

Bushy Tales

Dedicated to all who attended London Central High School
at Bushy Park, London England from
1952 to 1962



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Visit the Bushy Park Website at <http://www.bushypark.org/>

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



1953 – Jackie (Brown) Kenny
JKYKNY@aol.com



1954 – Betsy (Neff) Cote
betsycote@Atlanticbb.net

1955 – Volunteer Requested



1956 – Edie (Williams) Wingate
WingW@aol.com



1957 – Shirley (Huff) Dulski
sedulski@gmail.com



1958 – Pat (Terpening) Owen
nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net



1959 – John "Mike" Hall
MGHall@Q.com



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr@frontier.net



1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie
DonaRitchie@aol.com

ROSTER CHANGES



From: Pat Terpening (58) Owen

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat Terpening nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net or me know, if you want to continue to receive the newsletter. Too many times we only find out when you send us an email saying you haven't received the newsletter in few months. Thanks, guys.



**Classmates Who
Have Transferred to
the Eternal Duty
Station**

None reported this month

Memories of Bushy Park



Nettie-Grace (McClellan) (58) Brown-Dunsford

Once again, I add my thanks for your hard work to make Bushy Park Seniors a happy bunch. I am so enjoying the addition of album photos to our letters to you. I had my ninth-grade yearbook from the 54-55 school year until the Hurricane Jeanne, here in FL, wiped away my home and most of the belongings in Sept 2004. Don't worry, I have recovered and rebuilt and even have a Bushy Park story to relay concerning the construction of my new cottage.

In 2005, as I was writing my final check to the cottage architect, I mentioned that his last name of Whidden was a reminder of someone I went to high school with in London, a junior named Eddie Whidden (56). He, a young man of about 40, said he had an uncle named Eddie. I questioned him on some family history, of which he knew little, and he immediately got his mother on the phone. "Wasn't Grandpa in the service and didn't Dad say they lived in England as teens, and would Uncle Eddie have gone to high school in London?" His mother answered "Yes" to all questions and I proceeded to tell them I remembered Eddie as a cute basketball player with a girlfriend named Skippy Middlestadt (58). Within 48 hours I received a phone call from Eddie. He didn't remember me, but he did ask if I recalled his friends Jerry Berry (55) and Ted Hopkins (55) and Jim West (56), his fellow basketball players, when Bushy Park would play the airmen at Ruislip.

I was thinking of more memories after writing recently about Joyce Booth's (58) passing (See Dec 2016 newsletter). Do the girls remember how we would borrow each other's skirts and sweaters from day to day? No telling how much different DNA was added to an outfit before it got washed or cleaned by our astonished mothers on weekends. I came home to Florida in May 1955 and had very little clothing to my name; yet I always went to class in London looking neat as a pin, thanks to my generous dorm-mates, namely Kay Shuman (58), sisters Shirley Penny (56) and Yvonne Tykey Penny (57), Sandy Middlestadt (58), Gretchen Fricke (58), Yvette "Stinky" from Louisiana, June McHenry (58), Barbara Martin (58). Those cute little square scarves and pearls often completed the look. We kids had a camaraderie like I have never found again. Thanks again to the Lord for putting us in England during those years.

Cheerio



Eddie Whidden



Sandra Middlestadt



Jerry Berry



Ted Hopkins



James West



Joyce Booth



Catherine Shuman



Shirley Penny



Yvonne Penny



Gretchen Fricke



Yvette Vaughn



June McHenry

Letters to the Editor



From: Ron Crowe (64) [No photo available]

I know it has been too long for updates on Jerry Donahue (64), but there just hasn't been enough progress to write about. While his spirits and attitude are phenomenal, he's just not gaining physically, especially on his right side, which is paralyzed. I wish you could see how he lights up, when I bring him well wishing cards and letters. He reads most of them cover to cover and then I put them in a bag in his closet. On occasion, he motions to me he wants to see some of the cards again, which is great, since I'm getting exercise in lifting the heavy bag. So, keep those cards and well-wishes coming. Send them to me:

**Jerry Donahue
237 N. Niagara St.
Burbank, CA 91505.**

Wednesday was a great day, which could indicate a breakthrough. During Physical Therapy, he was getting agitated and was writing his name out in the air with his left hand. He would write Jerry and then make a straight line. After doing this several times and trying to talk to Jerry, I said you want us to say your name and he shook his head yes. So, I said Jerry Donahue and he again shook his head yes. Bottom line, he wanted us to say his whole name!

The best part about that event was the therapist got a piece of paper and had Jerry write out his name, which he can do rather ragged with his left hand. He fully wrote out his name and I lost it, those of you who closely know me, know I get emotional at times. That started off the remainder of day writing out words with very little instruction from me. He wrote the names of all his caregivers, nurses, and therapists. Additionally, he wrote out the names of his bands and places where he has lived - London, Hollywood, Germany. Well you know those small packets of Kleenex you can carry in your pocket, completely empty, plus a few from the night stand!

