

# Hicksville High School Newsletter

September, 2010 Volume 10 - Issue 12

## Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

I sure do dislike making a negative comment, but believe you would want honest feedback. I am having a problem with the new two-column format of the newsletter. The larger print is great, but I find the two-columns annoying and distracting. Perhaps it's just me. Other than that, I enjoy the newsletter and look forward to reading it each month. Many thanks to all who are involved in the process.

**Carole Kiever Ohliger '57**

*Carol, It's not you. There have been a few glitches, and there were a few complaints about the two columns. We are addressing those problems and hope to have all of them resolved, if not in this issue, then definitely by the next. Ed.*

Dear Hix Editors:

Just to say that the new format of the newsletter is very attractive, & easier to digest; however, when I clicked on 'photo gallery' the squares that should've held pix were blank--??? Also, my husband took quite a few pictures at the reunion & we wanted to share them with other attendees, so we sent them to both Bob Casale & to Henry L. However, I STILL can't figure out where they are (supposedly?) located on the newsletter website although I've seen the ones on Bob's site--please tell me how to find them on the newsletter website specifically & perhaps you might want to make that clear to others (in your next newsletter), who are interested in seeing pix from the reunion, like Mitch Eagan.

I could've sworn that I wrote a letter to the editors last month but I didn't see it in the newsletter? Anyway I'll repeat: I just wanted to say how very, very much I enjoyed the **Class of '60** reunion, especially as someone who's been away, not only from Hicksville, but also from the U.S. for many years now! It was really exciting to see 'old' faces and find out how their lives had gone; in some cases, I made 'connections' with people I had hardly known in HHS days...it was a wonderful opportunity! Thanks to the committee and everyone else who worked hard to make it possible. Those of us who attended & many others who wanted to but didn't quite make it, should give thanks that we are still 'here' and not among the 'fallen' of our class--a great reason alone to celebrate. I do hope that people will be up for a 60th reunion--those of us who are still around (God willing) and are of sound enough mind & body!

Thanks for the newsletter,

**Lois Chaber '60**

*(Lois and Neil have posted pictures that were taken at the fabulous 50th Reunion for the Class of 1960. Click on the hyperlink provided below or copy and paste the hyperlink into your browser and you can view those photos...Ed.*

<http://groups.google.com/group/hixclass60/files>

Lois,

*The photo gallery is unchanged in format. The pictures load OK for me here using Internet Explorer, Firefox and Chrome browsers so I'm not sure what the problem is at your end, but you might try reloading the page. What browser are you using?*

*Glad you like the new format for the Newsletter page.*

**Roger Whitaker, webmaster for [hixnews.com](http://hixnews.com)**

# Letters to the Editors



Editors:

The new format is disgusting!!!! Cannot Read!!!!  
I don't intend to print it out!!! For the first time in years, I did not read it!!!!

I just deleted it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Nancy North Park '61**

**Editor Note....**

**Dear Nancy,**

**I take it that a testimonial from you is out of the question?**

**Best, Henry**

Editors:

Looks great, really professional. I'm VERRRRY impressed! Didn't have trouble opening, but unless it's an Adobe thing (it opened at about 150% view and I reduced it to 100%) it was a little distracting because I couldn't read a whole column without scrolling. Didn't "flow." If everything could be read on one page without scrolling down/up it would more readable, but as I said, maybe it had something to do with my computer and Adobe. Could be that the HHS heading takes up room? It looks like there are fewer words on each page than if the print goes straight across (like this), but for me it's easier to read this way. Or maybe it's just a new format we need to get used to. Can you teach old dogs new tricks??

On a side note: the funniest thing in the newsletter was the comment about Mr. Braun being thrown out the window. I had forgotten all about it, and I'm not even sure when it happened—I think it was before my class, but boy did I laugh! Can you imagine that happening now????

Anyway, Gold Star to you guys.

