

❖ Blue 'n' Gold ❖

Volume 7, Issue 1

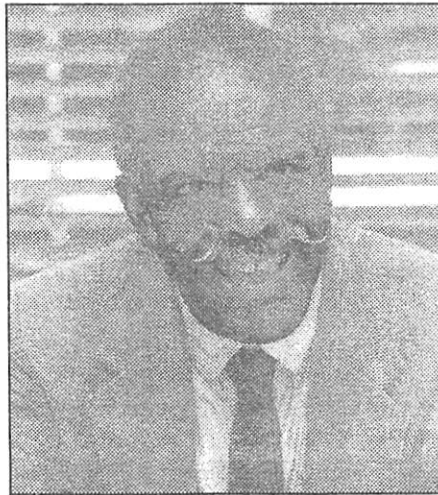
Summer 2003

EUGENE BROOKS DEDICATION SET FOR HOMECOMING

It is to be known as the Eugene Brooks Faculty Courtyard. As one faces the entry to the auditorium, it is the courtyard to the left. When Gene Brooks served as Assistant Principal from 1985 to 1995, his office windows looked out onto that courtyard.

He would be so proud to see it now. On Saturday, April 12, a work crew under the direction of **Paul** and **Lisa Church '79** transformed that courtyard into a beautiful landscape for all seasons. The workers getting their hands dirty that day ranged in age from the early teens to approaching seventy. Arborist **Scott Monroe '70** stopped by to offer advice and assistance with the birch tree that stands as the centerpiece of the courtyard. Joining the work party in the afternoon was **Dolora Brooks**, one of Gene's daughters and the mother of his two beloved granddaughters, who contributed a sculpture to be placed in the courtyard.

This entire effort was organized by a committee of the **HVRHS Faculty Association** chaired by **Cathy Wheeler**, teacher of German and Special Education. Serving on the committee are current and past staff members **Holly Adams**, **Mark Burdick**, **Linda Everett**, **Michael Guy**, **John L. Mahoney**, **Bunny McGuire**, **David Moran**, **Frank Ruo-tolo**, **Ellery Sinclair**, **George Wheeler**, **Kevin Wheeler** and **Katie Snyder Gannett**, now chair of the Region One School Board. The ceremony dedicating the courtyard in Gene's memory will take place during Homecoming Weekend at 11 AM on Saturday, October 18. Everyone is warmly invited to come and participate as we pay tribute to the man who served the Housatonic



(Photo from 1992 HVRHS White Oak)

community so well for ten years. His favorite saying (and he had many!) was, "We serve the children." And serve them he did.

Through donations from local nurseries (thanks to Falls Village Flower Farm, Freund's Farm, Kent Garden Center, Old Farm Nursery and Salisbury Garden Center) and dollars from individuals as well as the Faculty Association, the landscaping has been paid for. But there is still a need for help in providing an appropriately worded plaque and a suitable bench. Donations should be made out to the Eugene Brooks Memorial Fund and sent to HVRHS c/o Bunny McGuire.

There are many angels in this story, but the biggest angels of all are **Paul** and **Lisa Church**, who not only directed the landscaping but, through their business, **Underwood Landscape Garden Design**, donated time and talent as well as plants.

Recent Donors Listed

Since our last issue and through April 30, 2003, these alumni have sent in donations beyond dues:

1940's: 0

1950's: \$1,110

Barbara Friis Szczepanski, **Joan Arnott Larkin** (in memory of sister **Shirley Arnott Boscardin '42**), **Phyllis Opley Day** (in memory of sister **Clara Opley Condon '54**), **Joan Casey Hastie** (in memory of twin sister **Jean Ann Casey Vernali '54**), **Dale Prindle** (in memory of **Jack Dower '53**)

1960's: 0

1970's: 0

1980's: 0

1990's: 0

2000's: 0

FACULTY: 0

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

And these, in the order their letters came to us, are our new Lifetime Members: **Joan Arnott Larkin '54**, **Barbara Friis Szczepanski '51**, **Susan Terrall Simon '60**, **Robert H. Wood '73**, **Sonja Hegge Halstead '54**, **Susanna Gleason Purcell '75**, **Arlene Fallon Dauer '51**, **Ann Marie Grusauskas Schroeder '85**, **Jeanne Marie Jones '59**, **Francis Perotti, Sr. '54**, **Jean Riva Perotti '57**, **Diana Carlson Hine '84**, **Peter Kenny '52**, **Marcia Hadsell '65**

This makes a total of 112 Lifetime Members. The Alumni Association Committee salutes you all for your support. It literally keeps us going. Thanks.

