loved their clothes! Ellen Forrest Mitchell... Ice skating on Mill Pond. Trudy Hustedt Lehner

1970 In the summer the custodians would put big sprinklers on the football field; a bunch of us would grab our towels, go over and spend hours getting soaked, and having a blast. William Cleary... Anyplace I could go, so long as I had something to read! Summer weekends and vacations on Dad's boat, taken for granted, afforded much time and probably nurtured my “need to read!” Frank Setteducati

1971 When my mom would take us to Frank's Luncheonette in “downtown” Bellmore—the best hot dogs, on hamburger buns, dogs sliced, grilled on the inside as well as the outside; and I was allowed to have a coca cola (didn't get at home). Cathy Jones Powers... A row of maple trees lining the street, all over 50 feet tall, used to climb to the very top of the tallest tree on a windy day and ride the swaying branches like a sailor on a ship's mast; loved it! Melody Ross Higdon

1972 Playin' hockey at Newbridge Park; going to “The Garden” (MSG). Charles Gonsalves

1973 Middle School and HS my friends and I loved to take the bus to Roosevelt Field Mall; the days when parents could feel comfortable with us doing that. Kathleen Roth Sheehan

1974 Playing stickball at Waltoffer Ave. Elementary School with Jeff Martin '75; the school right down the street from our houses on Barbara Ct; there all day long, every day of summer vacation; maybe all that stickball led us both to play on the 1974 Mepham Varsity Baseball Team that won the LI championship! Chuck Gaylord

1975 Belmont Lake State Park for uncle's firemen picnics; only time mother let us have soda; cooked corn on the cob in large garbage pails over the fire; all the usual games like sack races too! Susan Catafago Heiland... Intersection of Newbridge Rd and Bellmore Ave. a large gathering place for teens in the early '70s—library, schoolyard, Friendly's, the Pizzeria, 7-11, and most popular “The Greaser Hut,” which was a slot-car racetrack and pinball arcade; also the coffee shop and pizzeria at Camp and Newbridge, and La Splendida on Jerusalem Ave., the Bellmore Playhouse and “Itch,” and Sunrise Mall. Thomas Opippo

1977 Nathan's in Oceanside (for the puppet shows) or Nunley's or Jolly Rogers in Levittown. Agatha Caturone

1978 Jacob Gunther playing fields for stickball on the blacktop, football on the grass, or baseball on the diamond. Josef Hallatschek... Dad took me to Bensons Deli (Newbridge and Camp); also loved the ETC. Shop in Bellmore for their records; Nunley's in Freeport, Merry Go Round the best and still is at new location in Uniondale; had tears in my eyes when I saw my favorite horse beautiful again. Lorrie Miller Snyder

1979 Pick up games of baseball at the school yard. Mike Curry... My friend's homes; relationship created the most enduring and comfortable; like family. Pamela Strawgate

1982 1982 Australia, New Zealand, Samoa, Cook Island, and Tahiti with LI Youth Orchestra; 1980 with HS Band. Christopher Montuori

2005 Nunley's. Brian Collins
Recollections of Bellmore During WWII

This sat in my file for years. Nostalgia, brought on by participation in the Mepham Project’s Uncovering the Past, made me think it’s time to use it.

I was five days shy of my 14th birthday when at 5:00 PM, December 7, 1941 my brother Sam and I left the Bellmore theater on Petit Avenue and immediately heard the news that the Japanese attacked a place called Pearl Harbor somewhere in the Pacific.

My feeling of outrage and shock was supplanted by the confidence that the USA would quickly end this outrageous, yet to be declared war, within a few weeks. This conclusion of mine was forged by the fact that Japan produced toys and other products of such inferior quality that there would be no way that they could dare wage a winning war against us. Unfortunately I did not know of Japan’s conquests in China and other areas in Southeast Asia. The “dastardly” attack as phrased by President Franklin Roosevelt on December 8th, in declaring war against Japan prompted an immediate nationalistic spirit throughout the USA, the likes of which had never been seen before or since. Political parties and the country banded together in one common cause to do all we could do to defeat the enemies.

Right away America was in need of establishing a hero to boost morale. That hero on the first day of the attack on Pearl Harbor was Lt. Colin Kelly of the US Air Corp (later changed to Air Force). We were told that although his plane was disabled in battle, he managed to deliberately crash his plane into a Japanese ship. It was probably not true since the enemy ships were a few hundred miles away from the attack. Nevertheless, we had a hero.

The wheels of our nationalistic spirit were quickly turning on both the war and home fronts. We were urged to “victory” gardens, participate in paper, scrap metal, and rubber drives to be recycled for use in the war effort. To prevent possible enemy aircraft from viewing our country at night, we had dark window shades or drapes to cover our windows and automobiles had the top half of the headlights painted black to divert the beam just in front of the vehicle. Volunteer air raid wardens walked the neighborhoods to insure that all these precautions were taken.

Cars were given “A” or “B” or “C” gas stamps to affix to the lower right corner of the car windshield. “A” stamp cars were allowed 3 gallons of gas a week since they were deemed pleasure driving. “B” stamps, which were allowed 5 gallons, were given to those cars which had important business dealings, and “C” (minimum 10 gallons) was allocated to doctors and those directly related to the war effort. The entertainment industry did much to boost morale. Hundreds of patriotic movies were produced such as Bataan and Guadalcanal Diary. The music industry turned out many patriotic songs such as Praise the Lord and Pass The Ammunition and Spike Jones’s Der Fuehrer’s Face.

A war ration book was issued by the Office of Price Administration (OPA) which contained stamps to purchase meat, sugar, butter, shoes, and other goods weekly or monthly. Each item purchased required a certain amount of stamps such as 5 stamps for meat and 2 stamps for butter. Nancy still has one of the ration books. Even the popular Sunrise Bavarian Village restaurant on Sunrise Highway and Bellmore Avenue had it’s name changed to Sunrise Village because of it original German heritage.

The U.S. government sold War Bonds (now called Savings Bonds) to support the war effort. At the time I did not know what a war bond was. My father would give me ten cents to buy a stamp to enter into the war bond booklet, and when filled, was worth $18.75 which, in 10 years had a value of $25.00.

The populous was strongly encouraged to purchase these bonds. One night on the corner of Bedford and Grand Avenues in Bellmore, a podium was set up in front of the First National Bank (later called Franklin National Bank). Featured that night was Lew Lehr who was a mainstay of 20th Century Fox’s Movietone News as a comic relief to the news. His famous line was “Monkees is the craziest people”. Along with Mr. Lehr was a young soldier who related his wartime experiences and emphasized the urgent need to buy war bonds for the war effort. There was a huge turnout for this event and needless to say, many bonds were pledged.

The Bellmore draft board was headed by Isador Lewis and many young Bellmores were called to service. After taking physicals at Whitehall St. in New York City, the recruits were sent to Camp Upton in Yaphank...prior to being assigned to various training camps throughout the country. Households that had loved ones in the service displayed small white background flags in the window to show that a person was in the service. A blue star in the middle of the flag indicated the person is serving and the gold star meant that he gave his life for his country. Two of Bellmore’s losses were Marcel Revere and Francis Curran.

In the summer of 1945, at age 17, I worked for Grumman Aerospace Corporation in Plant 2, Bethpage, on the F–8 Bearcat. It’s production schedule always exceeded the planned amount for the month and in reward for that, many Navy “E” for excellence were awarded along with bonuses. My wage was $.60 an hour and we worked 10 hours a day for 6 days. How happy and proud we were to contribute to the war effort. Unfortunately the Bearcat never made it to combat with the war being over August 15th, 1945. I started my senior year at Mepham High School a month later. That period in our lives was aptly named “The Greatest Generation.”

Charles Nastasi ’46
Who’s Who Update

Who’s Who was originated in 1964 by the Bellmore-Merrick CHS Board of Education, and re-established in 1978 by the Alumni Association. We have a very distinguished list of Who’s Who recipients, going back over the years. Our criteria includes the requirement not only for significant accomplishments in their fields of work but also outstanding contributions to mankind, and service to their communities. That’s a lot to expect, and there were no honorees chosen this year. We hope to get a fine bunch of applicants next time. To receive a nomination form: check off the box on the membership form. Or email: whoswho@mepham.org for a nomination form.

Since there are no biographies to be printed for this issue, perhaps you would like to read about some of our past honorees. Unfortunately some of the news is not good.

Colette Inez ’48, [Biegler at Mepham] received her award in 1996 for Poetry. She has written many books of poetry, her latest out this year is Horseplay, nothing to do with horses but some play with language. If you want to know more about Colette and her unusual life story, read her book The Secret of M. Dulong.