**Gail Sneyd '63**

Hi again,

Got a question. Has anyone done any research on our old teachers and administrators? Or a column titled, "What Ever Happened To..."? (For example, Freddie Korman, an incredibly gifted oboe player, or Charles Grouse, the choral director and head of the music department at HHS or anyone else for that matter.) As I recall, we had a pretty hot English teacher named Miss Miller. I ask this, because today I leave for Muncie Indiana to attend my wife's high school reunion. She has been so excited for the last month. But perhaps what excited her most was hearing from one of her old teachers who is now in her nineties. She is still sharp as a tack, and living in an assisted living home. We will be visiting her as well. Perhaps some of our old teachers would enjoy hearing from us as well. Just a thought.

**Vic Olsen '65**

**Editor Note...I was pretty close to Fred's brother, Paul Korman, at one time. He's a darn good musician in his own right. Fred spent many years playing with the Oregon Symphony Orchestra. Both Fred and Paul are highlighted at our alumni bios site. Check it out. Go to: <http://www.hixnews.com/1007/> Then click on the alumni bios, then click on Korman. Fred is retired, still helping many people. Get back to me.**

**Regards**

**Buffalo Bob Casale**

# Letters to the Editors

Bob,

I just read your profile in the Hix newsletter. You've had an interesting life as well. I have also lived with Alzheimer's; in my case, it was my mother. I could write a book about it. There isn't a lot to say, except that I know they've made some great breakthroughs medically speaking, but for sure, it affects everyone in the family. I know you probably have lots of support, but if you ever want to dump your bucket to a stranger, I'm here.

All the best,

**Vic Olsen '65**

PS-BTW, when I got your question on the Fishin Chicks and saw your name as "Buffalo Bob," I couldn't help but remember the "Buffalo Bob" who was the host of the "Howdy Duty [sic] Show" (if my memory is correct). Scary. Am I to assume that "Joyce" is your wife, or your mother? (I'm married to a Joyce.)



*Howdy Doody with  
"Buffalo Bob" Smith*

*Thanks for your reply, Vic. Joyce and I were married for quite awhile but are divorced now. We had a sudden turn of events beginning Monday. Joyce had a seizure and collapsed. Got her to the hospital and yesterday made arrangements to put her in a nursing home for at least 20 days. She is getting worse and I'm to the point where I need help. We are viewing assisted living facilities and will make a determination next month.*

*A couple of years ago, I bought all the episodes of Howdy Doody on DVD. My five-year-old granddaughter, Sarah, loves them. Growing up meant watching Howdy Doody just before dinner.*

*Regards, Bob*

Hi,

I'm Bob Koenig, President of Hicksville Historical Society. I am working on a book for Arcadia on Hicksville, and looking for photos from the 1960's to present, especially the changes in Hicksville since the railroad raising. Anyone have photos to contribute? [The pictures] would be scanned and returned. Photos will never be sent away to book company. I'd surely appreciate it.

**Bob Koenig**

*Here is Bob's Koenig's e-mail address if any of you have photos you think he could use. hickshistsoc@aol.com. Ed.*

Hi, I know the 40 yr. re-union was cancelled due apparently to lack of interest. I remember Diane Gunnigle '68 was one of the organizers. Please forward me her email address and I will offer my help to maybe pull off a reunion for '68, all the '60's OR the entire HHS alums. Maybe we can figure out something for a weekend here on LI.

Thank you.

Lynn O'Riordan (McMorrow) '68



*Looking South from Marie Street in 1920. Look carefully and you will see the steeple of St. Ignatius RC Church on the left. The movie theater would be out of the frame to your left. The photo may be from 1920, but it is the way I remember Hicksville from my childhood—all those beautiful trees down Broadway. They were all cut down in the '60s. Ed.*

# Letters to the Editors

The new format for the HixNews is more difficult to read. It requires scrolling up and down to read the longer pieces.