Blue 'n' Gold

A newsletter published
biannually by the Housatonic Valley
Regional High School Alumni
Association

The HVRHS Alumni Association
c/o HVRHS, 246 Warren Turnpike Rd.,
Falls Village, CT 06031
Phone 860-824-5123, extension 162
Web site: www.hvrhs.org
e-mail: bunny_hvrhs@hotmail.com

HVRHS Alumni Association Committee

Officers

Chairman and editor of newsletter Jack Mahoney,
42 Deer Road, Falls Village 06031, 824-5209,
john.mahoney2@att.net

Vice Chairman Patricia Allyn Mechare '64, 78
Johnson Road, Falls Village 06031, 824-0271,
cmechare@snet.net

Secretary Jane Clyburn Boyd '56, Box 1912,
Lakeville 06039, 435-2303, janeb03@snet.net

Treasurer Dorothy Winn Cecchinato '47, Box 794,
Canaan 06018, 824-7517

Decade Representatives

1940's: Dot Cecchinato

1950's: Jane Boyd

1960's: Pat Mechare

1970's: Dena Kenny Solan '73, Box 895, Canaan
06018, 824-0399, tigger@mohawk.net

1980's: Kathleen Mahoney '83, 88 Lower Rd. East
Canaan, 06024, 824-7064, laplaca88@snet.net

1990's: Eric Epstein '93, Box 214, Kent 06757,
927-4278, ewepstein@hotmail.com

At-Large Members

Jo Ann Remer Godburn '50, Box 16, Canaan
06018, 824-5969, jagodburn@snet.net

Dean Hammond '61, 85 Twin Lakes Road,
Salisbury 06068, 824-0208, jdhammond@snet.net

Susie Goodsell Rundall '67, Box 783, Kent 06757,
927-4119, rtrundall@snet.net

Staff Members

Bunny Cecchinato McGuire '55, Box 95, Canaan
06018, 824-5900, bunny_hvrhs@hotmail.com

Judi Thormann Moore, 130 Intertaken Road,
Lakeville 06039, 435-9109,

trinkamoore@yahoo.com

Dues

ANNUAL DUES ARE \$10, UP FROM \$5 IN PAST
YEARS, and payable each September. Lifetime
Memberships are available at \$100. Information
required by the Treasurer with any and all checks
from alumni: the year of graduation and the last
name used when in high school.

NEWS OF THE CLASSES BY DECADE

THE FORTIES

Contact Dot Cecchinato '47, 824-7517,
1940's Decade Rep

Class of '44: Bertha Jennings Petith lives in Kinderhook, NY. She has two daughters, eight grandchildren AND three great grandchildren. Bertha delivers Meals on Wheels weekly, serves as secretary for the local senior citizens, works on the church archives there, and loves gardening.

Class of '48: Joe Solan and Theresa Perrotti Solan '49 will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on September 7, 2003. They have four children and three grandchildren. All four children are alumni of HVRHS: **Terry '72**, twins **Peter and Richard '73**, and **William '76**. Joe and Theresa live in Canaan but spend their winters in Florida. Joe had heart bypass surgery last year but is doing well.

THE FIFTIES

Contact Jane Clyburn Boyd '56, 435-2303,
1950's Decade Rep

Class of '51: Barbara Friis Szczepanski has communicated with many of her classmates during the past few months. "**Irene Tobin Toffey** and husband John have four children and thirteen grandchildren. Two days a week Irene works as a docent at the Norman Rockwell Museum in West Stockbridge, MA, and 'loves it.' She also volunteers as a reader at Recordings for the Blind. She and John have traveled throughout continental Europe and the British Isles. They spent a fall term at St. Andrew's University in Scotland. Irene reports that last year they had a great visit with **Olaf and Cora Stackelberg** at their charming home in Ohio. **Harold Cavanaugh** and wife **Mary** live in California, as do their two children. Since retiring in 2000, Hank has taken up free-lance writing, creating short articles that showcase some of the railroad photographs he has taken over the years. Among several published articles, one featured the New Haven Railroad's diesel locomotive that ran by HVRHS on the Danbury-Pittsfield line. **Marge Grusauski Wilson** is another of several classmates who have left the Connecticut winters behind and settled in sunny Florida. She and husband Stan live in Melbourne. A retired nurse, she is kept busy helping her five grandchildren with their schoolwork and attending their sports activities. Marge missed our 50th reunion because of 9/11 but

