

1939-1940 IHS Reunion

The Irvine High Classes of 1939 and 1940 had their 71st and 70th Class Reunion September 25, 2010, at the Cedar Village, 12:00 noon.

Eight members of the Class of 1940 were present. They were Lois Cooper Blair, Frances Denney, Marry Sproul Freeman, Mary Jo Gould, Marthalyne Lewis Huckleberry, Beryl Seal Hunt, Ruth Wilson, and Bobby Comley.

Two members of the Class of 1939 were present. They were Eloise Mackey and Georiana Brakefield Kane. Bobby Comley can't remember which year he graduated but considers both classes his, good authority states he was in the Class of 1940.

The Class of 1940 recently lost two of its own. Mrs Yeager's brother, Earl, died this past winter. His wife, Teenie Patrick, class of 1945, was in attendance. Anita Lethgo Worman passed away in September, 2010.

Several other graduates, friends and family were also in attendance. Everyone had a great time and *the next Reunion will be the 4th Saturday in September, 2011.*

Another All School Reunion ?

It has been suggested that alumni of Irvine High School have another all-school reunion in 2012. Many people have mentioned that anyone who attended the first all-school reunion really enjoyed it and so many who were not able to attend were sorry that they missed it. The question then becomes, is it worth doing again? If you have an interest in helping organize another get-together in 2012, please let us know. However, putting together all of the details is very difficult, time consuming, and must involve a larger committee of organizers/volunteers in order to get it done. If you and/or anyone you know would be willing to help, please contact one of us who have put this newsletter together.

**Next Association Meeting
January 27, 2011
7:00 PM
Estill County Library**



I.H.S. REUNION CRUISE

By Kay Scrivner

On October 18th, 19 Irvine High School graduates from classes of 1951-1971 boarded the Carnival Inspiration bound for Grand Cayman Islands and Cozumel, Mexico. We were joined by 5 Estill County High School graduates and 9 spouses. There were lots of memories remembered and more were made as we sailed away. It rained at both ports of call but that could not dampen the spirits of our lively group. We returned to Tampa, FL on Saturday, October 23rd with lots of new memories and new friends of those we didn't know when we started out but did when we returned.



Those who were on board from Irvine High included: Maxine Whitaker Kemmerly, class of 51; Peggy Wills Brown, class of 52; Martha Flynn Putterbaugh, class of 52 along with her husband John; Judy Bush Thornton, class of 57, along with her husband Murrell; Norma Alcorn Marcum, class of 58; Nelle Bonny Williams, class of 59; Marjorie Miller Carpenter, class of 61, along with her husband Richard; Millie Burnett Horn, class of 62, along with her husband Donald, ECHS class of 57; Regina Miller Morgan, class of 64, along with her husband Bob; Tom Bonny, class of 64, along with his wife Francine; Lynn Thomas King, class of 65, along with her husband Gail; Sharon Strong Brown, class of 65, along with her husband Wayne; Vicki Burnett Adams, class of 65; Diana Marcum Stewart, class of 66; Susan Shepherd, class of 66; Joyce Feltner Hardy, class of 67, along with her husband Pepper, ECHS class of 65; Lois Rawlins Hall, class of 68; Mary Durbin Singleton, class of 69, along with her husband Bill; Betsy Bush Noland, class of 70, and Kay Scrivner, class of 71. The other graduates and spouses from Estill County High are: Darrell Horn, class of 71; David Harrison, class of 71, along with his wife Yvonne and Deidre Arthur, class of 82.

Many thanks to Mary Durbin Singleton who got this trip started. Keep watching for news about doing another group outing in the future. We hope we will have a larger group joining us to make more new memories of our days at good ole Irvine High.

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Contributing Editors.....Tom Bonny 1964

Joedy Ohr 1966 Kay Scrivner 1971

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

By Tom Bonny

As those of you who were able to attend the All Irvine High School Class Reunion in the summer of 2008 recall, one of our follow-up goals was to create a newsletter for anyone who wants to receive it. This is our first edition of that promise and we are going to make an effort to publish it on a regular basis. We are late in getting this initiated, probably because everyone who put that reunion together was so weary and brain dead afterward, and some were involved with jobs and relatives with health issues, that we didn't meet again until recently.