**Pete Foster '57**

*Editor Note...I think that Peter's point, about having to **scroll back up** to pick up a story-line that continues to the second column, is a reasonable one for us to consider. Most people will choose to view the PDF file at or above 100%, which will generally exceed their screen size per full page. Besides making it look more like a hard-copy newsletter, does the twin-column format serve any other purpose for an electronic newsletter?*

Henry

It looks like I will be performing at **Casa Rustica** every Thursday. Come down and enjoy a great meal, and support LIVE music on Long Island. See you all there.

**Art Romeo '60**



Dear Editors,

My computer was taking a long time to open, said that it couldn't open the newsletter, because it did take such a long time. And then finally it said that it can't be opened because the file is damaged! Help! I am on cablevision, so my connection service is fast, just the computer is old, about 7 or 8 years old. Thanks a bunch,

**Marcy Seus '62**

**Ed.—Yes Marcy, that explains it. Cablevision is a fast connection, but the old and slow computer is definitely a problem. Any chance of an upgrade, perhaps to a newer used one? Roger**

Sorry guys. I don't like your new format at all. First I got an error on Google Docs trying to open a section, something about sharing. Then in order to read the .pdf file, I had to download it and open it separately in order to read it. Otherwise I couldn't see enough of it on my screen. Between Comcast stuff at the top and the newsletter toolbar, I had less than half the screen to look at it. I skimmed through it and deleted it. It isn't worth the effort.

**Frank Koziuk '67**

Hi Frank,

*Thanx for you constructive feedback, which we have taken under consideration in this issue. Please tell me what "section" you were trying to open on Google docs when you got the error message about "sharing." If it was one of the lists we maintain as a reference resource for our readers, such as the "[HixNews Members](#)" or the "[Looking for People](#)" list, then this has nothing to do with our new format for the Newsletter. These Google-supported spreadsheets are designed to be accessed by multiple users, and I have seen them accessed by a dozen or more people simultaneously. But it could be that you tried to access one of them when hundreds of other readers were trying to do the same thing, which would be highly unlikely, but not impossible. Have you tried again? Please let me know.*

Best, Henry

Please be advised that we did not receive the newsletter for August. We have been on the mailing list since the beginning, why were we dropped?

**Tom Manaskie '60**

**Janice Breeden Manaskie '62**

Tom and Jan,

*Please be advised that you should have received the newsletter for August. You were not dropped; you are still on our mailing list. I am forwarding the announcement you should have received, included below. Ed.*



**Frank Koziuk '67 with Billy Joel**

## Letters to the Editors

Hi, I wanted to let you know that I have a brand new email address (concealed for security). Please update your address book and send me emails at this new address from now on. Thanks!

Bob Bolettieri and Alberta Hunt Bolettieri '59

**Editor Note...you can contact Bob and Alberta through [editors@hixnews.com](mailto:editors@hixnews.com)**

We are now in Rock Springs, WY - went to a park in Thermopolis, WY and the buffalo were right in the road. The wifi in WY sucks, but the weather makes up for it - lows are in the high 50's, the high's are around 78-81. However, the altitude is very difficult to get used to.

Loveya,

Kathy Koziuk Hannaman '60

Dear Editors @ Hixnews.com:

It's impossible to open up the news letter in your new PDF adobe format. Why not go back and make it more user friendly the OL' way as that worked just fine. I for one don't want to lose any NEW information. Do your best as our PC is a Mac and we don't have any problems. However, this just does NOT WORK. Hope you can turn back the time and re adjust it. Thank you.

Mark Leon 65'

Dear Buffalo Bob and all the hixnews.com staff,

Just a note of sincere thanks for putting my bio and pix' on the Alumni bio section. What a loving gesture! It really pulled at my heart strings big time! Hope all is well with you and yours. You do a magnificent job in going back to the past, keeping it in the present, and looking towards the future at all times.

You're the best, NO CONTEST!

Sincerely,

Mark

Hi Bob,

I just read the newsletter and as usual, you all do a great job. Hope the article about the Shingles and PHN prompts many people to go and get that shot. It's painless and goes a long way in preventing a really horrible and painful disorder. BTW, it occurred to me that I have never seen my name on the Happy Birthday list.....probably because I don't think I ever told you my birthday...it's September 12.