looks forward to attending the next one. **Roy Sherwood** and wife Louise are happily retired in Palm Harbor, FL. During the summer they travel and live on their 45-foot cruiser, the 'Lou Roy,' which they keep on the Hudson River. They usually spend time on Lake Champlain and have traveled most of the canals in the northeastern U.S. and Canada, the St. Lawrence Seaway, Lake Ontario, and the coasts of Connecticut and Massachusetts. Roy still finds time for fishing, hunting and golf. What a great retirement! **Paddy Anderson Matson** and husband **Eddie '47** live in Kent and have three children and seven grandchildren. She is involved in church affairs and volunteers at a thrift shop. Her hobbies include gardening and photography. Paddy meets with classmates **Dot Ives Russ**, **Maureen Cole Prentice**, **Betty Crawford Silbert** and **Peggy Peyron Petrovitz** for lunch, good fun and catching up. It is with great sadness that we report the passing of classmate **Joyce Marston Kragel** on April 16 at Noble Horizons Retirement Village in Salisbury. Joyce had lost husband Ron to cancer only two months earlier. Our condolences to her family." Barbara can be contacted at 1604 Wainwright Drive, Reston, VA 20190-3429.

Class of '52: Fred Gobillot writes: "While visiting Noble Horizons on February 6, I spotted Mr. & Mrs. Eldridge at lunch. I went up to him and introduced myself as one of his English students at Regional 50+ years ago. He acknowledged me and identified my row and seat assignment in his class. Needless to say, he blew the wind right out of my sails. What a memory or, better yet, what a sense of humor." **Gloria Brazzale Real** lives on Oak Island along the North Carolina coast, approximately 90 miles north of Myrtle Beach, SC. She and husband Ray moved there fifteen years ago. Gloria is employed full time as an administrative assistant, and Ray is a commercial real estate appraiser. They have six children and two grandsons. **John Maccagnan** tells us, "After 26 years as a civil engineer in the corporate world, managing building design and construction in 40 states and 7 foreign countries, and since 1985 as consulting engineer in private practice in New Jersey, it was time to yield to the younger group about six years ago. I still do select design and consulting work, from industrial to residential, including the pro bono engineering report to save the Ag

CLASS NEWS, Continued

building at HVRHS. My wife, Rosemary, a high school math teacher and supervisor, also packed it in after 32 years, and besides visiting our two sons' families, we have been scheduling every weekday as a holiday." After graduation, Class Agent **Cynthia Barnett Smith** studied nursing at Yale New Haven Medical Center and then practiced in San Francisco. Eventually she returned to Yale to work in pediatrics. Cynthia married Clayton Smith, son of Harold of the original HVRHS faculty back in 1939, and they built a house in the same Lakeville neighborhood where they grew up. She retired as head nurse from Indian Mountain School after 17 years. Today Cynthia keeps busy babysitting, knitting, sewing, furniture refinishing, and caning chairs. **David Hart Winn** has lived in Marcellus, NY (near Syracuse), for 42 years, been married to Judith for 46 years, and has two sons and four grandchildren. He graduated from Florida Southern College and completed his post graduate work at Cortland State Teachers College in New York State. David was a math teacher for 32 years at West Genesee High School, Camillus, NY, retiring in 1992. He also served 12 years in the Army Reserves. To escape the long winters, he goes to Sanibel Island, FL.

Class of '53: The 50th Class Reunion will be held on September 6 at the White Hart Inn. Breakfast and a school tour are planned for the next day. The Reunion Planning Committee (Class Agents **Norman Tatsapaugh** and **Anne Clyburn Killawee**, **Betty Baldwin Bernoi**, **Mary Egan Frattarola** and **Dale Prindle**) have been contacting classmates and making final arrangements. Dale has been collecting photographs for a special presentation. **Judy Vaill Cox** is coming from California and **Don Miner** from Oregon. Everyone is hoping that **Ken Beckley** will be the longest-distance traveler; he lives in Anchorage, Alaska. From neighboring New York, **Jack Sartorius**, **Henry Prause** and **Malcolm Huston** will be attending. **Bob Moore** is traveling all the way from Colorado to see his classmates and play the Hotchkiss golf course again. Among the southerners, **Joan Hickey McBride** is coming from Georgia, **Bob Lawrenz** from Maryland, and from Florida, **Nancy Newkirk Tedder**, **Marcia Wilson Audia** and **Joan Crosbie Martin**. Replies are still pouring in, and almost perfect attendance is expected for this memorable 50th reunion.

Class of '54: Will there be a 50th reunion celebration? Let us know.

