

## Sci-Tech Gets Boost From Alumni

At its November meeting, the Alumni Association's Board of Directors voted to donate \$5,000 to the project whereby the old C. B. Wood Ag Center will be converted into a new science and technology center.

Progress on that project is a continuing story. First, the ranks of volunteers committed to the project have swelled with the involvement of the Build Green group, a loose organization of architects, contractors, and other green enthusiasts who have, over pizza, attended four long (one was three hours!) meetings sharing ideas about how best to produce a building that is itself a shining example of what the latest in green technology can accomplish.

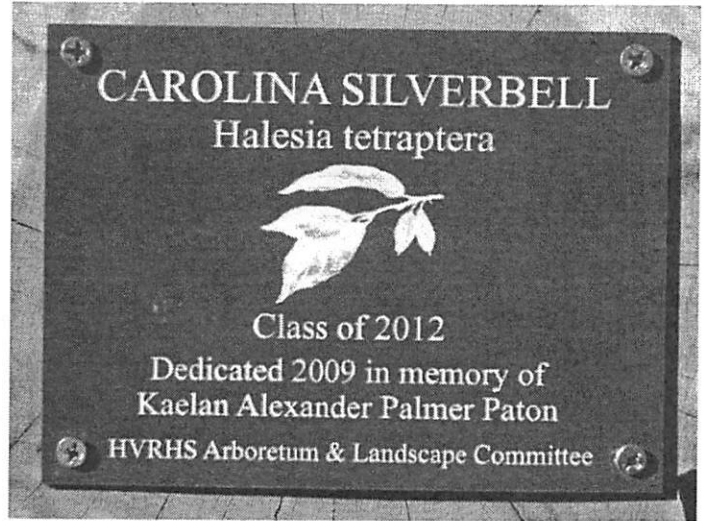
Jean Cronauer, executive director of the Northwest Conservation District, has just submitted a grant application that has the support of all six first selectmen in our towns. And the private fundraising is approaching the sum of \$200,000, which will allow us to begin actual work in the spring.

## Arboretum Beautifies HVRHS

Under the guidance of our chairman, Ron Dower, the Arboretum and Landscape Committee is working to beautify our—read your—campus. Dave Moran's horticulture students, joined by others in the Vo Tech Science Dept, provide labor and insight to our planning—assisted by conservationist **Tom Zetterstrom, '63**, and local growers.

Our latest contribution was planting a tree commemorating the **Class of 2012** in memory **Kaelan Palmer Paton**, who was lost in the Housatonic River in a rescue of his friends. The *Silver Bell* was planted to the right of the entrance to the science wing during a touching ceremony that many students were able to attend.

We intend that all the plantings be indigenous specimens and be labeled with their significance (class tree or me-



A Silver Bell tree was planted on the HVRHS campus to commemorate Kaelan Palmer Paton and the Class of 2012.

morial tree, for example) with the tree's identification and a small etching of its leaf form. The 5-by-3¾-inch blue plaques with gold lettering are mounted on native red cedar standing about two feet above ground.

In future years the campus will become a valuable teaching arboretum.

Those who wish to donate in support of the Committee's efforts can contact Ron Dower at 860-824-7836 or e-mail [ron-dower@comcast.net](mailto:ron-dower@comcast.net).

## 2010 Homecoming Is Scheduled for Oct. 23

Homecoming will be held on Oct. 23 this year and, in addition to the usual athletic contests in the afternoon, the HVRHS Alumni Association is planning to welcome back former students with tours of the school, the opportunity for mini-reunions, sale of memorabilia and a 50-50 raffle.

Two 90-minute tours of the school will be held from 10:30

to noon and from noon to 1:30 p.m., led by **Kevin Wheeler, '82**.

Visitors will be given plenty of time to reminisce—an attempt will be made to collect some of these memories on video—as well as to see newer portions of the building.

Classrooms will be set aside for classes who want to have mini-reunions.

A continuous video about the school will be set up in the lobby and old sweaters, uniforms, gym suits and the like are being sought to set up in a nostalgic display.