Geo Caso ’42 received his award in 2006 for Medicine. He died on April 11, 2012 at age 87, survived by 5 children and 13 grandchildren. He had a family practice, serving the Merrick community for nearly 50 years and, in that time, delivered over 2,000 babies to Merrick mothers.

Clarence (Clary) Rydberg ’44 won his award in 1995 for Business. He died in Jupiter FL (12/28-26–4/17/11) where he had lived for 7 years, coming from Dunwoody GA where he had owned Technology Consortiums, consulting firm for over 1,000 businesses. He served in the Merchant Marine, attaining the rank of Captain. He was survived by his wife of 54 years, Marjorie, who died 6 months later in October; also survived by a son, daughter, and two grandchildren.

Paul Kiesow, Jr. ’45, recipient of Who’s Who in 1989 for Plant Management died April 26, 2011, leaving his wife of 56 years. He went to Alfred University for a degree in ceramic engineering, spent 2 years in military service, worked at Westinghouse in Elmira NY, then plant manager of Fisher Price Toys, then Lenox China (first plant manager for new plant in Oxford NC); he was active with Boy Scouts, in churches, served on the city council, and was instrumental in the completion of the new sewer plant; helped establish the United Way and the Granville Co. Educational Foundation; Citizen of the year in Murray Co.; an active and involved man.

Ralph Schmoller ’55, honored for Electrical Engineering in 1987, writes to say he did it again! Had so much fun circling the earth, they repeated the trip, bringing the total to 91 countries; this time to off the beaten path countries such as India, Tibet, Macau, and Viet Nam.

David Klein ’67 received the award for Ophthalmology in 1999. He’s still working on his ideals, even after 35 years of practice, and has something new every year. He and his community partners have opened their third free clinic in S.W. FL, with two more in the planning stages. He is also looking to provide volunteer medical care and free prescriptions for Hepatitis-C patients, saying that catching the virus early can mean the difference between a successful treatment and the liver donor waiting list.

Who’s Who Committee
Brian Levy ’60, chairman, Clare Eastwood Worthing ’46, Mikki Hannan Wilbert ’51, Doris Kane Johnson ’49, David Krinsky ’67

The Itch

Many Ex-Crew answers mention the movie house in Bellmore. Here is a “teaser” from Valerie Priger Skelly.

I guess I could say I spent much of my formative years (1944-1952) in the dark. When I was five years old, I was the charge of my older sister. Irene dragged me with her to the movie house on Pettit Avenue every weekend afternoon. She’d march down the right aisle to the front row, count back five rows, and plop me in the aisle seat, middle row. After placing three paper strips dotted with candy in my hand, she’d disappear in the back of the theatre with her friends. When the lights went on five hours later, she’d lead me, dazed, into the sunlight to walk me home. I loved it—lived for it. It was then that I developed my love for being alone at the movies...

Valerie Priger Skelly ’56
And so begins a story about the “Itch” and its affect on her life from a book, entitled 245 Oak, a memoir, which is filled with personal stories that will “touch base” with people who grew up in Bellmore at that time, and even those who didn’t. The book is available at the Bellmore library.
Remembering Miss Isabel Ramel

The first time I was introduced to Miss Ramel in the spring of 1956, she was assisting Mr. Walton Alderfer with the A Cappella Choir production of *Musicales*. Each year, this delightful English teacher, the director of Skull & Bones, lent her expertise to the staging of the choir’s annual presentation. That same year she directed the Senior Class play, *Time Out For Ginger* and the spring production of *What A Life*. I took an immediate liking to this lovely lady and wished to join Skull & Bones, but being a very shy and nervous speaker could not gather the courage to sign up for the group.

The following year under her tutelage, the dramatic society presented *My Sister Eileen* plus a number of serious plays and the senior class play, *More Than Meets The Eye*. Again the effervescent Miss Ramel and her Skull & Bones members assisted in the A Cappella Choir’s production of *Hootenanny* (a musical romp on the stage).

In my senior year, I wanted to take some additional courses. I really don’t recall who suggested Miss Ramel’s public speaking class, but I shuddered each time I thought of standing up before a group and SPEAKING! But needing to get over my terror, I entered her class. Miss Ramel, a fine teacher and even better psychologist, realized that I was a bundle of nerves, quickly took me under her wing, and gave me pointers that I remember to this day. I still get jittery when I have to address a large group, but she taught me how to mask my shaking knees, look at the audience but not really see them and use cue cards unobtrusively; also that it is okay to be nervous. Her words of wisdom assisted me when I had to lead off the Choir production of *Crescendo* as a mother singing a lullaby to her baby all alone on the stage singing a cappella to a doll in front of a packed house! After the show Miss Ramel said she was proud of me because I performed so well and looked at ease.

On occasion I would see Miss Ramel at the Bellmore Presbyterian Church. We would chat and I would remind her how her lessons helped me greatly in my leadership roles in PTA and Mepham Alumni Association when I would have to stand before an audience and speak. The last time I had the opportunity to enjoy her company was when Richard Wilgenkamp asked if John and I could drive her to our 40th class reunion. We were delighted to be her escorts for the evening of June 16th 1998. Now walking with a cane, she was just as amusing as always and so appreciative of being an honored guest. When I reminisce about my years at Mepham, Miss Ramel was one of my favorites, whose lessons positively affected me and I will always be grateful for the opportunity of being one of her students.

*Annette Dutchen Zervoudakes ’58, (Past President)*

Through my work with the Association, I frequently have to make speeches and address large groups of people...Miss Ramel taught me in her public speaking class (for which my dad made me sign up): “Sweep the room with your gaze—make eye contact—imagine you’re speaking with one or two people, but do it louder.” I’m sure she touched MANY hundred of lives during her years at Mepham.

*Frank Setteducati ’70*

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**Homecoming Parade for A Wounded Marine**

Marine Corps Corporal Kevin P. Vaughan ’07 was serving his second tour of duty in Afghanistan when he was wounded by a roadside bomb in September 2011. After undergoing several surgeries, the 22-year old tragically lost his left leg in December 2011, and spent several months at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center undergoing rehabilitation and physical therapy before returning to North Merrick in March 2012 to a parade, organized by Wenshaw Park Civic Association, North Merrick Fire Department and other fire departments. Flags were draped on the parade route to where Cpl. Vaughan lived.

Driven by his dad, Jim, Cpl. Vaughan, escorted by a flag-bearing Marine guard. As bagpipes filled the air, family, hundreds of neighbors, friends and other well-wishers waved American flags, and cheered to give him a hero’s welcome.

The Marine was presented with a flag flown over the nation’s capital in his honor, state and county proclamations and declarations, the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross, and a key to the Town of Hempstead. In a very emotional and brief speech, Cpl. Vaughan stated, “I love you all and this is the greatest day ever. Thank you very much for doing this for me.” His mother Pat said: “I am so lucky and so thankful that my son is alive and has so much support. I just want to thank all of you.”

Students and faculty members from Mepham High School walked from the school to show their appreciation. Mepham’s lacrosse team, still donning their jerseys, skipped practice so they could take part in the ceremony. [Kevin had been on the Varsity Lax team.] Mepham senior Ryan Meyers said, “I think it’s really cool that a small town that you wouldn’t think is patriotic is all coming together for this one guy who fought for our country.”

*Vincent Proto ’70*
In the Wake...

Recalling Lenny Bruce

Talk about not getting around to things. There was an article in the Scuttlebutt 2009, asking whether anyone remembers Lenny Bruce at Mepham. Got a response:

Leonard Schneider attended Bellmore Grammar School and graduated from there, as did I, in June 1940. Lenny attended Mepham from Sept. 1940 until sometime in 1942, when he enlisted in the US Navy and served in the African-European Campaigns. When he was going to be reassigned to the Pacific Theatre, he said enough is enough and told his commanding officer he was experiencing gay sexual urges, which got him discharged.

Arlene Mayer ’49 identified the person [Flashback in last issue] seated in the middle of the Varsity “M” Banquet photo as herself.

We received comments about last year’s focus on coaches.

Lillian Beebe ’57 wondered why we didn’t include at least one article on female coaches.—Hey! I’m happy to put that in print if I receive information to warrant it. So send it! We did get the following:

Jim McManus ’67, Special Education teacher and a coach for 35 years (a proud record for an alumnus), retired June ’11. He coached JV and Varsity Girls’ Basketball, JV and Varsity Baseball, Varsity Girls’ Soccer and JV Girls’ Lax. Girls’ soccer won 5 Conference titles in the last 10 years; in last 4 produced more Division 1 athletes than any other sports team at Mepham, and have won both conference and county sportsmanship awards. Jim won 3 coach of the year awards. Enjoy retirement Jim, and keep in touch!