Class of '56: A 65th birthday party is in the planning stages. **Walt Schreiber** has put together a wonderful outing at the Sunrise Resort in Moodus, CT (the same site used for a very exciting 40th reunion). The plans include an all-day cruise down the Connecticut River and across Long Island Sound to Greenport, NY. **Vergne Harvey** has already sent his deposit check and will be driving his camper up from Catawba, NC. Walt remembers his days at HVRHS, where he enjoyed playing football. He also recalls spending a lot of time in **Vice Principal Dorsett's** office. After graduation Walt spent four years in the Navy, traveling extensively and playing more football. After working many jobs, including police work, and having his own businesses, Walt has settled down in Chester, CT.

Class of '57: Class Agent **Penny O'Connell Friedman** keeps in touch with many of her classmates even though she is always busy traveling to some exciting destination and enjoying her many hobbies. Penny taught art, English and history in New York City for 32 years; she lives in Beechhurst, NY, overlooking the Throg's Neck Bridge. She will be coming up to the Northwest Corner on June 5th for a Class of '57 "all women's lunch" at the Interlaken Inn. Penny had arranged to meet a few local classmates including **Elizabeth Schneider Kasevich**, **Nancy Dodge Jacobs**, **Nancy Smedick Via**, **Louise Chesboro** and Class Agent **Jean Riva Perotti**. When word got around, the luncheon mushroomed into a fairly large group. The headcount is now over twenty and includes **Marilyn Vosburgh Pitcher** from Granville, OH, **Lydia Coleman Hutchinson** from Middletown, MD, and **Beverly Adams Contois** from Palm Coast, FL. There will be lots of news after this group meets. Unable to attend the 45th Class Reunion last September, **Noel Nelson Wilson** reported that she is living in the lovely Amish town of Lititz, PA. Noel is director of admissions at Linden Hall, the oldest private girls' secondary school in America. She is hoping that Penny will stop by for a visit when she goes through the area to buy quilt fabric.

Class of '58: Class Agent **Pat Zimmermann Miller** writes, "Plans for a 45th reunion are being formed. **Ann Sartori**, **Rose DeBarbieri**, **Pat Houston**, **Pat Miller** and **Bob Perticone** met at the end of March at Bob's house for an initial get-together. A date of September 6, 2003, has been set for the Grove in Lakeville. Notices have gone out to classmates, and a letter will follow with further details. Missing classmates include **Glennis Metcalf Lahr**, **Gladys O'Dell Craven**, **Gerald Dean**, **Madeline Carroll**, **George Drumm, Jr.**, **Robert DuVergy**, **Joan Gordon**, **Reba Grimes**, and **Eleanor Hepburn**. Anyone with information should contact Pat Miller via e-mail at gottmd@yahoo.com, fax at 860-435-6366 or phone 860-435-9633. **Lou Bachetti** will be retiring in June after 32 years with Goodwill Industries in Springfield, MA. **Bob Perticone** retired but ultimately chose to return to work part time at Stadium Systems in Canaan. **Pat McGarry Rochowitz** lives in the greater Chicago area and has two sons working with the Chicago Police Department. She continues to work full time in a medical office.

Class of '59: **Marie Fife Hewins** reports an amazing fact about this class: "Eight members of the class have accomplished something not many people are able to accomplish anymore. Four couples, all from the class, have been married for approximately 40 years to the same person! They are **John** and **Mary Lucier Belter**, **Ken** and **Linda Walters Harring**, **Art** and **Sue Steiger Lamb**, and **Bob** and **Janet Tompkins Tuthill**." Marie contacted these four couples and received the following comments: From **John** and **Mary**, "We started dating freshman year. After four rocky years of dating in high school, we got married on November 7, 1959, six months after we graduated. Just hours later, **Bob** and **Janet Tuthill** got married the same day. We have two sons and four grandchildren. We are raising our granddaughter **Roxanne**, who will be going to Housatonic next year. **John** and **Mary** live in Lakeville. **John** retired eight years ago from the State and spends his time with his many friends and going on fishing trips. **Mary** has her own antique business which she has operated since 1970. **Mary** says, "The reason our marriage has lasted so long is I pay absolutely no attention to **John**." From **Art**: "Susan and I knew each other only slightly