The annual sports events begin at 1 p.m. with a football game between Housatonic and Granby. There will also be cross-country, field hockey and soccer.

## Other

### Reunions

**Class of 1955**—it's fifty-five years!! Let's have a great reunion the Saturday of Homecoming. I will get more information to you soon. If you have some ideas email me at [missbunny@snet.net](mailto:missbunny@snet.net). *Bunny (Cecchiato) McGuire*

## Class Of '59 Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

The HVRRHS Class of 1959 celebrated its 50th reunion on Oct. 2-4, 2009 at the Wake Robin Inn in Lakeville. The reunion was organized by **Dick Gustafson** with assistance from **Pat (Hall) Graf, Dan Hart, Marie (Fife) Hewins, Del Kinney** and **Barry Travis**.

Friday evening's social was well attended by about 50 people and the group filled the common areas of the Inn with lively conversation and flashing digital cameras. Pizza and buffalo wings arrived around 7:30 and all enjoyed the "gourmet" dining.

The hit of the evening was the arrival of **Marie Hewins, Pat Graf, Jean (Gawel) Joost, Doris (Jones) Lavell** and **Renate Wilford** in their poodle skirts, tight sweaters, neck scarves and bobby sox with black and white saddle shoes. **Ike Hewins** and **Wayne Wilford** completed the group with blue jeans and white "T" shirts complete with packs of Lucky Strikes rolled up in their sleeves.

Saturday brought a range of activities for all. **Ken Harring, Art Lamb, Bill Bliven** and **Gerry Hines** braved the weather to golf at the Egremont Country Club. Many took the opportunity to visit family and friends in the area and about 25 classmates and friends took a tour of HVRRHS in the afternoon, hosted by **Dot Cecchinato, '47**.

### AFS Anniversary

On Saturday, Aug. 28, the Housatonic Valley Regional Chapter of AFS Program will celebrate its 60th reunion. Invitations are being pre-



**Pat Graf, Marie Hewins, Jean (Gawel) Joost, Doris (Jones) Lavell** and **Renate Wilford** in their poodle skirts, recall the fashions of the '50s, while **Ike Hewins** and **Wayne Wilford** add to the nostalgia.

The Saturday evening social and banquet was very well attended by 72 classmates, spouses, friends and guests ... and again, the Class of 1959 took over the Inn. **Caroline Wakefield**, former guidance counselor, former HVRRHS principals and directors of the Alumni Association, **Jack Mahoney** and **Ed Kirby**, and Mr. Kirby's wife, **Mary (Tobin) Kirby, '45**, all had a good time remembering events of a half century ago. Mr. Kirby honored Ken Harring for his commitment to the baseball program and the special energy, and humor he brought to the team.

Recognition was given to Doris Lavell as the classmate who had traveled the farthest... 3,180 miles from Coos Bay, OR. She was a narrow winner

over **Ed Chiera, Essie (Knowles) Fischer** and **Barry Travis**, all of whom came in from California. **Bob and Janet (Tomplings) Tutthill** won the prize for being married the longest, 50 years. The final award went to the classmate who had the most great-grandchildren... **Ray Pickett** with four. Each person recognized was presented with a special pen, the barrel of which was made from the wood of the original White Oak.

The reunion was a time to renew friendships, to catch up with everyone, to retell the stories of our youth and express appreciation to each other and our teachers. We noted too, with sadness, those who had passed and whose presence were missed.

rine Gannett at 860-672-6958 or e-mail [Joy at Joy@survivehedgevine.org](mailto:Joy at Joy@survivehedgevine.org).

All are encouraged to save the date and to celebrate the long history of one of the first AFS Chapters in the country.

**The Class of 1979** celebrated its 30th reunion on Oct. 11, 2009. Classmates from as far away as Texas and Miami flew in to enjoy the evening at the Egremont Country Club in Massachusetts. Others who attended live in the Northwest Corner, in Connecticut, New York and Massachusetts. The class celebrated over dinner, marveling over photos of kids and grandchildren, reminiscing of its time at Housy and catching up since last reunion 10 years ago.