Our well-intentioned plans are to publish and disseminate (by e-mail or regular mail) a newsletter once or possibly twice each year with articles, announcements, articles reprinted from the old Commentators, and obituaries (if classmates will make sure that one of us knows about those deaths). Your help is needed in this project if it is going to succeed. We need from you the following:

Addresses/e-mail addresses of any family, friends, and/or classmates.

The name, address, e-mail address, and phone number of a person with whom we can touch base from each class regarding contact information for the others in that class.

Notice of announcements regarding any related Irvine High School event (scheduled class reunions, death of alumni/faculty, etc.)

Suggestion for articles or an article that you might submit.

We plan to try to feature a faculty member in each edition and as you notice, we are beginning with Virginia Yeager, who is one of the few who is still with us. (You might want to send her a note/card if you have time - Virginia Yeager, 288 Main Street, Irvine, KY 40336)

We have created an Alumni Association for Irvine High School and became incorporated. (We might want to create a tax exempt foundation to fund scholarships for descendants of alumni) This corporation requires an annual meeting and election of offices and directors. If you are interested in serving on the board, we would like to have one director from each class. Our membership fees would be very minimal and in fact, we have enough funds remaining from the reunion to allow all to be members at no additional cost for the first year.

The Eagle Landed



Dickie Lynch and friend Austin Blackwell

By Joedy Ohr

One thing is for sure, many IHS alumni expressed enjoying the 2008 Reunion. However, probably none enjoyed the evening more than Dickie Lynch. As he moved around with his camera in hand, smiling and telling stories, "Boola" was in his element.

"Dickie has the greatest appreciation of the heritage of Irvine High School and high school sports in general that I know," was the comment by fellow '63 graduate Larry Shearer. That 1963 class saw only 16 march across the stage.

Dickie had a small part of his IHS memorabilia collection on display on the main floor along with other "pieces of history". Over the years, Dickie helped to provide articles for the local radio station and newspapers by describing famous plays, events in Irvine High sports history.

If ever a trivia question were to pop up in your mind, "Boola" is the person to call. He might even be able to name the IHS basketball player to foul out of a game the quickest!

If you have any questions or information regarding this effort, please contact one of the following:

Joedy or Janie (Smyth) Ohr – johr@roadrunner.com

T. Dwaine Riddell, PhD – tdr@dridell.com 606 643 5050

Kay Scrivner – kscrivner@windstream.net

Susan Shepherd - sshepherdky2000@yahoo.com

Ann (Cox) Kissick – anne@irvineonline.net

Richard Snowden – biginsurance@irvineonline.net

Penny (Miller) West – bmw112@windstream.net

Tom Bonny – thb@irvineonline.net 606-723-5694

Know a classmate that did not receive this mailing, please send information to anyone on the above list. We need names, addresses, and emails.

We will try to get our second edition out in the spring so any summer reunions can be announced.



Virginia Patrick Yeager

By Tom Bonny

Virginia Yeager was born on December 2, 1913 in northeastern Estill County. She was born in a log cabin on what has become known as Vashon Farm. Her parents were Owen and Mary Tuttle Patrick. Virginia had three brothers and one sister. One of her brothers died as a child. Her father was a teacher and her mother operated a family store and was postmistress for the community of Kimbrell. Virginia began her formal education in a one-room school going to and from school with her father. The family later moved to Main Street in Irvine when Virginia was 7 years old. She was allowed to enter the third grade at Irvine Grade School following an oral interrogation. The interrogation was given when Virginia told the teachers that she belonged in the third grade.

The following spring, Virginia's father, while working for the L & N Railroad between school terms, lost his life in an accident. Dr. Richard Snowden rode a special train with Mr. Patrick to the Richmond hospital where he later died.

Virginia attended Irvine Grade School, Estill County High School and a private school in Winchester. By the time Virginia graduated from the private school in 1931, she had completed enough coursework at Eastern Kentucky State Teacher's College to qualify for a teacher's certificate. She obtained a trustee's signature for teaching in a one-room school at Kimbrell. However, there was a problem. Teachers had to be eighteen years old and Virginia was only seventeen. Her mother's father, a politician, asked Superintendent Ralph Tyree to attempt to secure an emergency certificate from the Kentucky Department of Education. By the time she was eighteen, she only had a month left to finish her first year of teaching.

In addition to teaching one year at Kimbrell, Virginia taught two years at the Witt School which was located across the road from where the Estill County Middle School is located today. She continued her education at Eastern during the second semester while the public schools were not in session.