The first annual Coach Hughes Memorial Scholarship Award was awarded to Mepham senior Sara Kulins ’11 at the Mepham Varsity Dinner last year. The award for the senior track athlete who exemplifies the principle—to be your best in all you do, was established in memory and honor of Gerry Hughes, legendary coach and teacher at Mepham, who lost his battle with ALS November ’10. See photo in Scrapbook on page 31.

Ken Hunte—A Very Special Coach

The winter of 1963, my senior year, towards the end of the wrestling season, I was a “converted” basketball player. Rather that doing nothing all winter, I went out for the wrestling team. The mere fact that Coach Hunte would allow me to just pick up and “move in” to his formidable program says a lot about him, and the program. There wasn’t exactly a lot of room down in the wrestling room; for that opportunity alone, I am eternally grateful to him.

I loved the weekly wrestle-offs, the competitions “below” the surface which determined who would ultimately wrestle in the upcoming varsity meet “upstairs.” I never got to “dress” for a big varsity match until a meet late in the season against Island Trees, a rather weak opponent. It was my first and only varsity match, at 154 pounds, accomplishing it by using all the tricks (steam showers, rubber suits, getting rolled up in a mat for hours, spitting into water coolers, etc.) On that night we were leading 40-something to zero. I shook my opponent’s hand and began to spar for position, moved in promptly and scored a takedown—found myself in a guillotine hold for the balance of the 1st period, not a good thing. I fought it off, only to find myself in the same predicament the entire second period, and again in the third. I lost the match 13-2, the only Mepham wrestler to lose; we won the duel meet 49-3.

On the bus ride home I was devastated, and weak; losing all that weight so quickly hadn’t helped my chances (and for the record, it was my fault that I was so overweight). Halfway home Coach Hunte comes to the back of the bus and sits down next to me—I’m braced for the worst—he puts his arm around me and says, “Son, in all my years of coaching I’ve never seen a greater display of courage than I saw from you tonight. It would have been so easy for you to just give in, give up—but you fought through it with everything you had left in you, and I am very proud of you.”

I have never forgotten that gesture from Coach Hunte and, in fact, that moment has played a large role in how I have lived my life, and how I have treated others. He was a giant of a man.

Bernie Hubert ’63

William Rockwell ’45 remembers a gym class when Sprig Gardner made a speech informing them that someone was selling dope at Mepham, and said if we could identify the person, we could all go out on the lawn and watch him physically punish the culprit.
**Poopdeck**

Note: If you have been in Poopdeck in the past two years, you won’t be in this time, and I usually don’t report on kids.

39 **Anna Erleman Platz** (Richmond VA)—Turned 88 and became a great-grandmother.

40 **June Green Williams** (Roswell GA)—Pat Meyer and I keep in touch. Who will be last of class of 1940?... Dorothy Vouaux Hueslin (Roswell GA)—Husband of 67 years passed away, age 91, on 9/11/11; lonely widow, enjoys seeing names of old classmates.

41 **Elaine McLachlan Sanders** (Wantagh, N.Y.)—Grandson, John Gianopoulos, a Major in U.S.M.C, has returned from Afghanistan; will attend Advanced Warfare School in Quantico VA... **Hans Schneider** (Mobile AL)—Served on two tankers in US Navy GM3 in both European and Pacific theater; graduated BS Business, Univ. of South Alabama ’72; Secretary-Treasurer, Barnett Millworkd 28 years; retired ’87 and traveled to all continents except Antarctica; celebrated 65th anniversary at the WWII Museum in New Orleans; blessed entering Meapham in 1937 and first four year class graduating.

42 **Emily Gerlach Bedell** (Freeport NY)—Always enjoyed singing in the choir and special operettas; Jeanette Wells was a great teacher... **Fred Langdon** (Aiken SC)—“Can’t do list” getting longer than “Can Do” list; had commercial pilots license 69 years; FAA wouldn’t renew, so no more flying. [See photo in Scrapbook, p. 31.]

43 **Fred Breidenbach** (Palmetto FL)—Retired; widowed after 56 years... **Albert Shearer** (York NE)—Survived a tornado June 20, 2011 which demolished brick home and a large amount of possessions; Al and Barbara in safe room, but son went outside to bring in dog and air pressure wouldn’t allow him to open door, so they laid down on the porch at home when it hit; all okay; what was saveable stored at a friend’s house... **Gloria Dinger Chapman** (Bellmore NY)—May 2010 was honored for 60 years of services raising money for Bellmore-No. Bellmore auxiliary to South Nassau Communities Hospital [founding and current member of Council of South Nassau Hospital Auxiliaries, has helped raise more than $90,000 since 1950]; a big surprise; a nice check and huge bouquet of flowers were given at the Annual Luncheon for Volunteer Services; friends and Charlie kept the secret.

44 **Tom McCormick** (New London NH)—Attended Yale, graduated Brown Univ. ’47; Navy Supply Corps ’47-53; IBM Corp. ’52-82; Lake Sunapee Bank, Newport NH ’80s; NH Legislature Representative ’02-’04; USAlliance Federal Credit Union, Rye NY, volunteer ’74—present, Director Emeritus... **LaVerne Wallace Cave** (Livermore CA)—Former teacher, No. Bellmore Schools; 2011, 20 year appointment by Pres. Obama to Selective Service System Board—do you think I will make it?

45 **Alma Hattenbach Langevin** (Westminster MO)—Moved last year to a continuing care facility with family nearby; had lived in Venice FL 13 years prior... **George Lampman** (Vienna VA)—Turns on Glenn Miller music and goes back; Lenore Aey knocking on his window to cheer him up when he was bedridden in 5th or 6th grade for almost a full semester (fighting to save his leg after bitten by a rabid dog); in military travels ran across George, or was it Stan, Held in San Diego and Vivian Lindberg in Tokyo; proud to say he recognizes most of the names and visualizes the faces—what wonderful memories; am sure Miss Clark will be pleased at the refurbishing of the library (no doubt she is still there in spirit—shhh... **Ruthie Lang** (Tunkhannock PA)—Former Wantagh HS Guidance secretary; has two grandsons, Will and Joe Comiskey who graduate from USNA; as did their dad Steve.

46 **Patricia Jost Watson** (Orange Park FL)—Left post-war home in Wantagh in 1956 to help her dad run a 10 cottage “motel” on Lake Minnehaha in Clermont FL; he made husband Jack a partner “Jost & Watson ” realty, building ranch-style homes. Beautiful lake provided great recreation for growing family of 7 kids; Pat played organ and directed choir at church; 1969 moved to Jacksonville; Jack retired 1995 and has had heart and melanoma problems; Pat fractured right knee last fall but healing is happening; music still a vital part of life playing organ, directing choir; keeps in touch with Marilyn Hesse Weltz, Shirley Raines Diller, Jeanne Higbie Pitler and Mary “Des” Kline... **Nicholas Piller** (Greensboro GA)—He and Joan selected as Family of the Month by the Knights of Columbus Council 13808 on which he is a director... **Robert Vollmer** (Hanover NH)—Celebrated 59th anniversary with Dorothy; photo taken when trimming 50 Christmas trees at daugh-
47 John Ahrens (Simsbury CT)—Retired ’92 after 35 years as Plant Scientist (Who’s Who ’47) at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station; have served since as a volunteer Emeritus Plant Scientist, no pay, but doing part-time research and grower service; he and Phyllis married 58 years; have sold their home, now in a retirement facility... Robert Johnson (Northridge CA)—Now living in an assisted care facility; would love to hear from classmates, especially fellow musicians (805-328-8324); hearing loss in Korea knocked out career in music, so now just listens to it...Lois Nicolai Lott (Hagerstown MD)—Reports her husband, George R. Lott ’42, passed away December 24, 2011 after many years dealing with severe health problems... Robert Oswald (Charleston SC)—Reports his wife (Gertrude/Ruth) of 60 years passed May 28, 2011; he really enjoyed the article on Booker T. Gibbons, a common love for piano since he first met him in HS; while not able to pursue his love for music and piano, he taught himself to play... Louis B. Tschirhart (Charlotte Hall MD)—Reports his husband, George R. Lott ’42, passed away December 24, 2011 after many years dealing with severe health problems... Robert Oswald (Charleston SC)—Reports his wife (Gertrude/Ruth) of 60 years passed May 28, 2011; he really enjoyed the article on Booker T. Gibbons, a common love for piano since he first met him in HS; while not able to pursue his love for music and piano, he taught himself to play... Louis B. Tschirhart (Charlotte Hall MD)—Attended Syracuse Univ. on a wrestling scholarship; was part of the Little Murderers Row of Bob Gerbino (121 lbs. Valley Stream Central); Lou, 128 lbs.; and Bob Bury ’49, 136 lbs., replacing the original of Ken Hunte ’47, Pascal Perri ’46, and George Gebhard, 175 lbs.