Thanks were extended to **Shelly (Rice) Avery, Theresa (Carley) Kenny, Marianne Szesesin** and **Alison (Pierzga) Mosiman** for organizing the reunion and to all the classmates who networked to find lost classmates and update the class list.

## Project Records Memories of Pitchers, Catcher

By Kathryn Boughton

Spring is barely upon us, but the Fulco Project has looked back at the boys of summer who once dominated the fields at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The Project, which is recording the memories of former athletes and coaches at the six-town regional high school, recently released its second in a series of DVDs that will look at the glory years of HVRHS sports as well as significant changes in athletics such as the introduction of girls' soccer under Title IX.

The second DVD, which was recorded following a reunion of the Class of 1959, recounts the remarkable period of the school's history, from 1956 until 1964, when the baseball team achieved renown in the state and the nation, sending three of its athletes to the Major League as pitchers. A fourth player, Art Lamb, who some feel might have been the best of all, was signed by the Pittsburgh Pirates but was sidelined early in his career by a shoulder injury.

"Art Lamb was as good but he didn't make it after his shoulder injury," said his coach, former HVRHS principal Ed Kirby. "He had surgery and went back and he could throw hard, but he would not be ready for the next rotation. He couldn't do a four day turn-around and it finishes your career when that happens."

Former Pirates pitcher Steve Blass agreed with the coach's assessment. "I don't think any

of us had more pure stuff than Art," he said.

Why did this little school, which never had more than a few hundred students, become a hotbed of athletic ability during this short period? That is the question he is asked most, according to Mr. Blass, who led the Pirates to victory in the 1971 World Series and who is now a Pirates sports commentator. In the DVD he posed the question to Mr. Kirby.

Mr. Kirby, who could have claimed the honor for preparing all four of his Major League candidates for their careers, had a more modest conclusion. "It was a good gene pool," he said, noting that all four players were related in some way.

The eldest of the lot, Tom Parsons, grew up in Salisbury and was a cousin to the Lamb family of Sharon. Mr. Parsons pitched for the Pirates and later the Mets. The Lambs produced pitchers, Pete, Art and John, the latter two of whom were signed by the Pirates. Art's career was cut short, but his younger brother, John, pitched for three years in the Majors, making 47 appearances for the Pirates.

The Lambs' sister, Karen, never had a chance to shine on the playing fields in those days before Title IX, but she married Mr. Blass and has had her own long association with baseball, marrying the young pitcher in 1963 and still standing by his side last spring when he was honored by the Pirates for his 50 years with the club. Mr. Blass was a professional player for more

than a decade before losing his edge following his exhilarating win in the seventh game of the 1971 World Series.

Mr. Kirby, an avid athlete himself, conducted the interview for the DVD, which was produced in the studios of CATV-6 in Canaan. In the interview he concedes, "I think we had pretty good program. We were family."

Indeed, he acted as if the boys were family. "He made sure I got to school," said John Lamb with a laugh. "He would say, 'If you are not in school, you can't play,' so he would pick me up and take me to school."

The success of that program gave Mr. Kirby the opportunity to become a "bird dog"

scout for the Pirates club for 15 years, watching the developing players in the Tri-State region for potential talent. "I love baseball and it was a lot of fun and fun to get to know the other scouts," he recalled.

He did not scout while he was a coach, but his opportunity to meet scouts began early. When Tom Parsons, a senior, started throwing no-hitters in his senior year, he put the HVRHS program on front pages across Connecticut. "When we played Torrington in 1957, we had 1,000 people there to watch the game," recalled Mr. Kirby. "There were 16 Major League clubs then and scouts for all 16 showed up to see him."

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Edward Tyburski Jr., '76, met Pete Rose this winter in Las Vegas and got a personalized autographed photo and had his picture taken with the superstar. "He was very friendly," Mr. Tyburski reported, "and he lit up when I mentioned I grew up in the same town that Steve Blass was from. He joked that he went 4-4 off him in one game and also said he was a great pitcher until he lost it. He thinks Steve is an excellent announcer...very cool." Mr. Tyburski is director of engineering for Curtiss-Wright Controls, Inc.'s, Embedded Computing Group in San Diego, CA.