In 1934, when Mamie West Scott took the position as superintendent, for the 2nd time, Mrs. Scott hired Virginia as a clerk for the Estill County Board of Education. Also, at the encouragement of Mrs. Scott, she tutored children whose birth dates were too late for them to enter school in September. She remained in this position until her marriage to Joseph Bennett Yeager, the boy who lived next door.

Virginia and Joe had four children, Thomas Bennett, Joseph Patrick, Mary Anne and Owen Franklin. Following the birth of Virginia's first two children, Mrs. Scott asked her to finish the school year filling in for a math teacher at Estill County High School who resigned in November. The following year she went to work at the Richmond Depot and did not return to teaching until the birth of her two younger children. However, she did continue to tutor in her home.

Although she did not accept a regular teaching position until her children were in school, Virginia (Mrs. Yeager from this point on) taught several semesters as needed at Ravenna, Irvine, and Estill County Schools. She served as the attendance clerk for the Irvine Schools in an emergency for several months. In 1951, Mrs. Yeager was employed by the Irvine Schools as a math teacher. She taught in the Irvine schools for 20 years and retired from the Estill County Schools in June of 1977.

Tragedy entered Mrs. Yeager's life once again when her second son, Joe Pat, who was 22, lost his life in an automobile accident as he was leaving the military base at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The therapy of teaching helped her through this very difficult time of her life.



Those of us who were fortunate enough to have Mrs. Yeager as our math/algebra/advanced math/trigonometry teacher give her much of the credit for our collective success in college and in our careers. Mrs. Yeager states, "I am truly happy that I chose teaching as my profession and think of how the lives of my students have engraved their message on me. God has been good to me. We learn to live with our heartaches, though we never forget. My family, my former students and my friends are my life".

Clever Comment...?

by THE "alley rat"

*["Do it once Do it Right"](#)

*[Whom ever coined the phrase "The Golden Years" needs to be scolded/shot.](#)

*["I am nobody. Nobody is perfect, therefore, I must be perfect!"](#)

*["The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age."](#)

*["A friend is one that knows you as you are, understands where you have been, accepts what you have become, and still, gently allows you to grow."](#)

*["It's so hard when I have to, and so easy when I want to."](#)

* ["True friends are those who really know you but love you anyway."](#)

I H S Alumni Association Plans Annual meeting

By T Dwaine Riddell, PhD

Irvine High School officially has a alumni association and it has been incorporated !

What started out as a review session for the 2008 reunion ended up as the official organizational meeting of the newly formed Irvine High Alumni Association, Inc.

Those elected to the board will serve until a full election next year, 2011, are Joedy Ohr, Tom Bonny, Austin Blackwell, Ann Kissick, Penny Miller, Janie Ohr, T. Dwaine Riddell, and Richard Snowden.

As an Irvine High School graduate, you became a charter member of the association. Goals discussed for the association include, a student scholarship, a bi-yearly newsletter and to help provide a data base for each class. In order to fund these projects a \$10.00 per year dues has been suggested. The Commentator, Spring issue, will have more details.

The next annual meeting will be held January, 27 at 7:00pm at the Estill County Library. During this meeting officers will be selected from the ensuing year. Any Irvine High Alumni who can attend are encouraged to do so.

A web site has been created to keep I H S grads informed and a place to keep in touch.

The Commentator lives on as a newsletter to I H S grads

Plans are to continue *The Commentator*, as a newsletter, to our newly formed alumni association members. A spring and fall edition will be published, funds left from the 08 reunion provided funding for this issue. Help provide information concerning your class. Keep all *I H S* grads up to date on upcoming reunions by sending your information to:

T Dwaine Riddell, PhD via email: tdr@driddell.com

If you did not receive the Color Electronic Copy, please send your email address

Irvine High Alumni Association, Inc.

Box 270

Irvine, Kentucky 40336

Happy Holidays, May God Bless

Yesterday and Today Web Page Planned

Send us your photo from high school and one from today (a family photo would also be nice).

Include profile information and a note to former classmates. Even a funny IHS story.

Email to: irvinehighalumni@windstream.net



To:

I H S Hats and Mugs from the 08 reunion —For Sale — hats \$8 & mugs \$3 Tennyeh Ohr tohr@irvineonline.net

www.irvinehighalumni.com

Check the web site often, it has been updated with new information and picture slide shows

I H S Video "Thru the Years" (with 1948 State Tourney footage) \$15 shipping included tdr@driddell.com