48 Carolyn Rienso Seal (Roswell GA)—Died in 2004, but her husband Len maintains her membership and keeps in touch with Marion Averell Hirsch, Betty Mae Foster, the one and only Colette Inez (once Biegler); and remarks Carolyn was always teased (nicely) by Mr. Versocki regarding her blue eyes.

49 Charles Strang (Honolulu HI)—A member of the “over the hill gang” in Honolulu.

50 Barbara Hale Vetter (Broomfield CO)—Awarded membership in the Blue Knight Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club; was 2011 Blue Knight of the Year for CO–1, where she has produced the chapter’s monthly newsletter; also belongs to Women’s Writers Club, several poems published... Richard and Helen Dawson Thorgrimson (St. James NY)—For 80th birthday family took him and Helen on a cruise to the Bahamas; first night out, they surprised him with T-shirts.

51 Joan Berlenbach Jewhurst (N. Babylon NY)—Lost husband Ed, April 2011 to colon/liver cancer after a 4 - year battle, would have been married 49 years that June; went to 60th reunion in June; good to see everyone again!... Robert Levine (Milford CT)—Professor of Medicine and Chair executive Committee Center for Bioethics at Yale; past Pres. AM Society Law Medicine and Ethics; past Chairman, CT Humanities Council; Outstanding Achievement medal, US Dept. Health and Human Services... Frank Remski (Long Beach CA)—Pastoral Care Minister at Reformation Lutheran Church in Westminster CA; married 20 years to Ina.

52 Barbara Gainsburgh Feinstein (Barrington IL)—National Board member, Hadassah and lots of other volunteer work... Stephen Jackowski (Supply NC)—Graduated Farmingdale A&T ’54 with major in Frozen Foods and spending “barn duty” with animals, in orchards and horticulture programs; while there participated in football, wrestling, and track and field, receiving the “William Wennick Award for Most Outstanding Athlete;” attended Cortland State Teacher’s College, major PE; master’s degree from East Carolina U; served with Army in Korea; 1960-83 built and ran a winning wrestling program at South Jefferson Central School, Adams NY, capturing many championships; gave effort to improve and promote wrestling; served as Feature Clinician at Medalist Camps; published articles in Scholastic Wrestling and Amateur Wrestling News (from whom received a Certificate of National Achievement); and received many other awards; married 36 years; two sons championship wrestlers.

53 Joel Bickell (Gladstone NJ)—Chair a large medical Corp; a great commute to western home in Sun Valley ID; travel worldwide on business and with family; advice to all—stay active... Thomas Darrigan (Port Jefferson NY)—Hard working GOP member... Clementine Graziano Bianco (Bethpage NY)—Volunteer, NUMC 23 years; first baby born at Meadowbrook Hospital (now NUMC); Pres. of Auxiliary, 650 attended to celebrate; enjoy golf, AC, 5 grandchildren... Frank Iocco (Still keeps in touch with only and best friend, Jerry Harrell; married 54 years to one and only wife... Harry Smith (Cape Elizabeth ME)—My Father’s Trees, 15th book of poetry, will be published in early 2013 by Presa Press; Weeds, a limited edition of an essay will be published by Arts End Books later this year.

54 Frederic Quaderer (Rhinebeck NY)—Working own construction business since ’57 with time out in NCPD ’67–72; remarried ’83, very
happy... Judy Mohr Macias (Moss Beach CA)— Rosemary Santanicola
Henry ’54 lives nearby in San Francisco
Bay area, see each other often; always
in touch with Marge Meurn Broderick
’54 (living in So. CA).

55 Florence Goodman Flaton (Lo-
cust Valley NY)— Retired Jr. HS
teacher, NYC; married 52 years... Billy Joel (Aventura FL)— Admitted
to Ben Gurion Univ., Israel Board of
Governors... Joan Whiteside Costello
(Woodbourne NY)— A family of twin
boys! Grandmother had twin boys; Joan
had twin boys; now granddaughter
had twin boys.

56 John and Carrol Henning ’57
Cascino (Old Westbury NY)— John,
the second longest employee in Na-
tional Grid (55 years), still working
and going strong; no retirement plans
yet. Carrol retired 2010, active in
HCNC Franklin Square Day Chapter,
Pres. since 2005; celebrated 50th an-
niversary in 2008 with trip to Hawaii...
Bob Dana (Amityville NY)— Retired
twice ☺ last 2004; VP commercial
banking 45 years, making loans to busi-
ness and people; great stuff, to help
those in need including churches, non-
profits, doctors, and many individuals;
loved wrestling—great sport for get-
ing "personal confidence," helped tons
in business world... James Eagan (Sil-
ver Spring MD)— Semiretired psychi-
atrist; from Mepham to William and
Mary and then to College of Physicians
and Surgeons at Columbia Univ.; Steve
Jaffe ’58, both child psychiatrists... Gail
Gleason Porrello (Altamonte Springs
FL)— Granddaughter Lauren, mar-
rried July 2011; Lauren’s father, Arthur
Hood a 1981 Mepham graduate... Carol
Heidt Hall (West Islip NY)— Recipient of NYSUT’s Community
Service Award at Captain Bill’s restau-
rant (Bay Shore) from NYSUT Retiree
Council #20; recently returned from a
wonderful 12-day cruise on the Celeb-
ritry "Silhouette" to the Caribbean...

57 Roger Boily (Rochester NY)—
Beginning 6th year as member of the
Greece [NY] Central District Board of
Education; keep busy attending sport-
ning events that 5 grandchildren partici-
patate in; playing golf; enjoying friends...
Anna Schneider Feuerbach (Bellmore
NY)—Reports her brother-in-law Ted
Feuerbach ’56 died in NC in Feb.; had
to quit in senior year; his six brothers
and sisters all were Mepham graduates,
George a championship wrestler, Frank
a teacher at Mepham and Kennedy and
Calhoun... Carol Mohr McGrain (Eng-
elwood FL)— Masters Degree. Edu-
ication (retired); bike 4 days a week,
kayak, play tennis, swim, etc.

58 Jo Anne Crawford Perry (Bronx
NY)— Retired widow, pursuing “old”
friends; love to knit, cook (baking my
thing), and read (great fan of the “Twil-
light” series); take care of my mom,
95 years young; Richard Wilgenkamp
very nice and understanding with my
little problems before he died (have
him in my prayers); still love music and
still have collection of '45s from the
’50s.

59 Joanne Carlsen Camier (West
Babylon NY)— Love to travel; went
to Egypt with daughter for 2 weeks, a
dream come true; visited the ancient
tombs, temples and cities; awesome!!!... Susan Levinkind (Oakland CA)— A
member of OLOC (Old Lesbians Or-
ganizing for Change) in the Bay Area
(CA), the largest group in the coun-
try; on their Steering Committee; in
her tax business she is the “lesbian tax
mom;” graduated first in class, Western
New England School of Law in ’79, and
“came out” shortly after; would like to
know how many of her classmates are
“out.” Barbara McCampbell Paige
(Chico CA)— Enjoying retirement
after 30 years teaching college; missed
50th reunion idue to breast cancer
treatment; doing great now! Maybe the
55th... Peter Rothenberg (Northford
CT)— Vietnam era vet; Chief Psych-
ologist Womack Army Hospital, Ft.
Bragg NC 1968-70; post doctoral fel-
ow, Yale Med. School. Dept. Psychia-
try ’70-’72; Director Shoreline Center
for Counseling and Psychotherapy ’81-
’03; President CT Northeast Organic
Farming Assoc.; currently organic
farmer and part-time private practice...
Ronald and Andrea Stieg ’58 Wieners
(Agawam MA)— Ron active member,
Lions Club, 35 years; received Melvin
Jones Award (highest honor from In-
ternational Lions Club. Andrea still
drives special need children to school...
Gerald Winkler (Stoughton MA)—
General Dentist, still practicing 4 days
a week.

60 Marty Cammarata (Scarsdale
NY)— Still cycling as an activity and
hobby; completed second century
(100 mile) bike ride last June, going
for more; spent month in Italy with
wife Jill of 45 years and planning more
travel... Ronald von Freymann (Nipo-
mo CA)— Novel, Avalon Bay, a Jewelry
Hunter Thriller being published Sept.
1, 2012, first part in series of 3-book
deal with publisher; to follow: Gold-
in-Quartz, March ’13, Larimar, Dec.
’13... Barry Liston (Hudson FL)—
Enjoyed 50th Reunion July ’10; special
event after having brain surgery for Par-
kinsons Disease; after 2+ years, fortu-
nate all is going well; looking forward to
55th! Married 46 years.

61 Katherine Kruse Grant (Las Vegas
62 Joan Walker Mahnken (Oro Valley AZ)— RN, BSN; work part-time in allergy/asthma office.