# Three Pitchers, Catcher Recall Glory Days

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Mr. Kirby recalled Mr. Parsons' "great curve ball."

"It was unfair," interjected the genial Mr. Blass on the DVD. "It was cruel to batters."

The players agreed that Mr. Kirby's seriousness about the baseball program at Housatonic and the discipline he imposed helped to prepare them for the Majors. All had to wait their turn on the mound as older, more experienced pitchers led the team. Mr. Parsons did not pitch until his junior year, followed by Art Lamb and then Mr. Blass. Mr. Blass jokingly said he made sure that Art Lamb graduated. "If he didn't graduate, I didn't pitch."

Mr. Blass said he was given "an 80-pound playbook" on his first day. "I thought, 'This is going to be serious stuff.' [Coach Kirby] had a structured approach to the craft." He said that today's players often could use more time to hone their skills before coming to the Majors. "I was in the Minors for a long time," he said, "and I had a chance to learn. I think they bring them up too soon."

Mr. Kirby asked each of the men to demonstrate how they held the ball for different pitches they used. Each had slightly different variations on their grips. Mr. Blass, for instance, said he had a wicked slider that left hitters scratching their heads. "I made my living with the slider," he said. "I always threw the curve ball wrong [according to Mr. Kirby] and [he] told me I would never make the Majors if I didn't learn to do it right. Kids today are really throwing a curve

ball when they try to throw a slider, but they are making \$4 million, so who am I to tell them they are doing it wrong?"

Mr. Blass said he learned to throw a slider playing winter ball in the Dominican Republic in 1963-'64. The country had just been through the assassination of its leader, he recalled, and soldiers with machine guns were stationed at either end of the dugout.

Mr. Lamb said he made his career as a breaking ball pitcher. "I could throw a curve ball," he said, "but never consistently. I threw curve balls when I was ahead in the count—if I got a strike, it was over; if I missed, I missed.

"The difference between high school ball, Minor League ball and the Majors is consistency," he continued.

"There is a reason the clubs spend millions to send 35-year-old men to spring training camp. You do the same thing every day so when you are on the field you do it automatically."

One player, who caught for all four of the HVRHS pitchers, didn't go on to the Majors, but holds the record for catching the most no-hitters in Connecticut high school history. John Schneider was in school with Tom Parsons, Art Lamb and Steve Blass. He later caught John Lamb in Interstate League play. "He holds the record for catching high school no hitters," said Mr. Kirby. "Most catchers never catch one."

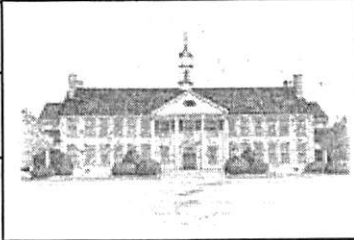
Mr. Blass noted that all pitchers are "mental cases," and asked Mr. Schneider how he handled the differences. "I was

too young to go into pitchers' psychology," he responded, "but they all had their idiosyncrasies. " He said that Mr. Parsons' pitches "were light as a feather," while Art Lamb "really plowed it in."

The first DVD in the Fulco Project recorded "The Bedini Years 1946-1954," recounting the HVRHS career legendary coach, Americo "Ben" Bedini. Four other are currently in production: "Girls Soccer at HVRHS," "The Interstate League," "The Canaan Steamrollers" and the "Pete Fulco Interview," whose memories inspired the series.

Those interested in obtaining a DVD for a \$15 donation may send inquiries to: The Fulco Project, Box 1245, Canaan, CT 06018 or e-mail [fulcoproject@hvrhsalumni.org](mailto:fulcoproject@hvrhsalumni.org)."

## Send Us Your News ...

# Alumni News by Class and Decade

## 1940s

**Bertha (Miller) Matranga, '42**, writes: "I enjoy reading the alumni news, especially Jane Kenyon's letter (about the early days at Housatonic in the Sept. 2009 issue). I was in her brother Austin Jackson's class of '42. I occasionally get to Kent and see Mary Ellen (Herman) Nelson, Betty (Giddings) Kallstrom and Lucy (Pecora) Tremont, all Class of '42.

