

## **NEWSLETTER #86**

## **SPECIAL EDITION**

**Hi Folks:**

Well if you missed it, you missed a wonderful time. It was the Irvington High School All Classes Reunion Luncheon Held May 21<sup>st</sup> at Doolan's. A big hand has to go to the Committee for doing a tremendous job. Mel Camuso Renick '52; Elinor Paetzold Schmalstich '42; Genevieve Semple '42; Bess Meyer Terp '42; Elaine Salvatoriello Wisniewski '53 and Bill Carbone '57. There were over 500 people present in two large rooms. Classes sat together and if you did not enjoy yourself it was your own fault.

We were seated with Mickey Weiner '26; his wife Ginny Denus; Margaret Rohr and Frank Gedrowicz '33, Vito Miele '35; George McNicol '37 and Marie Restrup McNicol '37; Eleanor Langguth Romanchick '38. As commented by one of the table sitters, we were seated at the best table in the place as everyone was coming to our table to see Mickey Weiner, their Coach, Teacher or Principal or me as publisher of the Newsletter, which many get and enjoy.

Many had come from far away places to meet their classmates and say hello to others that their friends may know. Helene Fritche Kranichfeld '37 was all excited and told us that she was going to relate this experience to all her relatives. Myrtle Hodapp '34 and her sidekick Ruth Bonner wanted us to know they love the Newsletter and wanted us to continue sending them copies. Others in the crowd were Bobby Knoth and Art Kull both from the class of '38; Harry Coleman '39 who has been moving frequently now lives in Spring Lake Heights; Frank Geraci '39, who has homes in Boca Raton, FL and New Jersey, was unrecognizable because he is now wearing a white beard but after introducing himself, I was able to recognize an old friend. Chas Hartl '39, wondered why his brother Wilbur, was not present as Wilbur is an old buddy of mine. Robert Neigel '40 now living in Basking Ridge, is still bragging about having 17 grand children. Eleanor Lockman Venturi '41 - I remember her husband well, as they lived down the street from me in Lavallette.

Virginia Weiner Denus '41 now living in Sea Isle City with her lovable husband Mickey, I have to tell you a story about her father, John. Do any of you folks recall the Irvington Recreation Dept. Twilight Baseball League? Well, I was a member of that league. John Denus was a fan, and he hated my appearing against him. John was an Irvington Sports Club Fan, and any person not cheering for the Sports Club was his enemy. I was pretty successful against the Sports Club, therefore I was his enemy. Those of you who follow sports today, know of what A Rod is going through with the Yankees, he is booed in every city he goes into. I could here John's voice over all others because he used to call me some vile names, believe or not, it made me work harder. But it was all in Sports and unfortunately John passed away in his 50's but he loved his baseball and the Irvington Sports Club. I related this story to Ginny and she agreed with me, her father loved his baseball and his Irvington Sports Club. By the way Ginny was a very good Basketball player in her day, playing for the Amazons and traveling all over the eastern seaboard with their wonderful coach Max Deutsch. In today's world she would be a #1 pick.

Elinor Patzold Schmalstich '42 one of the committee workers, I am sorry that I was unable to meet you at this affair, I guess you were so busy. I inquired about you and I was told you had a beautiful red dress on. Well anyway I wanted to tell you, you did a good job. Bill Sedlacek from the class of '42 was also present, Bess Meyer Terp '42 another Committee member was seated at 2A. Our old friends Bob Zitch '42, and Frank Bahlman '43 were seated at 7A. The class of '44 was represented by Ruth Mehrer Bonner, Walter and Doris Kozub, Michael Reveda, Sol Schwartz, Sol asked me to send him something, I don't recall what it was, but I asked him to write me, and I would comply with his wishes. Also in the '44 class were the Simpson's, Ed and Doris Schwing who went to South Jersey many years ago, started a business, was very successful and now the children are running the company. I was surprised to see Rose Dettinger Jones '45 who came up to me, and introduced herself to me, of course I recall her, she married the former Ray Jones who was the assistant coach at one time.