Take care,

Helen Luna Carr '63

**Ed.—My husband had an attack of the Shingles at age 36. It was so painful, that for the first time in his career, he had to leave the classroom, and go to the Nurses office to lie down. This from a man who rarely, if ever, took a sick day. I learned a lesson watching him suffer. I had my shot over a year ago. KK**

## Computer Time...



A good idea is to run a malicious software check of your computer monthly. When you receive a notice from Henry that the monthly version of the newsletter is available for viewing, that should be a prompt for you to run the program.

### **Microsoft® Windows® Malicious Software Removal Tool (KB890830)**

This tool checks your computer for infection by specific, prevalent malicious software (including Blaster, Sasser, and Mydoom), and helps to remove the infection if it is found. Microsoft will release an updated version of this tool on the second Tuesday of each month.



*Alberta Hunt Bolettieri  
'Class of 59*

# Thank you's...



Thanks for the birthday card!  
I'm counting backwards from now on.  
**Lois Levy Calame '61**



Thank you so much for the beautiful card. You were the first.  
**Margaret (Marnie) Wangenheim-Manjarrez '64**

Thanks for the card; also wanted to let you know I haven't received a Newsletter in a number of months - has it been suspended?

**Gerry Dizinno '64**

**Editor Note...** The newsletter is always available at <http://hixnews.com>. Click on the hyperlink, or cut and paste to your browser, and you'll be taken to the website.

Let me know you found the site.

Thanks,

**Buffalo Bob Casale '64**

Bob and the Gang...

Thank you for the beautiful birthday card. Little did I know 45 years ago when I graduated from HHS I would be receiving a birthday card from the "Hicksville Gang." It made me smile.

**Elin Fischman Lawrence '65**

Thank you so much for the anniversary wishes. Also for continuing to do a great job with the newsletter.

**Mary Ann (Walkowski) & Bob Westervelt (Maple Valley, WA) '76**

Dear HixNews

Thank you for the anniversary card. It was very thoughtful of you.

**Art and Susan Romeo '60**



Thanks very much for the birthday greetings and for the work that you all do every month to keep the Newsletter rolling. Having left Hicksville when I went in the Air Force in 1971, and having been back only a few times since then (last time was in 1986), I look forward to the Newsletter every month to see posts from my fellow classmates, articles about current local activities, and nostalgic stories and pictures. You do a helluva service for all of us with roots in Hicksville and we all appreciate your efforts very much.

**Bob Ward '66**

Hey, Bob and HixNews Gang!

Thank you for the anniversary card. Always nice to be remembered. It was a little early (actually on Aug. 7) but that's okay because sometimes the unexpected are better. John and I are looking forward to many more anniversaries down here in sultry NC. You and the rest of the HixNews gang do such an awesome job each month. I applaud you. Keep up the great work!

**Beverly Fetz White '67**

# Thankyou's...

Bob & the HixNews Gang...

Thank you for the Birthday Card and all the work you do keeping the alumni in touch; I am aware of the effort and dedication it takes and you are commended for your perseverance.

Well this birthday is the last of a decade (69), and a career ender. It is so sad to see the time passing so fast. Next year I will be 70 and will begin collecting social security and relying on MediCare. It will be a brave new world for Joan and I. We have been very blessed with good health and a positive attitude. In May we decided to look at the foods we were eating by reading those Nutrition labels on packages. It took a few weeks, but we made some lifestyle changes to minimize calories, sugar and non-dietary carbohydrates. The pay-off was we both dropped enough weight to get our BMI under 25. For me, the motivation came from a book titled Younger Next Year which is thoughtfully written and describes how you can actually reverse the aging process. I recommend it to everyone who is "feeling old."

Best regards,

**Tom Pilko '59**



Thank you all so very much for the birthday card. It really made me smile.