**Bertha (Jenkins) Petith, '44**, survived a triple bypass in 2007 and is back in full swing, enjoying 10 of her great-grandchildren. Family is a big part of her life in Kinderhook, NY. She is an active gardener, works at the local food pantry and is active in her local church. She maintains her own home. "Life is good," she writes.

**Bob King, '46**, sent in his alumni dues along with a note commenting on how quickly time has flown over the 63 years since his graduation. "I enjoy receiving the newsletter," he writes, adding that he has many happy memories of his time with wonderful classmates. He has four children and 11 grandchildren, he reports, with four of his grandchildren in college and three more to follow in September 2010. "Time flew by," he concluded.

**Raymond Coons, '47**, begins his missive to us with a confession. "To begin with, I was a very poor student in high school," he writes, "doing only enough to get by. While he says he had to burn a lot of "midnight oil" to overcome this deficit, pure determination propelled him

forward through a successful career in the Navy.

"I am not looking for excuses," he wrote, "but my family was very poor, I had no father, my mother was a cook and boarded where she worked. I lived with my grandmother and my great uncle. We had no electricity and heat was provided by a large stove in the kitchen, the only room downstairs. As a result, the only homework I did was in study hall. When I began to realize in my senior year that school was about to end and that I would have to find a way to make a living, I worked harder and managed to graduate in 1947. Finding a job that summer was very hard. The only one I could find was on a farm where Bill Palister, who was in my class, also worked. We talked one day and felt there had to be something better and decided to see what the Navy had to offer. We both enlisted in August."

Once in the Navy, he decided he had to make up for the time he had lost in high school. "My first ship was an oil tanker that went all over the Mediterranean and Arabia," he recalled. He had learned to operate movie projectors at the Colonial Theater in Canaan while he was in high school and the Navy decided to send him to school to learn to repair projectors. He later went to harbor defense school where he learned to operate and repair controlled mines, a task that had been transferred from the Army to the Navy. Because of his high standing in the

class he was allowed to pick his assignment and chose Rhode Island. While stationed there in Jamestown, he met his future wife, Lois Thierfelder, whom he married on Jan. 12, 1952.

The couple later moved to Great Lakes, IL, where he was enrolled in the electrician Mate B school. He served aboard several ships before putting in for Gyro School in Washington DC. He finished first in his class and asked the officer in charge how to get instructor duty. His request was sent in just as he departed for duty aboard the USS Charles S. Sperry and it was eight months before he was sent to instructor school, again in Great Lakes. When he had completed the course, he taught the electrician's Mate B course for three years, advancing to the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Near the end of that time, a Commander came to talk to his class about volunteering for Nuclear Power School. "I jumped at the chance and it turned out to be the second best decision I ever made," he wrote. "The first was my wife, who had by now given me two children, Richard and Susan. I transferred to New London to start Basic Sub School and then went to Nuclear Power School in the spring of 1960. I finished school in 1961 and was assigned to the USS Scorpion SSN589."

He stayed in Norfolk, Va., for another year, advancing to Senior Chief. In '62 he was dispatched to Pittsburgh, PA, where he trained for the USS

Haddo, which was being constructed in Camden, NJ, and to which he was later assigned. In the wake of the loss of the USS Thresher, many changes were made to submarines between the time he was assigned to the Haddo and when she was finally commissioned in 1964.

His wife took the family on a visit to her folks in Rhode Island and her father showed the couple an article about a nuclear reactor that was to be built on the Bay Campus of the University of Rhode Island. He said he would like to work there when he retired from the Navy, a move he made in 1967, two years after the birth of his younger son, Steven. He went to work in 1967 at the Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center as a reactor operator. He worked there for 21 years, retiring in 1988. Then he and his wife sold their house and moved to Florida. The Coons had three children, seven grandchildren and four great-granddaughters. Mrs. Coons died in 2002 of kidney failure, followed by their oldest son, Richard, in 2003.