The class of '46 was represented by Inge Ginter Penssler, Dorothy Hecht and a couple I wanted to meet Dolores Tyleske and Charles Manzione, a group that came from Dalton Georgia, outside of Atlanta, where Charlie has become the Rug King of the South. Dolores and Charlie subscribe to my Newsletter that is how I became acquainted with them

Al Murray, Bob Schetelich, Ray Smith and Tony Sytko represented the class of '47. I had a nice chat with Claire and her husband Kurt, who visited with me. They subscribe to the Newsletter plus Claire lived a few doors away from Lil and me when we lived in Irvington and Kurt got his college degree from Upsala College where I got my degree. Also in the '48 group was Harry and Janet Ziober Hill, they always visit with me whenever we see each other. As an old football official I follow their son when he is on television. By the way, Janet's brother was a very good catcher; maybe that is why she hooked up with Harry because he was a very good catcher in his day. Now he plays golf.

Also in the '48 class was Vincent Iacopino coming from Newbury NH, John Kuhnen, Roy Madsen and Herm Pizzi, and Ed Liebe who took this snapshot of me, that is the back of Herm Pizzi you see next to me. In the '50 class we have Peter and Frances Gilleece. In the '51 class we had Joseph Accardi and Rhoda Bardner; Jack Chaarette & Lorraine Birgy; John & Mary Muha; Gordon Search; Arthur and Linda Willner.

The '52 class consisted of George & Elaine Andreach, Jerry Betzner; and Nick Dente plus many more. My old friend Gene Malinowski '57 a good baseball pitcher, and of course in the year of Rosemarie Petitti Annunziata '58 who has become a Judge, came from Fairfax, Va. She has a nephew playing for Pittsburg University, in his Senior year and will be All American this year. He is good, he plays tackle, is big and you will be hearing about him this coming season. His Dad played at Seton Hall, but the family and his sisters all lived in Irvington and went to Irvington schools.

I almost forgot Joan Jennings and her husband, Alex Santoriello who run the southern branch of a Newsletter out of Naples, Fl. It is a good Newsletter, they came and visited me and we are real appreciative of their visit. It was enjoyable visit we had. Keep up the good work Joan & Alex.

I am sorry if I did not mention your name, remember I am going to be 88 years young on July 4<sup>th</sup>, I do not take notes and this is all from memory, so please forgive me. I'm sorry.

We have a few letters here that we have received, I would like to make note of them.

From Paul Rugg I received this note, I would appreciate your printing in next Newsletter the fact that on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> 04, William Jantausch, a tireless worker for the Irvington Semi Pro League passed away. He was also the manager of the Norwood baseball club. Bill did at lot of work for the success of the league. Vito – I

can remember Bill sitting in league meetings listening and not saying much but when he spoke, it was good and constructive. Thank you Paul for remembering Bill as we knew him.

Another member passed away. I got a phone call from Al Moskov '58 saying that Phil Matoska '58, his best friend, passed away in May. It is awful to hear of these members passing away. Phil recently retired, moved to Florida to live a comfortable life.

Dear Vito:

Thanks so much for your latest Newsletter. I enjoy your letters as always. I want you to know that I do indeed remember being driven by the Hoffman Soda Bottle on my way to visiting my parents friends == as a little girl it was exciting.

There you see Vito! I am a women and not afraid to admit my age— Birthdate June 9<sup>th</sup> 1922! Ours was the last class that went directly into the first grade (not kindergarten), turned 17 2 weeks before June '39 graduation. Did I miss you at the Reunion? Signed Trojakowski '39 Janice Hansbury

Dear Vito:

Thank you for your wonderful Newsletter. I look forward to each one and read them cover to cover especially when you includes articles about our wonderful town.... It's sad to read all that has happened and wonder how such a wonderful place with all the memories could become such a disaster. I have never taken the time to return to see it, as I want to keep in place the memories I have growing up and not replace them with the current ones you describe in your letters.