63 Gary Barr (New Braunfels TX)— Retired after 35 years practicing oral and maxillofacial surgery; enjoying life including chasing grandchildren; also keeping up friendships... Barry Glunts (Burlington MA)— Celebrated 45th with an expedition cruise to Spitsbergen, Norway for a successful polar bear search.

64 Muriel Carpenter (Albuquerque NM)— Instructor of English, reading, and college success courses at Central NM Community College; after graduating SUNY Oswego, became elementary teacher in Sherborn MA; obtained MEd, Boston Univ., later law degree at Northeastern; was a civil trial lawyer 20 years, then a mediator; moved to NH, first as head of a school for emotionally handicapped children, became case manager at Monadnock Family services; moving to Albuquerque taught at private elementary school, then a social worker at Crossroads, working with previously incarcerated women with dual diagnoses of mental illness and drug abuse; now enjoying teaching at college level... Bruce Nieli (Memphis TN)— Honored by State of Tennessee March 2011 with official recognition for “his abiding commitment to the principles of faith and service to humanity.”

65 Helen Damiano Biller (Angola NY)— Retired physical therapist (two years); live near Holiday Valley ski area; ski a lot in winter, bike in summer; teaching different exercise classes 30 years at a health club; currently personal training and teaching Pilates; husband died 15 years ago and currently living with significant other; bought an RV and enjoy travel... Mal Glanz (Weston FL)— Still riding 180+ mph sport motorvehicles at age 64! Married 41 years... Gene Loos (Greensboro SC)— Driving an 18-wheeler the past 7 years, going all over the US and Canada and love it; leave a message on my cell (864-993-0323) and I’ll call back and try to meet if in the area; some have been pestered by me.

66 Gerald Hagan (Austin TX)— Enjoyed reunion in FL, thanks to organizers; semiretired with focus for the next 40 years on missions over seas with world medical missions... Philip and Margaret Valentine Kraft (Mineral VA)— Wonderful 45th Reunion with old friends; great weekend!... Marilyn Kresky Wolff (Placitas NM)— Executive Director, Open Arms Housing, Inc, Washington DC, offers permanent housing with on-going support to women who have been chronically homeless; written up in Washington Post and international news wire; published article in Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research ’10; edited Journal of Primary Prevention Special Issue ’07; expert panelist on Prevention of Homelessness, US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin. ’11... Christina Lusky Burns (Portsmouth NH)— Graduated Hunter College and NY Law School; worked as assistant to a judge and as a litigator for gov’t agency; retired.

67 Richard Gurian (Ghent NY)— Retired, living upstate NY summers, Cape Coral FL winters; celebrated 30th anniversary touring Russia; international travel and boating remain passions.

69 James Ioli (Holbrook MA)— Promoted to Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Harvard Medical Schools... Richard Pomisel (Fort Worth TX)— Respiratory Therapist since 1979.

70 Andrea Cohn (Placitas NM)— PhD, clinical psychology; worked for Veterans Affairs 34 years in Houston as clinical neuropsychologist; just retired; married 23 years; spoke to Amy Zwelling who is doing well and became a biochemist; would like updates on others: andreacohen11@gmail.com... Sharon Greenwald (Rockville Centre NY)— Who’s Who in American Teachers 2005.
22 SCUTTLEBUTT

71 Frank Colon (Rockville Centre NY)— Completed tenure as Commander of the Nassau Cty. American Legion; look forward to continued service as member of No. Bellmore Post #1749, belonged since 1972... Melody Ross Higdon (Asheville NC) — Published author, science fiction; award winning technical writer; MA in Human Resources management...Michael Russo (Commack NY)— Designated the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Council #11163; term from June 2012–June 2013.

72 Rose Clark (Hauppauge NY)— Owner, Rose’s Nail Salon, Townline Rd, Hauppauge... Charles Gonsalves (Commack NY)— School Administrator 13 years, teacher 13 years; Finance and Risk Management 3 years; accounting 5 years; BA, MBA, PD, EdM, EdD pending; Professor, St. John’s Univ.

74 Chuck Gaylord (Ridgefield CT)— Married almost 27 years with 3 great kids, although college bills are a killer!...John Kobyanski (Rome NY) — 30th anniversary of dental practice; married 28 years to Judith.

75 Donald Hughes (Syracuse NY)— PhD in Chemistry as of ‘05... Bonnie Tannenbaum Eisler (New York NY) — Married to Cliff 32 years; spent several years in Tokyo and London.

76 Laurie Schneider Suskind (Hollywood FL)— Married 29 years to Leonard; retail store owner ’02–’10 (Apothecary at Salon Montage); currently community volunteer, David Posnack Jewish Community Center.

77 Phillipe Peter (Fairfax VA)— Administrator, state facility for the Commonwealth of VA, Dept. of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services; MBA with Specialization in Accounting, Dallas Baptist Univ.; celebrating 23rd anniversary in Aug.

79 Mace Greenfield (Jericho NY)— Nominated 2 years in a row LI Press as Best Divorce Lawyer, was selected as 1 of the top 3 for 2012.

81 Barbara Gold (Red Bank NJ) — Graduated School of Visual Arts, studies graphic design and marketing. ’85; currently Private Chef, traveling around the world for elite clients.

82 Jonathan King (San Antonio TX) — Assoc. Professor, Biology at Trinity Univ.

93 Nicole Viggiano (Rochester NY) — Coordinator, Adult Literacy, Greece Central School District...Jonathan Scinto (East Meadow NY) — NY Institute of Technology, 1999, BFA in computer graphics; Post Perfect, 2000-03, starting in client services, the post production coordinator (Food Network, Emeril Live; ESPN; Back Street Boys; O-Town; Petey Pable; Olympics in Atlanta; Maalox Commercials; ITT Tech Commercials; assisted Dir. of Photography for projects for Della Femina Adverising, AMC behind the Screen, etc. Started FIVE Entertainment ’09, developing interactive websites and entertainment sites, and graphics, logos, DVD Slide shows; have a Developed Social Networking site for Video Gamers; working on another for Beer Drinkers; work for Star Career Academy, Syosset, as Admissions Representative specializing in Culinary Arts, Pastry Arts, and Allied Health.

06 Stephanie Bartkus (Albany NY) — Phys. Ed. teacher and coach of three sports in a high school; working on master’s degree in health education.

10 Nikki Dangur (Oyster Bay NY) — Attending CW Post/LI University; gave birth to Jayden Vincent Tully, 4/8/11.

Editor’s Note

When I was at Mepham in the 40’s, our concept of community service pretty much was the war effort, such as victory gardens, closing curtains at night, using coupons to get gasoline and meat, etc. (see Recollections of Bellmore During WWII on page 14). So I am fascinated by all the ways today’s students get involved. I hope you will be proud of them, as I am. I’m also proud of our alumni. You send such interesting things to me. Keep it up! And I can never say enough about how fortunate I am to have my husband Jerry in my life. For one thing, he makes it possible for me to be editor of the Alumni publications. And I am blessed with an editorial crew who help me in so many ways.

Thanks for all you send in. Sometimes I can’t make out some of the writing, making it difficult to include—please be clear! And unfortunately there was not room for everything that got sent this year. Using up 4 pages to correct our mistake about the donor list limited what got used. So places had to be found wherever I could, and decisions had to be made...

Clare Eastwood Worthing ’46

We hope to see you at the picnic and then at the Anniversary Celebration in September!!!

Note: Thoughts for future Ex-Crew questions will be gratefully received. Send them to editor@mepham.org, or write them on the Membership Form.
More Involved Mepham Students

Sabrina Mastrangelo, Mepham class of 2014, was crowned Miss New York Teen in January and will represent New York at the Miss Teen USA 2012 pageant in Nassau, Bahamas this July. Her platform is to put an end to teen cyber-bullying by speaking in schools across Long Island, stating “I refuse to simply be a bystander, and to intervene when I see something in the cyber world that is unacceptable, disrespectful, and harmful.” It looks like an acting career may be in Sabrina’s future.

Nassau County Legislator David Denenberg presented Kirsten Blom ’11, Jenna Cavuto ’10, Bonnie Kaprat (Jr.), Amber Kunofsky (Sr), and Theresa Schneider ’11 with the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor for a Girl Scout. Blom designed and led a series of dance classes, concluding in a recital for their families. Cavuto taught elementary school students, grades four, five, and six the rules of badminton. Kaprat started a book club for grades four, five, and six holding it at the North Bellmore Public Library. Kunofsky organized an adopt-a-thon at the Freeport Animal Shelter to help find unwanted pets a new home, also collecting food and supplies for the pets. Schneider taught children in her community environmental values along with spiritual values through the planting of a garden for their church.