"One of my biggest regrets in my life is that I did not put more effort into my studies in high school, as it might have saved me a lot of midnight oil," he concluded.

## 1950s

**Don Piretti, '54**, has begun a new "hobby" in his retirement, winemaking. He has partnered with three friends, who own a small, small vineyard in Chester, CT. The wine produced is for private use only.

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In 2009 they produced 200 bottles each of Primotiva and Merlot, both red wines. They currently have vats of Zinfandel and Sangiovese, also reds, in fermentation until they are ready to bottle in the spring. Mr. Piretti says it is a lot of work, extremely interesting and very rewarding.

Mr. Piretti would like to hear from classmates and friends at [d.piret@comcast.net](mailto:d.piret@comcast.net).

**Peter Smith, '54**, reports that he retired from education two years ago, but was asked back by this year's graduating class to be their graduation speaker in June 2009. "I found that working with 20 students in the classroom was a cinch compared to speaking to 800 students/parents/faculty!" he wrote. "Nevertheless, it certainly was a highlight of my career!"

He writes that he is still doing educational consulting work in China, traveling there two or three times a year, and often travels to California to visit children and grandchildren. He had a fun tennis game and dinner visit with classmate **Ben Foster, '54**, in August 2009 and continues to spend summers at Twin Lakes where he enjoys lots of gardening and tennis.

A mini-reunion of Northwest Corner classmates from the Class of '57 was held Oct. 6 at the Brewery in Great Barrington, MA. **Bill and Mary (Fitch) Blass, Chris Dakin, Astrid Satre, Pete Fulco, Tom and Marilyn (Gibson) Riley, Jackie Steele, Betty Schneider,**

**Nancy Smedick, Doris Ford, Lisa Consolini, Chuck Pickert, Don and Nancy (Aakjar) Perry, Fred and Patty (Goodnow) Thibault, Art Strong, Jack Preston** and some spouses attended the event. By the way, another get together is planned for next year.

**Charles (Chuck) Pickert, '57**, lives in Staatsburg, NY, where he runs his own small business as a handyman.

**Earl Brecher, '57**, is caretaker for Yelping Hill Estate in Cornwall. He spends what little spare time he has writing letters to the editor of his local newspaper and is working on his autobiography.

**Judy (Schlock) Ghidossi, '58**, hosted a summer Mardi Gras luncheon at her home, complete with beads and baubles. The potluck was attended by **Ann Sartori, Pat (Zimmermann) Miller, Rose (DeBarbieri) VanDeBogart, Mary Louise (Gentile) Diaz, Barbara (Carberry) McEnroe, Ruth (Peirce) Adotte, Mary Lee (Dufour) Bristol and Audrey (Athoe) Wyman, all Class of '58**. Judy later surprised everyone by presenting them with photos of a very memorable event.

**Linda Byrnes, '58** recently moved to a cottage at Noble Horizons in Salisbury. Several classmates joined her Sept. 15 for a take-out, eat-in dinner party full of laughs and storytelling.

**Jim Hammond, '58**, recently celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday at a brunch in Millerton. He was joined by nine other classmates and several

spouses. The conversation was so lively that the remainder of the visiting diners in the room stayed for the entertainment.

**Barbara (Berti) Hermann, '59**, died Aug. 27, 2009.

**The Rev. Jeanne (Murray) Jones, '59**, of Colfax, WI, tried to retire, but says she got so bored she went back to work, this time as pastor for two Wisconsin United Methodist Churches.

## 1960s

**Pat (Reed) Murray, '60**, says, "Thanks to all of you who gather, print and send out the news of our alumni. Very interesting article on how Housatonic was born 70 years ago ... Please keep sending news."