CLASS NEWS, Continued

during our four years at HVRHS. We went our separate ways during high school. After high school we got together a few times and on August 14, 1961, we decided to elope to Raleigh, NC. Why we eloped I cannot recollect, but I do remember the response we got from our parents when we told them. They all said, 'This marriage will not last.' One son, four grandchildren and 42 years later, we're still married. Why? I don't have a hint; other than it's a miracle, and Susan is the saint." Art and Sue live in Cape Elizabeth, ME, where Sue is in real estate. Art retired from Aetna Life and Casualty and now plays a lot of golf. Ken Harring writes: "Linda and I first met when I moved to Sharon in 7th grade. Interestingly, five of the eight people in this forty-year group were in the same 7th grade: Linda, Mary, Art, Bob and myself. Linda 'chased' me for about ten years. I was 'caught' and we tied the knot 4/18/'64. Over the years I'm sure that if I was a trout, she would have thrown me back. But I'm a herring, and harrings must have some redeeming qualities, however few they may be. We raised a son and daughter, and they have added two wonderful spouses and four grandchildren to our family. Thankfully, they all have Linda's qualities and not mine. We have truly been blessed in our lives, and it all started in 7th grade at Sharon Center School." Linda and Ken live in Manlius, NY, where they enjoy their grandchildren and playing golf. Ken ran a construction business until 1998 when he decided to slow down a bit. Linda works full time as office manager for a construction company in Syracuse. From Janet and Bob: "We got married November 7, 1959, hours after John and Mary Belter. And yes, everyone said, 'It will never last.' We lived and raised our children in New Milford, CT. Bob took an early retirement from Kimberly Clark in 1997. We moved to northern Vermont and built our first home at the age of 56. Janet decided she wanted to be a nurse at the age of 50. She graduated in 1995. She works at the local hospital in St. Johnsbury but intends to retire at the end of this year. Our son Robert and his wife Dawn presented us with our first grandchild in June, 2001. Bob loves his retirement; he loves the outdoors and does a lot of hunting, fishing and snowshoeing. We both love our new home and lifestyle in Vermont. As with everyone, we have had our share of happiness and sadness too. Janet is a breast

cancer survivor, and we experienced the death of our son Steven, so we know how precious our lives are. If you want to know what the secret is to staying together for 40 years, all we can say is you have to work together through all things, good and bad." Congratulations to all of you!

THE SIXTIES

Contact Pat Allyn Mechare '64, 824-0271,
1960's Decade Rep

Class of '60: Ron Dower retired in June after a 33-year career at HVRHS. His kindness, professionalism and sense of humor will be sorely missed by students and staff. He was at first a teacher of Social Studies and, in recent years, a guidance counselor. Along the way he coached varsity baseball and softball and assisted in football and basketball. Ron and wife Denise, a PE and Health teacher at the high school, reside in Canaan. **Ed Dorsett**, retired from teaching high school math, is a candidate for First Selectman in the town of Morris, CT.

Class of '61: Marie Nejame Shaw and her husband Gary live in Orlando, FL. Both are retired and enjoy traveling. They recently took a twelve-day trip to Rome and saw all the magnificent sights, including a day trip to Pompeii. They arrived home just days before the Iraqi conflict broke out.

Class of '63: Brenda Pickering Curran and her husband moved to Fort Myers, FL, in 1999 and built a new home last March. Brenda volunteers at CROW, a wildlife rehab hospital. She helps in the clinic doing numerous chores, including rescue and release, which she finds very rewarding. She enjoys making shell craft and visited Margarita Island in Venezuela in April for a two-week shelling trip. Daughter Audra White lives in Los Angeles and works in the TV and film industry. She has seven step-grandchildren. Her mother, **Irene Osolin Pickering '40**, moved nearby in 1999. The 40th Class Reunion will take place on August 23 at the Egremont Country Club.

Class of '64: Christine Holst-Grubbe Napolitan, who lives in Brooklyn, reports that 2002 was a busy year. Daughter Casey was married in August, son Matt became engaged in September, and daughter Sarah is attending SUNY New Paltz. Chris and husband Neil keep chugging along but admit that bedtime comes earlier these days. **Keith Harring** retired several years

ago after 31 years in public education. Of those years he spent 12 as a teacher and 19 as an administrator. He returned to teaching in a parochial school two years ago. He serves as girls' varsity soccer coach. His new hobby is road bicycle tours. He and wife Pam have ridden in Utah and Vermont the past two summers. Members of the Class of '64 extend condolences to the families of **Carol Griffiths Olsen** and **David Washburn**, both of whom died this winter and spring, respectively.