Even More Student Involvement

On Sunday [in May] I attended a Special Olympics Track Meet of which my grandson was a part. I was wearing an alumni jacket, which I had purchased at the last Street Fair. I noticed a group of well-behaved young people also wearing various Mepham gear. They were student volunteers to help at the function—which, by the way, was in Suffolk County—and everyone of them looked like they were happy to be there helping out with children less fortunate than themselves.

My wife Genie ’57 and I were so impressed that I approached the adult teachers in charge and complimented them. Unfortunately I’m getting older and my memory is slowing down so I forgot their names, but they were as enthusiastic as the kids and were doing a great job.

The reason I am writing is to tell everyone that the pride and good sportsmanship, which we as alumni are so proud of and cherished when we attended Mepham, is still there.

Standing there I was proud that I had their school colors on, and I could say proudly, “Those kids go to my old high school.” To borrow a statement from my classmate, Roy Probeyhan, Go Pirates.

Tom Blank ’56

An Inspiring Story

Charles Anthony Minner (Charlie “Lite”) ’64 died on May 12, 2011. He contracted Polio at age 6, paralyzing him in both legs. Despite physical limitations, he enjoyed playing golf, tennis, baseball, basketball, and football. Most childhood years were spent in iron lungs, body casts, surgical wards, and a children’s hospital. After graduating from Mepham he studied English Literature at the University of Arizona. While on crutches, he was a member of the Gymnastics Team (rings), a Service Fraternity, and hiked and camped throughout the Tucson Mountains. He also helped entertain, playing guitar and singing, at a coffee house on the campus where known as “Just Plain Charlie.”

Charlie worked as a microbiologist, earned a degree in nursing, masters degree in Special Education, and worked as a Critical Care Registered Nurse. He built his own ultra-light aircraft glider; he was a master craftsman. He loved fly gliders, sailboats, bird watching, gardening, sports, U of AZ Wildcats, and was a volunteer in the Children’s playroom at the U of AZ Medical Center. He served as a member of the Soaring Society of America Board of Directors; traveled across the country and was well-known as a competition director and advocate for safety.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters, brother, and mother (Helen Pascuma Minner of Bellmore).
THANK YOU

We are so very grateful for the generous support we receive for the Association. Donors contributing $50 or more by a couple are listed for each person.

[See Oops on page 3 for comment.]

Patrons

(donations of $100 or more)

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Molly Dedrick Blackshaw 1954
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Kenneth Fisher 1954
Vincent R. Ferrigno 1955
John Gardner 1955
Arthur S. Tauber 1954
Jack Skelly 1954
Arthur S. Tauber 1955
John Gardner 1955
L. Martin Gibbs 1955
Florence Goodmen Flaton 1955
M. William Joel 1955
Sandra Kaye Tauber 1955
Robert C. Kirk 1955
Joyce Leigh Owens 1955
Vincent Pacent 1955
Martha Shapiro Kellner 1955
Thomas W. Blank 1955
Nancy Carpluck Beato 1956
Donald Forster 1956
Susan Carлучk Beato 1956
Robert Bliss 1956
Patricia McCamphill Sanford 1956
Ronald P. McNichol 1956
Joseph Metzger 1956
Valerie Priger Skelly 1956
Robert J. Vareta 1956
Charles Wolf 1956
Lillian M. Beebe 1957
Eugenia C. Essex Blank 1957
Thomas F. Ganley 1957
Robert Hirschkorn 1957
Richard C. Kermer 1957
Barbara Porter Sperry 1957
Margaret D. Ritterbusch Oliva 1957
Tice Siegel 1957
JoAnn Barreca Leone 1958
Robert J. Burtis 1958
Gerald Cardile 1958
Doris Edelstein Hirschhorn 1958
Lee B. Griffith 1958
Edgar A. Lampert 1958
Evelyn Molony Rees Ross 1958
William Ross 1958
Alfred Schefer 1958
Franklin Sorrentino 1958
Kathleen Tvdik Siegel 1958
Edwin Wagner 1958
Joseph M. Calandrillo 1959
Joanne Carlsen Camier 1959
Antoinette Carmine Carman 1959
Allen Creveling 1959
James Carran 1959
Frank Diamond 1959
Raymond D. Hansen 1959
William Howe 1959
Paul Hulahan 1959
Dixie Kinsey Simonetti 1959
Fred Marquardt 1959
Barbara McCampbell Paige 1959
Sharon McKinnon Schefer 1959
Robert F. Rose 1959
Sandra Rutkoski Jankoski 1959
Gary Sirota 1959
Barbara W. Stunt Andrews 1959
Hermann E. Welm 1959
Marianne Bornor Marquardt 1960
Richard Gilbert 1960
Robert A. Lessmann 1960
Chris Sabetto 1960
James Siegel 1960
Elaine Bonanno Sorrentino 1961
Gary Hedrick 1961
Kathy McLaren Ritterbusch 1961
Seth R. Poppel 1961
Roderick E. Ritterbusch 1961
Bernhard Hubert 1963
Kenneth R. Kellner 1963
Terrance Mulligan 1963
Robert Stoneham 1963
Stephen Weis 1963
Irene Wilson Kellner 1963
Lewis Zemsky MD 1965
Arthur L. Berger 1941
Francis Cornell 1941
Marion Eckhoff 1941
Filomena Felicetti 1941
Norma Harse Creighton 1941
Elaine McLachlan Sanders 1941
Frances Wilson Williams 1941
Jurgen Wirthing 1941
Terrence C. Breidenbach 1942
Josephine Kalf Crea 1942
Donald Miller 1942
Stanton Bahr 1943
Mildred Carey Kumper 1943
Gloria M. Dinger Chapman 1943

Benefactors

(donations of $50 to $599)

Arthur L. Berger 1941
Francis Cornell 1941
Marion Eckhoff 1941
Filomena Felicetti 1941
Norma Harse Creighton 1941
Elaine McLachlan Sanders 1941
Frances Wilson Williams 1941
Jurgen Wirthing 1941
Terrence C. Breidenbach 1942
Josephine Kalf Crea 1942
Donald Miller 1942
Stanton Bahr 1943
Mildred Carey Kumper 1943
Gloria M. Dinger Chapman 1943

Philip J. Grebinar 1966
Diane Susan Hart Sim 1966
William Munno 1966
Philip A. Newman 1966
Pamela Bendix Weiss 1967
Sheila Hemenway 1967
Frances Henry Meehan 1967
David Krinsky 1967
Paul Miller 1967
Philip Perricone 1967
Sandra Spiegel Bauman 1967
Jay Dubner 1968
Donna Langer Eilerman 1969
Joel Levine 1969
Frank Sepe 1969
Ruth Brining 1970
Vincent F. Proto 1970
Thomas Valenti 1970
Melody Ross Higdon 1971
Mark Caccavo 1972
Steven Cennamo 1972
Carol Farina Kilgallin 1972
Scott Gorman 1972
Judy L. Koelpin 1972
Camilles Maratinnz Cennamo 1972
Darlene Prastaro Caccavo 1972
Joseph F. Sepe 1972
Robert Northam 1973
Jeffrey L. Seltzer 1974
Joanne Brass Pesa 1975
Mitchell Edelman 1975
Lauren Sabetto Beauchaine 1975
Nancy Carey Thomas 1976
Lee Spiegel 1976
Richard Corde 1977
John Michael Basquera 1978
Josef Roy Hallatschek 1978
Ronald Nans 1978
Michael VanBurten 1978
Anthony Arena 1980
Steven Windwer 1981
Peter Arianas 1982
Daniel C. Austin Jr 1983
Michael Barone 1983
Michael J. Arena 1984
Robert J. Keller 1995
Supporters
(donations of $25 to $49)