**Ann Lynn Brough Stouggard '61**



Hi this is for an update on your listing. Once again living in Hicksville. Thank you

**Genevieve Koszalka Jezick '63**



Thanks for the nice birthday wishes.

**Bob Briell '65**

Hi,

How very thoughtful of you guys.

Thank you very much Bob, and the whole 'Gang'.

**John Sherin '56**

Bob,

Thank you for the anniversary greeting. Always a delight hearing from friends and classmates at Hicksville. We are married 43 years this year and still enjoying every bit of it.

Thanks again,

**Steve Baum '62**

## Irish Confessional

An Irishman goes into the confessional box after many years of being away from the Church. There's a fully equipped bar with Guinness on tap; on the other wall is a dazzling array of the finest cigars and chocolates. Then the priest comes in.

"Father, forgive me, for it's been a very long time since I've been to confession. I must first admit that the confessional box is much more inviting than it used to be."

The priest replies: "Get out. You're on my side."

# Letters to Alumni

## PLEA FOR YEARBOOKS

We are asking anyone with a yearbook he/she doesn't need, or if you have an extra one lying around, to please donate it to the Hicksville Newsletter. As we edit documents that are received, we enjoy putting pictures of the graduating student at the end of the note. We have been scanning using available yearbooks. Buffalo Bob has 1960, 1961 1962, 1963 and a 1964 on loan from Ted Swedalla.

Naturally, there are many pictures other than the graduating alumni...i.e. Sports Shots, Various Clubs, Senior Play, Student Council and many others that we would like to put into the photo gallery. We would ask, too, that if you can, when you send a note to Hix-News, attach a picture of yourself from graduation along with a current one.

One final note...who out there would be willing to scan some documents from their yearbook to send to HixNews?

Thanks,  
The Editors



There was a story circulating years ago about Mr Braun being thrown out a window at the Junior High school. Do any of you remember the incident, and can you provide details?

*Buffalo Bob Casale*

Hi Bob,

I remember the story from around 1955. I was in Mr. Braun's English class and I was told that he had given a student a hard time about something (probably a homework assignment). The student's older brother and some of his friends went to the classroom at the end of the day, and they supposedly held Mr. Braun by his feet out the second floor window of the classroom. And told him that if he ever bothered the younger brother again they would drop him next time. Sounded like a believable story, and to my knowledge, Mr. Braun never disputed its accuracy. I'm sure he had to have heard the story going around the school. Fact or another urban myth? I never met any eye witnesses.

Hope this helps you.

*Phil Fulco '57*



Bob, I just remember being told he was hung out the window on the second floor of the old high school.

*Bob Uhlich '57*

**Dear Alumni**

**There have been over four thousand (4,000) former students visiting the alumni bio page to read about their friends from high school. That's a substantial number of very interested alumni. For that reason, we encourage you to write a sketch of your life to be added to our bio page for many to enjoy.**

*The Editors*



# Corrections, please...

Hi,

My name is Denise Becker. I signed up 8/2/10, and my information is incorrect. My maiden name is Ruhe, my married name is Becker. My last name is listed as Becker, first name Ruhe. SORRY. I graduated in 1971. I have two boys, both married, and both went to Hicksville High, and both live in Hicksville, as I still do.

Thanks,

**Dee Becker '71**

PS Great info.

## New Readers!

**'60** Hi:

Please add my name and email to your list. I prefer emails sent to [Steven@Fialkow.com](mailto:Steven@Fialkow.com). I am Steven Fialkow. I was class of '60 and learned about your list from my cousin, Richard Ollins, also class of '60. I planned to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion but was on a plane returning from Barcelona Spain, so it was impossible. Would love to attend the next one.