Class of '65: Marcia Hadsell Racine has lived in Arizona for nearly 20 years. Her four sisters, **Helen '64, Marian '65, and Olive and Onalie '70** also live in Arizona. Only brother **Frank '71** still lives in Falls Village. Marcia visits Frank yearly during the summer, which allows her to catch up with relatives and friends. **Michele Markey Witowski** has worked for Northeast Utilities for 36 years and is currently an Administrative Assistant in the District Office, Hadley, MA. She loves her work but is still "looking forward to retirement and a new career as a Pastoral Minister in the Diocese of Springfield, MA. Eight years ago I went back to school and, with any luck, in 2004 I will graduate from Our Lady of the Elms College in Chicopee, MA, with a BA in Religion. My husband and I have been married 21 years, and our favorite pastime is flying. In October of 2000 we were involved in a crash at Westchester County Airport in White Plains, NY. Three of the bravest young men that I will ever know risked their lives to save us from the burning plane. Following months of recovery and rehabilitation, we are now back to flying. This experience has taught us that you never know how much you have until you almost lose it." Michele also wrote that she would love to hear from other members of the class. Her address: 157 Edwards Road, Westhampton, MA 01027; phone 413-529-9551.

Class of '67: Rich Hart apologizes for the delay with the new class web site. He says that if anyone is thinking about retirement, he strongly recommends against it. He's been twice as busy working on web sites, coaching his daughter's DI team, book writing, making a music CD, driving kids to school and serving on several town commissions (chairing one). That would seem like enough, but he has also just accepted a teaching position at the University of New Hampshire. After making their home in

CLASS NEWS, Continued

Wichita for many years, **Eric Christinat** and his wife Dixie have moved to the country to be with their horses. While Eric has moved to Andover, KS, his two sons, Bryan, a veterinarian, and Kevin, a high school teacher, have remained in Wichita. Eric went on to write that he has now been working for Raytheon Aircraft for 29 years, and Dixie has been with the Wichita Dermatology Clinic for the past 21. For those of you who may be searching for the Ramblewood Inn web site, **Cliff** and **Nadine Hawver** report that their domain has been kidnapped and is being held for ransom by a hacker somewhere in Canada. Look for their web site now at the following modified link: www.ramblewood-inn.com Mark your calendars! There will be another class picnic beginning at noon on Sunday, July 27, at Macedonia Brook State Park in Kent. There will be no charge to attend, but bring your own everything. **Rich Crosby** was in Dublin, Ireland, on St. Patrick's Day. It was quite a celebration, but Rich says it was much easier to watch the parade on TV in a local pub. Sixty-one classmates are presently represented on the class e-mail directory. Contact marvmarshall@hotmail.com to stay current on news and events. We also have reunion photos to share, but only by e-mail at this time.

The Class of '69: Class Agent **Joan Segalla Baker's** e-mail address was listed incorrectly in the last issue. Here is the correction: nanabake@aol.com.

THE SEVENTIES

Contact **Dena Kenny Solan '73**, 824-0399, 1970's Decade Rep

Class of '72: **Ron Viafore** is completing his first year as principal of Kent Center School while his son, Patrick, is completing his sophomore year at HVRHS.

THE EIGHTIES

Contact **Kathleen Mahoney '83**, laplacab88@snet.net, 1980's Decade Rep

Class of '81: **Charlie Paley** owns and operates the Good Earth Farm in Sharon and recently celebrated 20 successful years.

Class of '82: **Robin Roraback**, who teaches at Housatonic Day Care Center in Lakeville, is a published illustrator of children's books. She has done two books that can be found on Amazon.com: [Red, White, and Blue: the Story of our Flag](#), and [This is Our Seder](#).

Class of '83: **Joe Byrnes** has taken over his father's catering business and will be

servicing his fine fare to his classmates at their 20th REUNION in October. If anyone has any information about how to contact the following people, please send to **Dolores Schaefer Perotti**, PO Box 356, East Canaan, CT 06024. The reunion committee cannot locate them and wants everyone to be included: **John Dolan**, **Stephen Glynn**, **Shannon Lennon**, **Dale Rush**, **Bill Giulian**, **Vickie Laurel**, **Karen Parks** and **David Sellers**. **Ray Rice** and wife **Eunice** are the proud parents of **Magnolia**, who was born in January of 2002. They live on a mountain in Killington, VT. **Nora Stevens Heffering** lives on a farm in Ontario, Canada, with her husband and two daughters. **Constance Hooker Panetski** is an art teacher in Bath, ME, where she lives with her husband. **Darlene Demetri** gave up practicing law to become a freelance grantwriter. She lives in Goshen, CT. **Jim Rosseter** is married to **Missy Beligni '92** and lives in Sandisfield, MA. They are expecting their first child in June.