I was born and raised in Irvington and my wonderful wife (who passed away 14 yrs ago) Lived across the street from me on Melrose Ave lives in my memory as though it was only yesterday... I went in the service at 16 yrs of age, spent 2 1/2 in the South Pacific in the Amphibious Forces earning 6 battle stars (plus a Naval Commendation) for the invasion landings starting from the Solomons (Guadalcanal) up to the last one Okinawa. (I was on the beach when the flag was raised on Iwo Jima) We were loaded to invade the Japanese mainland and thank God for President Harry Truman who dropped the atom bomb and saved all our lives (the projection was one million killed or wounded) as the Japanese would fight to the end. They never would have given up...as captured documents have shown.

I married my sweetheart (Virginia Sprgue '43) who lived across the street from me and we were together for 41 wonderful years producing 4 beautiful children and (9 grandchildren) when she was taken away from me at age 62 from breast Cancer...

Thank you again for your untiring efforts to keep our Irvington memories alive. Bill (Bunker) Jayne '43 I live in Florida, North Carolina and spend my summers at the NJ shore.

An e-mail from Fred Klittich'60

Dear Vito- Thanks for the great Newsletters. My wife Joyce (Reitz class of '60) and I read them with great interest. We met and started dating the first week of our freshman year at Irvington H.S. We will celebrate our 40th anniversary on June 13th. We have three daughters and 6 grandchildren.

I have been a minister in the Church of Nazarene for over thirty years and this summer I will be traveling to Ulyanovsk, Russia to work with the missionaries to build a church. An interesting side note, this is Lenin's hometown, the man who said, "God is Dead!" I have been to Africa twice to work with the missionaries and also South America. I will send you an update on this trip when I return.

Vito---It seems that many of you married your High School sweet heart, I did, how about you, Did you?

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY****HAPPY BIRTHDAY****HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Vito Miele** 7/4/1916  
**Harry Hill** 7/8/1930  
**Bill McGrady** 7/8/1918  
**Stanley Jarosz** 7/9/1930  
**Harry J. Coleman** 7/9/19??  
**Joe Urban** 7/11/1920  
**Pete Skurla** 7/15/1919  
**Frank Addonizio** 7/15/1921  
**Al Mende** 7/17/1930  
**Robert Morris** 7/19/1929  
**Jack Cordes** 7/24/1928  
**Michael Petrouly** 7/27/1931  
**George Andreach** 7/27/1934  
**Ed McGrady** 7/29/1930  
**Barry Sirota** 8/1/1936  
**Ron Smith** 8/2/1934  
**James Reilly** 8/2/1910  
**Jerry Betzner** 8/11/1934  
**Bill Chesley** 8/17/1934  
**Adam Scrupski** 8/18/1928  
**Phil Vivona** 8/24/1935  
**Charles Tripodi** 8/25/1944  
**Bob Zitch** 8/28/1923  
**Stan Rubin** 8/28/1924  
**Joseph Ens Jr.** 8/28/1936

**Ray Smith** 8/29/1929  
**Tim Vorhies** 8/31/1952  
**Bill Stiles** 8/31/1938  
**Gene Malinowski** 9/6/1939  
**Bill Pierson** 9/13/1939  
**Bob Eitel** 9/17/1930  
**Richie Halperin** 9/20/1933  
**Art Kull** 9/21/1920  
**Joe Feldman** 9/25/1933  
**Fa. Wayne Pavela** 9/27/1951  
**Jerry Chirichella** 9/30/1931  
**Bob Duda** 10/2/1922  
**John Walek** 10/9/1927  
**Joseph D'Urso** 10/11/1932  
**John Maddalena** 10/11/1933  
**John McGuckin** 10/14/1934  
**Dr. Richard Dobyns** 10/16/1924  
**Frank Gedrowicz** 10/18/1908  
**Tony Lauro** 10/18/1940  
**Henry Krutter** 10/24/1926  
**John Bisset** 10/24/1918  
**Mickey Weiner** 10/26/1908  
**John Muha** 10/29/1931  
**Roy Madsen** 10/29/1930

We cannot wish you a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** unless you send in your Birthday date to us.

It is close to June when you make your usual donation. I will not have another newsletter until September/ October. Stamps cost money, Uncle Sam does not give them to me, therefore we need a donation from you folks for stamps, printing, etc. Thank you very much for your donations. If you have difficulty making a donation we will find ways of sending you the newsletter at no cost to you. We will pick up the cost.

**VITO**