

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 – Mariann (Walton)
McCornack
mgm2010@comcast.net



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

1955 – Volunteer Requested



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



1957 – William Douglas
rwmdouglas@gmail.com



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



1959 – John "Mike" Hall
MGHall446@gmail.com



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr@frontiernet.net



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



1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie
Dona.Ritchie@att.net

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat Terpening (58) Owen 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.

COVID-19 Note:

My wife, Barb, and I received our second dose of Moderna Covid vaccine on February 21. Pat Terpening (58) Owen told me today that she is getting her first dose of the Pfizer vaccine on Friday, February 26th. The only reaction that my wife and I experienced to either shot was a sore arm the day after the injection.

The biggest problem that most people face is getting an appointment! Here in California, eligibility is divided into various groupings. Recently they divided it further. I just read that the governor of Connecticut made the decision that in his state the vaccine will be distributed by age groups ONLY, starting with the oldest.

The vaccine does not prevent one from becoming infected, but it provides protection reducing the risk of becoming seriously ill, hospitalized and death. It will be necessary for everyone to get follow on vaccinations annually, similar to the flu shot. The new variants of this disease are a problem that must be addressed.

Pat and I urge everyone to get the vaccine. It will NOT end the existence of Covid-19, but if enough people get vaccinated, it can end the pandemic and reduce the number closures and restrictions. I expect to be wearing a mask for a loooooong time. That is okay by me.

Memories of Bushy Park

Robert Harrold (60) maintains a Bushy Park website at BushyPark.org Among the things you can see at this website is a "Guestbook", in which many website visitors have left comments. There are many entries, dating back to April 2007.

Here is a direct link: [Bushy Park Guest Book](#)



From: Penny Ohrman (61) Bernstein

Hello, and Happy New Year!

In reading the last "Bushy Tales" I began thinking about Pinewood Studios. Did anyone ever go there? I was in 9th grade at Bushy Hall the first year it was opened. For some reason a group of us were invited to tour Pinewood Studios and watch an episode of "Robinhood" being filmed. Afterward we had lunch with the star of the show. I don't remember much more about it but thought it was fun to do. I do remember it was a big show over there at the time. Anyone have memories?

Also, if anyone lives in the Charleston, SC area, would like to hear from you. Three of us got together about 3 years ago now which was nice. With all of us, we might not know the people from our time in school, but we all have a common denominator and pick right up like old friends.

Thanks to Bill and Pat for keeping us reading!

Penny Ohrman Bernstein '61

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From: Patti Fawbush (58) Webb

Here are three photos from Bushy Park days I found while going through old pictures. Why I have them, I do not know. I did not have a camera when I was a student there.

They look like they might have been taken for the yearbook. Who knows? Maybe individuals will recognize themselves. I only recognize Tony Taylor.

Each time I look at these it brings back sweet memories.

Patti Fawbush Webb '58



[Per Pat Owen: Tony Taylor (58) are Patsy Cooper (58) (to the left of Tony when looking at the picture, and Carol Cameron (58))]



[Editor's note: Am I in pandemic overload, or are two of the women in this picture wearing facemasks?]



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Letters to the Editor



From Michael Hoyt (60)

Pat,

Looking back at the Sylmar earthquake, I was reminded of the small role I played in helping restore gas service to the area. I had only been with the Southern California Gas Company for just over 4 years and just out of welding school when it hit. Please feel free to use my submittal if you think it would interest other classmates.

Mike Hoyt (60)

When the earthquake hit Sylmar on 2/9/71 at 6 AM, some 50 years ago, I was awakened by the bed shaking here in Apple Valley. The next day, I was in Sylmar with my welding truck. The Gas Company put us up in hotels they found nearby, and we settled in for the next 2 weeks. Sometimes we only saw the rooms every 2 days or so. We assisted the local crews with work on their damaged gas pipes, buried under streets in the local area. We would leapfrog each other to the next bell hole to repair the damage found. In one hole you would find a 2-inch gap from a broken weld, which we fixed by welding a steel band to cover the gap. In the next hole you would find a mashed together (looked like an accordion) piece of pipe which was the 2 inches you were missing from the last hole. In some case we installed temporary 8" pipe laid in the gutters to get gas back to residences. They were removed by the local crews later on. The Gas Company really knows how to handle emergencies. They made sure we were taken care of with portable toilets on every block, food trucks came by every hour to give you whatever you wanted, and equipment trucks came by to make sure we had all the welding supplies and clean coveralls we needed. One nice thing was we were paid overtime. I don't remember the amount of that check, but it was big for those 2 weeks. I can still picture the destruction today in my mind. I can even remember the smell too. In some cases, the sewer lines broke near a bell hole you were working on and sewage water was pouring out the break. You can't weld with water pouring out, so you were instructed to reach in as far as we could and build an earthen dam to stop the water for a short time. You would then start welding the bottom as fast as you could before the water would breach the dam. The crews helping us threw bags of shavings and saw dust in the hole to absorb excess water so we could lay down and weld. After all the welding was complete on a given section of piping, it was pressurized and then blown down with a temporary blow down valve, which expelled the dirt and any water in that section of piping. When we returned home, we were all given 2 days off with pay, to catch up on sleep and the rest we needed. A few months later, the crews that went to Sylmar were given a nice letter from our company president and a \$500 bonus check for work well done. I look back with pride to think I played a small part in the recovery from that earthquake.

Mike Hoyt (60)

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