Class of '84: **Jessica Fowler** and husband **Jim Krissell** welcomed baby **Walter** in December 2001. He joins sister **Katherine** at their home on a mountaintop in Cornwall Bridge. **Tom Baird** recently had a daughter. He and brother **K. C. '77** run **Baird's Store** in Cornwall Bridge. **Laurel Dakers Callendo** has a mortgage business (Village Mortgage) in Torrington. **Mimi Laidman Harson's** son, **Kyle Laidman '02**, is in the service and was deployed to Iraq. **Mish Nyklicek** and wife recently had a baby girl. **Wendy Prindle** is a flight attendant with American Airlines. **Holly Haas** recently moved from Boston to Pennsylvania, where she is a nanny. **Richard Kling** has become a stay-at-home dad after being laid off by United Airlines. His hands are full with three-year-old **Jack** and five-month-old **Isabella**. His wife, a manager at The Gap in Manhattan, "likes me being Mr. Mom."

Class of '85: **Nancy Mahoney Soper**, husband **David Soper** and their two kids, **Katie** and **Ben**, are relocating to the northwest corner after spending seven years in Ohio.

THE NINETIES

Contact **Eric Epstein '93**, 927-4278, 1990's Decade Rep

Class of '91: **Adam Kelsey** was named Coach of the Year in the 10-team Denver Prep League for the 2001-02 season after leading his boys' team to a 12-8 record and

a berth in the Colorado large-school tournament. **Adam**, who teaches social studies at Denver South High School, has brought success to a program that was "close to being in shambles." Quite an achievement at a large (1600 students) high school for a young man who learned his basketball at a small high school (HVRHS) and a small college (ECSU).

Class of '95: We have had an e-mail from **Jose Pablo Zuniga Arias**. He writes: "I was an exchange student at Housy. My host family, the Wheelers, visited me in Costa Rica and brought me a 'Blue 'n' Gold' issue. So now I know you exist! Since I graduated from Housy, I went back to Costa Rica and to Universidad Nacional to study economics. I got my bachelor's degree in economics in 2000. Since then I have been working with a risk-rating agency. First I worked as a research analyst and now I work as a corporate analyst. I work for Fitch Ratings, a U.S. company with headquarters in New York and London. I am still single and would like to study abroad, perhaps in the U.S. or London. I do not have contact with any schoolmates but would like to be in touch with my old friends." Jose can be contacted at **Analista Financiero, Fitch Centroamerica S. A.**, 506-296-9182 or www.fitchratings.com.

Class of '97: **Kara Clemente** lives outside Boston, MA, and works as a research associate at a pharmaceutical company in Cambridge. She has a BS in pre-veterinary medicine and plans to pursue a master's degree in public health.

A REMINDER

Back when we started to publish this newsletter in 1997, we listed the responsibilities of the Class Agent. There is an urgent need to revisit some of those responsibilities. Here they are:

- Maintaining an up-to-date list of classmates' addresses for future mailings and class reunions;
- Collecting news items from classmates for inclusion in the next issue of *Blue 'n' Gold*;
- Communicating address changes and news items to the Decade Representative of the Alumni Association Committee.

Make sure the Decade Representative is well informed before the deadlines of May 1 and November 1 for submitting material to the editor of the newsletter. Thanks. We need the help.

OLIVER F. ELDRIDGE 1915-2003

Oliver Eldridge, English teacher at HVRHS from 1947 to 1957, died on February 13 of this year at Noble Horizons in Salisbury. Just one week earlier he had so impressed **Fred Gobillot '52** with his incredible memory of where Fred had sat some fifty years before in his English class.

Oliver Eldridge was an extraordinary man. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II both as a signalman on a tanker in the North Atlantic and, later, as a lieutenant junior grade on an LST in the Pacific. Upon leaving HVRHS in 1957 he joined the Canaan Savings Bank. By 1964 he was president and remained in the position until 1975, when the bank merged with State Bank for Savings. He was then elected vice president and manager of the Canaan office and a trustee of State Bank. He retired in 1980.

But he was also a poet and writer who published "Beach Grass," a collection of the poetry written over his lifetime. And he was an award-winning grower of irises whose iris garden on Granite Avenue in Canaan was visited each spring by flower lovers. And he was a bee keeper who sold his honey under the label "Land of Canaan."

In the school year 1965-66 Oliver and wife Louise opened their home to an AFS student from Guatemala, **Martin Argueta**. Daughter Nancy had graduated with the Class of '65, and son **Rob '67** was a junior that year. Martin went on to graduate with the Class of '66 and a strong bond was formed between him and the Eldridge family. This bond was so strong that, when a memorial service was held for Oliver in May, Martin Argueta came all the way from Guatemala to attend.

UPDATE ON ABE

With a new safety glass case nearing completion, the completely restored statue of Abraham Lincoln will be back in place inside the school sometime after graduation this June 18.