**Judith (Norton) Cole, '63**, recently retired from a long and varied nursing career. She and her husband, Don, remain in North Bennington, VT, on a rural road between two covered bridges. They manage the Henry House Inn Bed & Breakfast, which is closed mid-January until mid-April while the Coles spend time in Fort Myers, Fla., loving the sunshine. Their grandchildren are all involved in sports, so the doting grandparents cheer their teams along when the inn is quiet. They also enjoy working in their yard and gardens. Retirement is great, Judith says. **Susan Tippet, '65**, is currently living in Miami, FL. She joined the Class of '65 in her junior year, but says she loved her time in Lakeville. She has had a richly varied career since she graduated, attending college in Texas,

but soon decided it wasn't for her. She wanted to work with horses, but her father objected, so she found employment in the Washington, D.C. area working for a Congressman while waiting to enter the VISTA program. While in VISTA she worked in Texas because of her mastery of Spanish (she was born in San Paolo, Brazil). She worked with Mexican-American families in the little town of Presidio, TX, where she formed deep friendships with some of the residents that continue to this day.

After more than two years with VISTA, she moved to Los Angeles, Calif., where she joined the LA County Sheriff's Department at the county women's jail. She spent a little more than three years there before deciding she had had enough of the population she was working with. "I had just spent two years with VISTA helping people that I loved and now having to deal with serious low lifes just wasn't for me. I went back to my horses, my first love, and stayed with them for a long, long time—until I got hurt."

She worked on her stepmother's farm in California and then in Canada, where she damaged a knee. Then she went to Ocala, FL., working again for her stepmother, where she reinjured her knee. Advised by doctors to keep away from horses, she went back to California, where she joined security at Universal Studios. Her career there lasted another three years before "I hurt my knee again

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chasing some nut who was trying to burn the studio down!"

The death of her stepmother brought her back to Virginia to help her father. She stayed with him as he decided to sell the farm he lived on and moved to Fisher Island, FL, in 1990. Fisher Island is a very exclusive enclave, occupied primarily by the rich and famous. It has 214 acres with 600 condos and many amenities. It would also be the focus of Sue's longest-lasting employment. Sue, still caring for her father, had started to do errands for other residents as well, running errands, caring for their dogs, watering their plants and the like, when she became friends with a stockbroker, Barbara Dinaburg. She and Barbara set up Camelot Services, taking care of all the nitty-gritty that it takes to run a home, and relieving their clients of any responsibility.

Eighteen years later they had a thriving business with 26 employees.

Sue is in love with the water and has spent many happy weekend hours on her 22-foot fishing boat. She once helped her brother sail his 29-foot boat on a portion of his voyage from California through the Panama Canal. "It was awesome, just the two of us from Granada to the Panama Canal," she reported. "I have done some traveling, but actually prefer sailing."

**Thelma (Barton) Thompson, '66**, writes that her family has spent nearly 15 years in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, where her husband, Peter, was a full-

time faculty member in the Geology Department at Cornell College. During that time she was a part-time geology lab instructor and later got a MLS degree at the University of Iowa, becoming a part-time librarian at Cornell. They returned to Vermont every summer where they did bedrock geologic mapping in the Green Mountains. She says her 9th grade earth science class with HVRHS science instructor Ed Kirby was a major factor in her choice of geology, as was her mentor at the University of Vermont, Dr. Rolfe Stanley.

"Much as we liked Cornell and the town of Mt. Vernon, we hoped to return to New England eventually," she wrote. In 1999, she became map librarian at the University of New Hampshire. "The world of maps and geospatial data is changing at a rapid pace and my work is never boring," she said. "I no longer have summers free for field work, but serving as liaison to the Earth Science Department helps me to keep up with geologic literature. I have a special interest in geologic field trip guidebooks and am working on a project to digitize older guidebooks of the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference. I am also doing research on changes in guidebooks over a span of about 50 years.

"When we are not looking at rocks, hiking or puttering in our garden, Peter and I can probably be found dancing or playing music, something that I would never have expected in high school. We do mostly

English country dancing (think Jane Austen) and New England contra dancing these days. In Iowa we had a long sword dance team, which we both miss."

**Nick and Terri (Tatsapaugh) Sergi, '67**, were seen in and around the Canaan area during the week of Sept. 20. They were touring from their new home in Asheville, NC.

**Linda (Jewett) Brown, '67**, and husband, Winston, have launched a new Web site. Here is where you can view a sampling of Linda's oil paintings and Winston's woodworking projects: <http://www.lwbcollections.com>.