Anthony Santonicola 1946
Betty Savona Hendrix 1946
Edith Baumwald Cohen 1947
Virginia Bird Pepitone 1947
Armando (Joe) Caperna 1947
Margaret Kasschau Sandie 1947
Lee E. Kellerman 1947
Megan McKinney Turner 1947
Janet R. Rock Smith 1947
Jack E. Solomon 1947
John C. Taylor 1947
Louis B. Tischhart 1947
Alice Weinman Birnbaum 1947
Harry H. Brush 1948
Thomas R. Cummiskey 1948
Marie DeValle Bradley 1948
Betty Mac Foster Parmell 1948
Carol Foster Hedges 1948
Grace Heuermann Lichtenberg '48
Edgar Lloyd 1948
Harold C. Lyons 1948
Doris Mattern Maksimchak 1948
Richard Miller 1948
Doris Millhagen Schmidt 1948
Daisy Peirce Koenm 1948
Eleanor Kuntz Drescher 1948
Edward Moessner 1948
Lois Woll Duggan 1954
Martin E. Welch 1954
Jeanne Paladino Antin 1954
Margaret Meurn Broderick 1954
Robert E. Carn 1946
William V. Rockwell 1945
Eleanor Diener McKay 1946
Eugene M. Gebert 1945
Lorraine Duffy Donder 1945
Robert DeFonso 1945
Doris Richter Ketcham 1940
Susan Stines Schmitt 1940
Frank M. Setteducati 1940
Raymond W. Matthews 1948
Robert Fortmeyer 1944
Robert Dana 1956
Nancy A. Cross Kemether 1956
Eleanor Kuntz Drescher 1948
Alice Seltman Goldsmith 1944
Eileen Chase Messina 1944
Robert Fortmeyer 1944
Robert E. Carn 1946
Janet Reimer 1950
Robert DeFonso 1945
Andrew H. Davy 1956
Barbara Canale Merget 1952
Alice Betzig Borger 1952
Helen Berzau Quenzer 1952
Barbara Albertson Mullen 1952
Reidar Tholfsen 1951
Vivian Shifrin Coopersmith 1951
Marlena Rapp Robertson 1951
Ralph Van Wicklen 1955
Blaise Barney Graziano 1951
Ralph McCormack 1950
Janet R. Rock Smith 1950
Rita Wicks Nelson 1950
Joan Vitrano Hughes 1950
Juanita (Jay) Schwarz Haines 1950
Florence Roth Robbins 1950
Dorothy Pantesco McKeon 1950
Robert E. Paladino 1950
Raymond M. Johns Jr 1950
Doris Flore Dalton 1950
Bertha Harri Harte 1950
Duane Rappold Weisbecker 1955
James Paladino 1954
Arthur D. Rankin 1954
Frances E. Waters Bergmann 1954
Pat Sokol 1976
Salvatore Mocci 1977
Therese Lubomirski 1987
Joseph A. Levine MD 1980
Sharon Windber 1980
Kenneth Lustik 1981
Fred Tallarico 1982
Ingrid L. Bloomfield 1984
Patrick Marzano 1984
John Berry 1985
Sharon Saueracker Berry 1985
Jonathan E. Goldman 1988
Mary Speranza 1995
Catherine Proto 1998
Paul Speranza 2000

Annie Marie Lemme Cosgrove 1980
Joseph A. Levine MD 1980
Sharon Windber 1980
Kenneth Lustik 1981
Fred Tallarico 1982
Ingrid L. Bloomfield 1984
Patrick Marzano 1984
John Berry 1985
Sharon Saueracker Berry 1985
Jonathan E. Goldman 1988
Mary Speranza 1995
Catherine Proto 1998
Paul Speranza 2000
Mepham Girls Basketball: Conference AA-III Co-Champions

This year’s Mepham girls’ basketball season was one of recovery and discovery. Looking to rebound from a 2010-2011 playoff loss, and with senior Kristen O’Brien (starter since 8th grade; only three year captain in Mepham basketball history) not 100% recovered from off-season knee surgery, this dynamic group found out how good they really were under eighth-year head coach Jim Mulvey (the 2011-2012 Conference AA-III Coach of the Year).

The Lady Pirates, with two seniors and five juniors on the 13 player roster, captured their third conference title (12-2 conference, 15-4 overall) in the past four years. After a setback versus Elmont, the game in which O’Brien surpassed 1,000 points (second player in school history behind Jen Geiger ’01), Mepham reeled off eight consecutive victories to become Conference AA-III Co-Champions.

A three-time All-County player entering the season, O’Brien showed great court vision as the team’s assist leader and second leading scorer. Of O’Brien (All-County again; Academic All-State), coach Mulvey emphasized, “she is a great team player, and is going to be missed.” Still, Mepham displayed a lot of versatility, and they battled in the playoffs before losing to higher-ranked Uniondale. Moreover, four starters are returning so the Lady Pirates should be a force to reckon with in 2012-2013.

Junior co-captain Nicole Castaldo (All-County; Academic All-State) was outstanding as the team’s leader in points (13/game) and rebounds (10/game), and recorded seven double-doubles. Junior Mary Galgano (All-Class; three-point sharpshooter) scored 8 points/game. Freshman Megan Anderson (All-Class; 7 points/game) was impressive in the 2012 playoffs (career-high 18 points vs. Hicksville), and junior Samantha Hismeh (5 points/game) was All-Conference. Eighth grader Ally Murphy was the Hicksville Tournament MVP (21 points) and junior Christina Riebl added 16 in that tournament.

Past Reunions

All-Class Pirates’ Picnic Annual Reunion
Sat. Sept. 10, 2011, around 70 or so attended. Here are photos of a few:

Class of 1962 — 50th Reunion
This was held July 20 through July 22, 2012, too late to be in this issue. The report will have to wait till next year.

Class of 1987 — 25th Reunion
This was held July 14, 2012, also too late for this issue. Report will have to wait for next year.

9th Annual Mepham Wrestling Alumni Scholarship Fund Dinner and Alumni Day
Saturday Dec. 10, 2011, family and friends gathered at Cassidy’s Pub, No. Bellmore to celebrate, raising over $6,800 for the Scholarship fund, bringing the nine-year total to over $30,000.

Class of 1946 (and others) — 66th Reunion
June 8, 2012. It was a full weekend—full of good conversation and hugging; full of good food and experiences. It all started with 19 alums and spouses on a tour of Mepham, led by Principal Michael Harrington. Reminiscences continued at lunch, with 41 [counting spouses] representing 14 from ’46, 8 from ’45, 4 from ’47, 2 from ’41, 2 from ’48 and one each from ’43 and ’51. Fifteen came to the evening gathering to continue renewed old friendships. On Saturday 9 went on a tour of Jones Beach, led by Jack Solomons ’47.

Mepham Girls Basketball: Conference AA-III Co-Champions
Upcoming Reunions

All-Class Pirates’ Picnic Annual Reunion
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012, 11AM–3PM, Wantagh Park (Merrick Road next to Wantagh Pkwy ramp for Jones Beach). We supply the charcoal for the grill and ice for your beverages. You bring your own food and drink (not hard liquor.)

Please note: This year, the picnic will be tied into the 75th Anniversary of Mepham. The Alumni Association will host a reception at Mepham on Sunday, Sept. 9th at 1 PM. Included will be the ribbon-cutting of the newly refinished library. Details on page 5.

Class of 1963 — 50th Reunion
Friday and Saturday, Sept. 20 & 21, 2013 at the Marriott Hotel, Uniondale, NY. Fri. evening Meet and Greet; Sat. (day) tour of HS plus other local activities to include Jones Beach; Sat. evening, 6 PM cocktail hour followed by dinner/dance, silent auction and raise awareness of the scholarship fund for Joe Mancuso; price TBD; Invitations will be mailed out in Jan. 2013. If we don’t have your contact information, Grad of ’63, please send it to mepham63@yahoo.com. We also have a facebook page: Mepham High School Class of ’63 50th Reunion, which can be visited to view the latest goings on. For additional info contact Terry Mulligan, 410-600-0172, tmulligan@mchsi.com or Mary Ann Zoltko Carlson, 410-641-7752, demacarlson@verizon.net.

Class of 1964 — 50th Reunion
The planning is starting for the Class of 1964’s 50th reunion in 2014; your help is needed in finding our “Missing Classmates” (Please check the list at: www.mepham.org/1964miss.html.) If you would like to help plan the reunion, contact me as well; please send any information you can locate to Jane Randall, 516-208-6405, JaneRMepham64@optonline.net.

The group appreciated the elevator that made it possible to see the library without climbing stairs, and agreed the building was looking pretty good for its age.

In the library: Jerry Worthing ‘41, “Jolly Roger,” and Michael Harrington, Principal

On tour at Mepham, in Room 114, where the Alumni Association Board meetings take place.

Class of 1965-1966 — 50th Reunion
In the early planning stages for August 2015; inviting class of ’66 to join in; looking for local volunteers to join the planning committee; contact Lynn Setteducati Bible, nanasgal@aol.com, or Doris Christmann, jeeter13@optonline.net.