Mentally, Jerry is 95%, but is unable to articulate what he wants to say. Physically, there's issues with his right arm and leg, but they are coming along. This Thursday marks 5 months in the rehab center. August 19th is when I followed the ambulance from UCLA Hospital to the facility. July 29th was the date of the stroke and Jerry probably wouldn't be here today, if it hadn't been for Frank Badami finding him unresponsive in his apartment. Thank you, Frank.

And thanks to Jay Christensen who took over the legal aspects of getting conservatorship for Jerry's daughter, Kristina, because there was no will or Power of Attorney in case something happened to Jerry. The court case was this past Friday and Kristina can now take full custody of Jerry's affairs.

Please, if you can, get a card in the mail to Jerry, it raises his spirits tremendously.

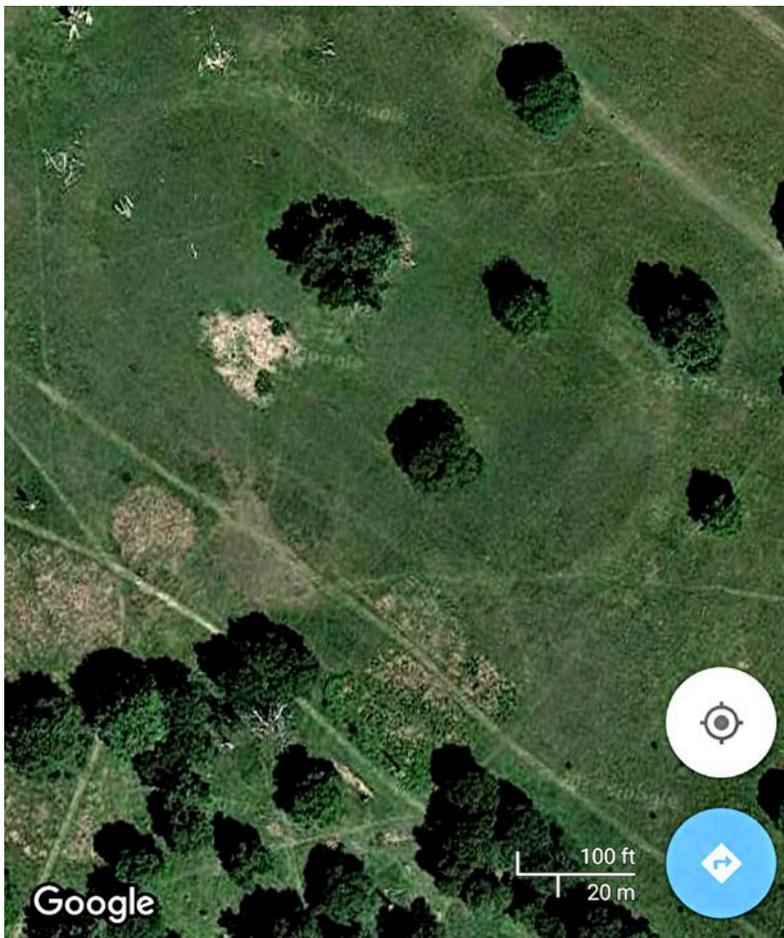
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[Editor's Note: I received the following email from Owen. If anyone has any information regarding Bushy Park they wish to share with him, please do so. You could also share with the rest of us by copying me on any emails you send Owen.
Thanks, Bill]

From: Owen Delaney
owen.delaney@gmail.com

<http://www.shaefshifters.co.uk/history>

Hi. I hope you don't mind me contacting you, but I came across your email address on the bushypark.org Bushy Tales newsletter.



I've lived near Bushy Park most of my life, but have only recently learned about some of the park's fascinating wartime history. Some friends and I have recently started a local running club called SHAEF Shifters in memory of the allied forces stationed here during the war. We came across what looks to have been a running track, which is still visible from Google earth (see attached pic), but you wouldn't know about it from the ground, as it's all very overgrown in that area now. I was wondering if you knew anything about it, as I haven't been able to find anything online. I'm guessing it would have been used either by the forces during or soon after the war, or perhaps by the Bushy Park school in the 50s & early 60s? Was the RAF school based in the park also?

Thanks, in advance

These are photos were taken by Ren Briggs at the recent Gathering in Las Vegas.
Two teachers - Frank Janusz (blue shirt) and Cliff Gunderson.



A group of classmates gathering for breakfast.

Front - Frank Janusz, Cliff Gunderson, Patricia (Brady) Thurmon (60)

Row behind Frank – Thyra Caldwell (61), Anita (Hardy) Johnson (60)

Back Row – Bob Percy (59), James Bass (58), Ren Briggs (60), Al Collins, Norman McCord (60),
Doug Eskra (60), Neil Wolfe (59), Jerry Kelly (58), Bob Harrold (60)

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