Steven Fialkow '60



*Diana Urena Carasa*



**'61**



Jacqueline  
Travers Carbe



Pat Robb  
Haupt

**'61**



# Memories... memories

## Bob Cerone Pitches Perfect Game

### Playoff Results

NORTH SHORE LEAGUE	
Hicksville	100 010 2-4 10 0
Herricks	001 008 0-0 0 0 0
CERONE and Olszewski, Burns, ULM and Bellini	
Levi Division	010 000 3-4 8 1
GM North	000 000 2-0 0 0 0
Olszewski, PARKINS (5) and Tompkins; SCHRACTER and Adair	
Inland Team	000 001 0-4 0 0 0
Synard	100 050 0-0 0 0 0
KOBL, Ryan (5) and O'Donnell; BELLER and Kinnel	
Bethpage	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
Clarke	000 001 0-1 0 0 0
METCAL and Smith; SONDOROFF and Brian, Hiedman	
SOUTH SHORE LEAGUE	
Mineola	100 000 1-4 10 0
Lanook	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
MILLARD and Green; POSNER and Lofgren	
Massapequa	100 000 1-10 10 0
Wading	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
MEYER and Meyer; KEBLY, PARKSON (3), East (2), BURKHARDT (6); DEMARCO (7) and Kacitlbas	
VS North	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
ORLANDO	000 100 2-4 5 1
VETRAY, Lemmer (5) and BOWEN; JACKSON and Sweeney	
HS Park	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
VS Central	000 000 0-0 0 0 0
H. DONNELLY and T. BISHOP; FLOWERS and Salsaker	

Bob Cerone of Hicksville High had his finest hour at 5:50 yesterday afternoon. He threw a strike, turned to his right, saw his third baseman leaping in the air, turned around and saw all his team mates converging on him. He had pitched a perfect game.

Cerone, a right-hander, faced the minimum of 21 batters as Hicksville defeated Herricks, 4-0, in the first round of the North Shore baseball playoffs. Hicksville meets Bethpage tomorrow. The site of the game, as those for the three other playoff games, had not been determined late last night.

Cerone may not yet pitch like a major-leaguer, but the 5-9, 190-pounder did the job. His mates played their parts, not mentioning anything about a no-hitter. "I was just sitting there on the bench and no one said anything. You know that old thing," he said. "I feel great. What do you think?"

Cerone, a basketball and football player too, could compare a fall day two years ago with yesterday—a little bit anyway. "We were playing Mineola the last game of the year and they were undefeated. We tied them (20-20) and that was great," he said. "That was great, but today was better."

He seemed to enjoy recalling every detail of that final pitch. "I threw a fast ball and he missed it. I jumped up in the air and looked at the third baseman. He was jumping, too. Everybody was jumping and throwing their

gloves in the air. Nothing has ever happened to me that was better than this."

Cerone's catcher for the last two innings was a four-foot, 11-inch junior, Gene Burke. "At least I think he's that big," Cerone said. Steve Glibowski, the starting catcher, injured his hand. "I was a little worried when Gene came in. But that didn't last long," Cerone said. "He's good, too."

Cerone struck out 14 and allowed only one ball to be hit out of the infield. He will go to Troy State College in Alabama. "I think I might be able to get a little further in baseball," he said. He is a team leader in each of the three sports, and although he doesn't look the part in the abbreviated basketball uniform, he does the job there too.

Things weren't easy for Bethpage, which defeated Clarke, 2-1. Bethpage scored two runs in the fifth and sweated it out the rest of the way. Clarke scored in the sixth and threatened in the seventh. Winning-pitcher Pete Nistad struck out 13.

The Levittown Division players had great expectations and an equally great letdown in their game with Great Neck North. Division scored three runs in the top of the seventh to take a 4-3 lead. But North scored two runs off Gary Parker for the victory.

There was nothing yesterday to upset earlier expectations that the South Shore final would most likely be between Oceanside and



Bob Cerone

Massapequa. Oceanside defeated Valley Stream North, 4-0, as Tom Jackson, not even considered a pitching prospect at the start of the season, pitched a one-hitter.

Massapequa's fine pitcher, Russ Meyer, had no trouble defeating Wantagh. He had plenty of support, his mates banging out 16 hits for a 13-4 victory.