Ten classmates managed a get together at the White Hart Inn on Sunday, Oct. 11, to visit with **Eric Christinat, '67** and his wife, Dixie, during their visit from Kansas. The group was about the same size as Eric's visit two years ago, except there were a few different faces this time. **Hanna (Mullen) Gulotta, '67**, **Chickie (Mangan) Osborne, '67**, **Bob Gales, '67**, and **Mike Perotti, '67**, were the newcomers.

On Oct. 10, 2009, **Bruce Vanicky, '67**, became engaged to Jolyn (Broxton) White. This is not someone he just met; they were actually introduced to each other back in late summer of 1967 by another classmate, **Linda Huber, '67**. Bruce wrote: "Linda and Jolyn were housemates in West Hartford at the time and classmates at a school in Hartford. This is actually our second engagement; our first was a mere 41 years ago in 1968."

**Bruce and Jolyn** are planning a May 2010 wedding in Macon, GA.

**Judy "New Girl" (Walden) Scarafille, '67**, was recently elected to her 19th year as president of the Cape Cod Baseball League. She and her husband of 35 years, Peter, live on Cape Cod and are both pharmacists. Judy works at Nantucket Cottage Hospital when not involved with baseball.

## 1970s

### Class of 1970:

On June 6, 2009, **Pam Feathers, '70**, and **Joe Rieger** exchanged wedding vows in Savannah, GA. Pam is office manager for Fairview Hospital Rehab Dept. in Gt. Barrington, MA., while Joe's speciality is HVAC technician for Climate Heating of Dalton, MA. The couple makes their home in Canaan, NY.

**Phoebe Fisher, '70**, is currently living in Springfield, VA, where she retired after 20 years of service in the Air Force as a public health officer and nurse. She now works at the Alexandria Health Department in the TB clinic. She is also a Newcomer/Refugee Case Manager.

She has one daughter, Morgan, who is a freshman at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. Phoebe keeps healthy by working out regularly at the gym and running, but quit long-distance runs after completing 10 marathons, including both Boston and New York City.

**Ron Viafore, '72**, has moved to Tucson following his retirement as principal of

## HVRHS Alumni Association

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# Alumni News by Class and Decade

Kent Center School in 2008. His son, **James Viafore, '08**, attends the University of Arizona. His older son, **Patrick Viafore, '05** graduated from Florida Tech University and is a software engineer in Melbourne, FL, and recently became engaged.

"My wife and I really enjoy the Southwest with its fantastic mountain views and ideal weather," he wrote. "I am a supervisor at the Easter Seals Blake Foundation in Tucson and work with a diverse culture. It is a great

job and I have met fascinating people of all ages

## 1980s

**Randy Merriman, '89**, touched base with several grammar school/high school classmates recently for an impromptu get together at Canaan Country Club. He was joined by Patty Monahan, Jamie DuBerry and Carl Parsons.

## 2000s

**Matthew Humes, '03**, is living in Sheffield, MA, with his wife, Sarah, and their 2-year-old daughter, Madison. He has worked at Comcast

for more than two years and has built his own home. He coaches Little League baseball in Sheffield. Matt is a skier and an avid racing fan and was champion in 2003 in Pure Stock Racing in Lebanon Valley, NY.

**Raimie Utterback, '05**, graduated from Hartwick College in 2009 with a major in math and a minor in geology. She has accepted a one-year intern position at The Hotchkiss School teaching math to 9th, 10th and 11th graders.

**Derrick Caranci, '06**, entered the U.S. Air Force on Apr. 21, 2009, and received

his basic and Security Forces (Military Police) training at Lackland AFB, TX. Airman Caranci's current assignment is at F. E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, WY, a place he will call home for the next several months with his wife, **Jane (Flint) Caranci, '06**, and their children, Lucas and Samantha.

**Alex Gustafson, '09**, entered the U.S.M.C on Oct. 19, 2009, and, at the time of this writing, was completing his boot camp training at Parris Island, SC.

**Sarah Allyn, '09**, has been accepted at C. W. Post Long Island University where she is majoring in photography.