Class of 1965-1966 — 50th Reunion
Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, 7–11 PM; Dinner, dance, DJ, open bar; Best Western Mill River Manor, 173 Sunrise Hwy, Rockville Centre, NY, block of rooms are reserved; Sat. afternoon: tour of Mepham and luncheon in the cafeteria, 12:00 to 2:30 PM; for information contact: Carol Farina Kiggallin, 516-785-8230, Pres@Mepham.Org; or Joanne Spitalle Herlihy, Joanne.S.Herlihy@hofstra.edu

Class of 1972 — 30th Reunion
Sat., October 6, 2012, 7–11 PM; Dinner, dance, DJ, open bar; Best Western Mill River Manor, 173 Sunrise Hwy, Rockville Centre, NY, block of rooms are reserved; Sat. afternoon: tour of Mepham and luncheon in the cafeteria, 12:00 to 2:30 PM; for information contact: Carol Farina Kiggallin, 516-785-8230, Pres@Mepham.Org; or Joanne Spitalle Herlihy, Joanne.S.Herlihy@hofstra.edu

Class of 1982 — 30th Reunion
Saturday Oct. 6, 2012, 7-11 PM, Melville Marriott (631-423-1600), 4 hour open bar, cocktail hour, buffet dinner, DJ, decorations and favors, $115.00 per person (payments NOT accepted at the door), checks payable to (and send to): WC Mepham Class of 82, 338 Ryder Rd, Manhasset NY 11030. A $10.00 fee per ticket charge for refunds and will be considered based on contract issues with the hotel. Hotel room rate is $139.00. When booking be sure to mention that you are attending the reunion. For questions, concerns or input, contact us at mepham82@optonline.net.

Class of 2002 — 10th Reunion
There is planning for a fall reunion 2012. Any questions or if you would like to get involved please contact: Kimberly Burns Orth, KimBurns84@gmail.com

Want to Have a Reunion? Let Us Help You
If you plan your own (please don’t use one of those reunion organizers, e.g. ROA,) we can give you your class list, mailing labels, advice, “start-up” money, etc. We’ll help you through however we can. Contact Kevin Gallagher: Reunions@mepham.org and we’ll get you started.
Anniversaries

** means there are pictures.
## means there is also something in Poopdeck.

70th
Mary and Victor Streit
Mary taught Spanish at Mepham 1964-72
Vic was a Levittown school administrator

65th
Hans Schneider ’41 and Mary ** ##

64th
Patricia Jost Watson ’46 and Jack ##

63rd
Emily Gerlach Bedell ’42 and Arthur ##

60th
Walter Andersen ’47 and Terry
Stan Wells ’49 and Pat
Irene Ryan Warren ’51 and Mel

55th
Clementine Graziano Bianco ’53 and Mario ** ##
Thomas ’56 and Eugenia Essex ’57 Blank

45th
Barry Glunts ’63 and Penny ##

40th
George Poppe ’66 and Lynn
Diane Fellows Zimmer ’67 and Stuart

35th
William Cleary ’70 and Martha
Vincent Proto ’70 and Mary

Note: only anniversaries of some significant year will be printed, plus all of 60 or over. Others may be mentions in the Poopdeck section.

50th — Golden Anniversary
William (Billy) Joel ’55 and Sandra ** ##
Joseph Metzger ’56 and Joyce **
Charles Wolf ’56 and Marilyn ##
Doris Damm Nicolini ’58 and Alex
Mildred Palladino Peluso ’60 and Nick

Weddings

Wendy Coleman ’69 to Andrew Bernard  June 17, 2011

Alumni Merchandise

Or get them at the Pirates’ Picnic, the Bellmore Street Fair, or at the 75th Anniversary Celebration and save the postage! For more information go to our website: www.mepham.org/souvenir.html.

Other Souvenirs
Mepham Sports Boosters merchandise, google: Mepham Sports Boosters. PTA Merchandise, google Mepham PTA/ souvenirs. Both are also available at the Bellmore Street Fair.

Speaking of Anniversaries....
Come and Celebrate Mepham’s 75th with us during Sept. 8–15. Details are on page 5.

From the All-Class Pirates’ Picnic on Sept. 8, to the Program at Mepham on Sept. 9, to the Pep Rally and Soccer Games on Sept. 14, and the Homecoming Parade and Football Game on Sept. 15...
Be a Participant!
**Scrapbook**

Christopher Montuori ’82 and the Kismet Shriners at the Shriners Convention, Wildwood NJ 9/96

Lucille and Dick Strauss ’50 57th Anniversary, Oct. 2010

Bill Brennan ’56 and wife Pat on an Alaskan cruise June 2011

Thomas Miller ’51 [front between 2 in dark shirts] at Miller’s 39th Annual Invitational Golf Classic, 6/24/11

Jean Randall ’44, 85 this year, still at work, serving papers

Coach Hughes Memorial Scholarship awarded to Sara Kulins for her leadership and mentoring roles in track, encouraging her teammates to be their best despite any challenge. L to R: Sean Hughes, Beth Hughes, Mepham Principal Michael Harrington, Track Coach Dave Frazer, Sara Kulins ’11, her father Charles Kulins, Shannon Hughes, Patricia Hughes. Front row: grandchildren Conor, Riley, and Emily Hughes

Charles ’46 and Nancy Blaner ’49 Nastasi, celebrating their 57th anniversary with tiramasu dessert.

Fred ’43 and Shirley Preston ’43 Langdon at the Mepham Reunion in FL 09/00 (Shirley now deceased)

Photo by Justin Plotnick, junior, of classmate Richie Dominguez, 16; featured in the Spring 2012 edition of PDNedu magazine. See the story on page 7.

Often mentioned in the Ex-Crew answers was the movie house in Bellmore, called “The Itch.” It was built in 1917 as a silent movie house and is reportedly the oldest operating theater on Long Island. Now dubbed “The Showplace”, here is how it looks today.
Scuttlebutt
W. C. Mepham High School
Alumni Association, Inc.
2401 Camp Ave
North Bellmore NY 11710-3099

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE HELP US
To the resident:
If this addressee no longer lives at this address, please make the correction either by e-mail to: Registrar@Mepham.org, or on the enclosed membership form and send it in the enclosed envelope.
We thank you for your help.

Upcoming Events
All-Class Pirates’ Picnic Reunion: Sat. Sept. 8, Wantagh Park (Merrick Road, next to Wantagh Pkwy ramp), 11 AM–3 PM. We supply charcoal and ice; you bring food (no hard liquor). Celebrate the start of Mepham’s 75th Anniversary!
See details on page 3.
Alumni Board Meetings: 7:30 PM, Room 114, third Wed. of the month (Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 14 (exception), Jan. 16, Feb. 13 (exception), Mar. 20, Apr. 17, May 15, June 19. Let us welcome you!
Bellmore Street Festival: Sept. 22 & 23 (Sat. and Sun.) Mepham table on Bedford at Frederick. Visit us.
Sprig Gardner Wrestling Tournament: Dec. 8, 2012, Mepham gym
Carol: Fri. Dec. 14 (rain or snow) 7:30 PM at the tree on Circle Drive, Bellmore

Participate in Mepham’s 75th Anniversary Celebration!!
September 8 – 15, 2012 (details on page 5)

Mailing Label and Membership Year
See label above
• Membership dues cover the calendar year. You can pay dues any time during this time frame.
• Your dues expiration date is indicated on the mailing label.
• “non memb” means you have not paid your dues in recent years, and may not receive future Scuttlebutt mailings.
• ? means we do not know your class year. Please tell us.

Moving?
Let us know.
We don’t want to lose you, and returned mail is very costly. So, keep in touch with us and we will keep in touch with you.
Join Us! Fill out the form below to support the efforts of your Alumni Association and receive copies of our publications, *Quarterdeck*, and our annual magazine, *Scuttlebutt*. Mail the form and your contribution to the W.C. Mepham High School Alumni Association, 2401 Camp Ave., North Bellmore, NY 11710.

Date____________________

Name  ______________________________________________________________________________________________

(first name)  (last name at graduation)  (current last name if different)

Address _____________________________________________________________________________________________

(street address)  (apt no.)  (post office)  (state)  (zip)

Class of ____________  Admin./Faculty Member (years) _____    Telephone          ________________________________

E-Mail  _____________________________________________________________________________________________

(please print clearly — capital letters are most accurate)

Membership Dues and Donations:
(1) January 1 marks the beginning of the membership year.
(2) Check the mailing label on the back cover of our publications for your dues expiration date.
(3) Dues may be paid anytime in the year and will be applied to that year’s dues, or to the next unpaid year, unless you specify otherwise.
(4) Your check will be your receipt.
(5) Any donation of $15 ($20 per couple) or more makes you a paid member of the Alumni Association and you will receive our annual magazine *Scuttlebutt*.
(6) Individual donations of $25 or more and couples donations of $50 or more will be listed in *Quarterdeck*.

Membership Donation:  ☐ $15  ☐ $20  ☐ $25  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $250  ☐ $500  ☐ Other   ___________

Who’s Who Nomination:  Selections will be based on: (1) graduation date from Mepham 10 years prior to application, (2) significant volunteer service to the community and (3) significant accomplishments in field of work. Check the box below to receive a nomination form. You may nominate yourself or another alumna/alumnus.

☐ Please send me a Who’s Who Nomination Form.  Applications must be received by October 31.

Send Us:  Newsworthy items on your occupation, education, organizations, honors, wedding anniversaries, family, and activities that you would like to share in our publications. Include photos too (with your name on the back!) Photos cannot be returned.

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