Ed.— The newspaper clipping was sent to us by Genevieve Jezick. Thank you.

Bob and Kathy Graw Cerone live in Huntington. Look for this article on Memory Lane as well.



Hicksville High School Jr. Varsity Cheerleading Team 1961



Kathy Graw



Did Anyone ever finish the kitchen sink?

# Memories... memories



Here's the old Sweet Shop, before they widened Broadway. Looks like maybe a '57 Chevy (or an Olds?) driving into the picture! Alumni from that era will remember John Econopouly and Jimmy Z. fondly. Editor Katie Kennedy worked next door at Englert's Bakery. (Photo courtesy of Matt Barrett, from the collection of his father, Nicholas Econopouly.)

OK, all you hot rodders out there. Who can identify either of the two cars in this photo? Ed.

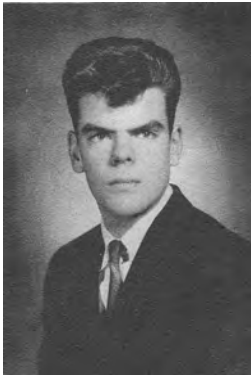


Hicksville RR before tracks were elevated. The large, beautiful building with arches on the right was the Long Island National Bank.

*Long Island Railroad in Hicksville.*

*Photo submitted by Victor Platania, '58*

# Passages...



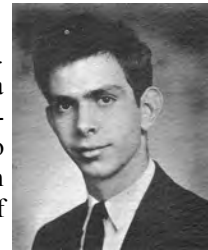
Please add the name **Thomas Moran** to the 1961 deceased list.  
Thank you,  
**Carl Probst '59**

*Thomas Moran  
Class of '61*

HixNews,

I just got an email from Steve Loken that Jeannie Christ (Loken) Class of '62, died mid-July. He was responding to an email I'd just sent her about the recent aurora. They're having a memorial for Jean August 29. Jeannie (Jeanette Ellen Christ) was a great person and a wonderful companion to me all through Jr. High and High School. It's meant the world to me to have reconnected with her these last few years since finding her again on the Internet. High School bonds are some of the strongest we ever make, and remain strong even after years of neglect. Here's the email I got from her husband, Steve:

**Kim Allen '62**



*Kim Allen '62*

Dear Kim,

I'm sorry to have to tell you that Jean died July 17, 2010. In June she was diagnosed with heart failure, and was in and out of the hospital three times before she came home on hospice care July 15. Much of her family was with her when she died.



Jean Loken died in Apple Valley, MN, on July 17, 2010. Born in 1945 to Ingrid and John Christ, Jean graduated from Wagner College and Columbia University and went on to become a reference librarian for Dakota County Libraries. Jean made medical history in 1995 when she received a Left Ventricular Assist Device to sustain her until she received a heart transplant at the U of M. Jean volunteered with **Second Chance for Life** and the DFL party and created prize-winning quilts for family and friends. Jean served as the Minnesota coordinator for the Home of the Brave Quilt project, honoring families of fallen Minnesota soldiers with handmade Civil War reproduction quilts. See

[www.homeofthebraveMN.org](http://www.homeofthebraveMN.org). Jean is

survived by her husband Steven, daughter Diana (Bob) Mulcahy and two grandchildren of Richfield, MN, son Robert (Kimberly) Loken of Brooklyn, NY, her mother Ingrid Middleton of New Market, VA, and two sisters and two brothers. A celebration of Jean's life is being planned for later in the summer. Please visit [www.SJLoken.com](http://www.SJLoken.com). In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to **Second Chance for Life Foundation**, P.O. Box 131462, Roseville, MN 55113.