HALL OF FAME BACK IN BUSINESS

After a three-year hiatus the HVRHS Hall of Fame Committee met in April to establish procedures and criteria for future business. The next step is a meeting of the committee in June to consider nominations to that point. That will lead to a ceremony at the school on Sunday, November 9, at which the successful candidates will be inducted and to which all of the Housatonic community is invited.

Anyone may submit a nomination at any time. Nomination sheets may be obtained from any member of the committee, and they are: Director of Athletics **David Bayersdorfer**, Assistant Principal **Mary Ann Buchanan**, Principal **Kathleen Burkhart**, former guidance counselor and past as well as present coach (!) **Roland Chinatti**, current teacher and former coach **Denise Dower**, former teacher, coach, athletic director, principal and assistant superintendent **Edward Kirby '45**, current teacher and coach **David Lindsay**, former teacher, coach and principal **Jack Mahoney**, and former teacher, coach and athletic director **Edward Tybur-ski**.

It should be noted that membership in the HVRHS Hall of Fame is not limited to former athletes alone. Coaches, of course, are eligible to be nominated, but so is anyone — teacher, support staff member, administrator, community member — who has been an outstanding supporter of the athletic program.

Before submitting a nomination by sending it to any member of the committee, please consult the list of current members that appears on page 7.

These newsletters are printed and folded by the HVRHS Technology Education Department, students and teachers

HALL OF FAME PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

PROCEDURES

- As we shall continue to accept rolling applications each year, there will be no deadline for applications.
- The committee meets to consider nominations in June of each year, which terminates the process for that year's nominees.
- It is the responsibility of the HVRHS Director of Athletics to convene the committee each year.
- The induction ceremony will be held in November for 2003. A decision will be made later by the full committee as to whether elections shall continue on a yearly basis.
- Nominators must provide pertinent information re their nominees on the nominations sheet.

CRITERIA

- Ordinarily, a candidate/athlete must be a graduate of HVRHS, but exceptions can be made.
- An athlete becomes eligible for nomination five years after leaving HVRHS.
- In most cases participation in more than one sport will be a requirement for membership.
- An athlete's successful participation in sports beyond high school is a plus when he/she is considered for membership.

In addition to outstanding athletic performance, an athlete must have made a positive contribution to the efforts of his/her team.

MEMBERS OF THE HVRHS HALL OF FAME

1996	1997	1998	1999
Ben Bedini, Coach	Lou Bachetti '58	Steve Bornemann '62	Tony Cantele '61
Hank Belter '41	John Berti '56	Kim Borst '90	Howard Chinatti '73
Willie Belter '42	Frank Hadsell '71	Jack Bristol '54	Milt Clay '47
Steve Blass '60	Art Lamb '59	Dick Greco, Coach	James Hemingway '91
Roland Chinatti, Coach	Dave Lindsay, Coach	John Lamb '64	Ron Laigle '83
Ross Grannan '47	Steve Schneider '59	Pete Lamb '55	Mike Lamb '78
Ed Kirby '45, Coach, AD	Sidney Shoifet '48	Don Piretti '54	Ernest Lucier '57
Tom Parsons '57	Diane Stoddard '76	Jill Sieller '85	Bridgit Neville '91
Frank Perotti '54	Norman Stoddard '67	Frank Testa '54	Richard Thurston '51
Edward Tyburski, Coach, AD	Ambler Travis, Coach	Nancy Upshaw '85	Andy Whalen '60
Ann Segalla, Fan			

Alumni, Thanks For Your Help!

By: Dave Seney, Technology Education Teacher

The Technology Education Department at H.V.R.H.S. has been assisting with the publication of the *Blue 'n' Gold* semi-annually for several years using instructional equipment in our graphic arts facility. In the beginning, we printed the newsletter on our then-new Risograph Digital Duplicator/Printer, with the *Blue 'n' Gold* committee taking responsibility for the folding and other aspects of mailing. In recent years, we have taken on the task of folding approximately 13,000 sheets of paper. The paper folder that we resurrected and began using was one left over from the 1970's. While it was still a very usable and viable piece equipment, it often was unfriendly, cantankerous and difficult for students to operate.

Through the generosity of several organizations including the H.V.R.H.S. Alumni Association, along with funds from the Technology Education Department's new equipment budget, we were able to purchase a new, very user-friendly paper folder that students can easily set up and operate. Instead of despising the folding process and attempting to calculate potential paper waste, we now look forward to this phase of the newsletter project. Thank you for your generous contribution toward the purchase of this valuable piece of equipment. Photos below are of students at work. Photo on left is of students folding using the new paper folder and to the right the *Blue 'n' Gold* newsletter is being printed.