## Fred and Sonya Fluckiger Hicksville High Graduates from the Class of 1938

by Buffalo Bob Casale



*Sonya & Fred at home today. They are famous for their Fourth of July parties, and love to entertain grandchildren, Taylor Austin and Rebecca Hunsaker.*

“March 15, 2010 marked the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my parents wedding,” said Karen Austin. “My dad, Fred Fluckiger is 90, and mom, Sonya, is 88.” Both parents are graduates of the class of 1938 at Hicksville High School. Karen said her mom is a remarkable woman with an erect posture and amazing eyes. Fred is a retired Colonel from the United States Army, and Sonya is a not yet retired homemaker. The couple began their life together living in a chicken coop. Well, a re-conditioned chicken coop.

Sonya and Fred were high school sweethearts. Sonya says, “Fred was so popular, I just hated him. He was a BMOC (Big Man on Campus) lettering in four sports: Football, Basketball, Baseball and Track.” Sonya Teresko, as she was known in high school, had very strict Russian orthodox parents who kept close rein on their gorgeous daughter.

“My father tells us a story about his presence as a hall monitor – a ‘Big Deal’ at the time,” said Karen. “He used to ask mom to get out of the lunch line, which used to embarrass her to death,” Karen said.

“I graduated in 1938 and then went to Long Island University,” recalls Fred. “Sonya and I were dating steadily into 1941 when the draft picked me up in March.”



"I hadn't formulated any marriage plans because of the circumstances," says Mrs. Fluckiger. "At one time, Fred did ask me to marry him and I said, 'NO!!!' I didn't think it would work. For one thing, his parents were so Americanized, and mine were Old World. But later I agreed and Fred actually sent me out to look for my own engagement ring. Because he was in the Army, he didn't have time!"

Shipped overseas in 1944 as part of Patton's Third Army, young Captain Fluckiger saw heavy action in the Allied D-Day invasion of Normandy. "We landed on Utah Beach and pressed through," Fred recalls. Part of the forces that liberated Dachau in April of 1945, Colonel Fluckiger shared his memories on a documentary for the Holocaust Museum broadcast on VA Currents. "We hadn't known about the concentration camps. When we saw the prisoners, it was beyond horrifying. That profound suffering...it reinforced our purpose." Fred was awarded the bronze star medal in 1945.

Following the war, Fred commuted into Manhattan from Hicksville to the American Tobacco Company while Sonya tended their young flock, including Amy, born in 1952.

Sonya liked French furnishings and her house is an extension of Paris. Sonya remarked that living in Paris for two and a half years, gave her the time to make some serious purchases. Karen has an interior design business, Apropos Antiques & Interiors, and helped Sonya decorate their current home in Richmond, Virginia. Their stay in Paris was a far cry from Fred's first posting overseas when he rejoined the army after the Korean War started. Fred went to Guam, and Sonya followed him with first born, Karen, and six-week old Irene tucked in a laundry basket on the plane.

"When the Korean War started, Fred wanted to re-enlist," explained Mrs. Fluckiger, who supported her husband's decision. Vienna, Virginia was home when the colonel retired after 31 years. "Then I said to him, 'Pack your bags, we're moving to Richmond,'" recalled Mrs. Fluckiger.

And the military hero, what were his thoughts? "His mother raised him very well," laughed Sonya. "Fred held his mom up on a pedestal, and when we got married, she moved over and made room for me!"

Dear Hix News:

Eileen O'Halloran Holmes, Class of '61, was admitted to Health South Rehabilitation Hospital here in Spring Hill. This is due to her being very weak after spending 18 days in the hospital with pneumonia, and a secondary infection in her digestive track. She will be undergoing physical therapy for the next week or two. It is important that she get her strength back as she is missing her chemo treatments. This is the 4th week not having her chemo treatment due to her weakness.

Paul Holmes

Your Editors devote a lot of time to this newsletter, and work very hard toward our goal to keep you in touch with Hicksville and with old friends. In addition, we very much want to present an attractive, user-friendly publication. We thank you, our readership, for your feedback on our new format, your kind suggestions, and your patience with us as we work out the kinks. We think we addressed the major problem most of you were having (columns and scrolling) in this issue and look forward to hearing your thoughts. If there is anything we can do to make it better, please let us know. Ed.