

YO-HI Echoes...

...Then and



Yokohama High School Former Students Association

Nov 2007

Save the Date !!

October 23-25, 2008

2008 FSA Reunion
Phoenix, AZ



Honoring the
Class of 1958

*Distance and time
may separate us
but friendship and
memories won't.*

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Viva Las Vegas - 2007 FSA Annual Reunion by Larry Rowe (58)

Remember, what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas! With that saying in mind, maybe I shouldn't let everyone know how this year's reunion turned out. But, then again, you should hear about the fun we had and you will join us at the 2008 reunion.



The Orleans Hotel and Casino was once again the site of the YO-HI reunion. It was also held there in 2003. Several attendees started showing up on the Tuesday before the reunion weekend, so they could get a head start on the shopping, gambling, and getting acquainted again. The Orleans provided shuttle service to their sister property, The Gold Coast Hotel and Casino, and the Las Vegas Strip. From there you could transfer, and ride a double-decker bus all over Las Vegas for just \$5.00 a day. A few of us went to Fremont Street to watch the laser light show, and get a hot bowl of Soba, (Saimin) at the Hawaiian Restaurant, while others picked up souvenirs, like shot glasses, t-shirts, and bags. There were others that attended the various musical or variety shows, such as "Mama Mia", provided by the many hotels and casinos up and down the Strip.

If you didn't feel like venturing out, the host hotel had over twenty restaurants, a spa, gym, 70 lane bowling center, several movie theaters, shows, and gambling for your entertainment pleasure. The Orleans provided a Hospitality Room which was open from 12:00 to 5:00 pm Thursday through Saturday for us to mingle, pick up our registration pack-

ets, grab a soft drink, and renew friendships. On Friday afternoon, several exes and spouses attended a class on how to locate people by using all the free web sites on the inter-net. Hopefully we'll be able to start locating more of those lost exes, and have them join us at our reunions.

Friday night festivities started with a pay-as-you-go bar. Jim Zinn (59) provided opening remarks and the "Mardi Gras" dinner officially began. Dolores "Do" Lehey (59) brought a couple DVDs, from Branson, MO, of shows that had an "Oldies but Goodies" theme.

On Saturday afternoon, we were treated to a screening of the movie "Brats, Our Journey Home". The movie, narrated by Kris Kristofferson, is a feature length documentary about growing up as a kid in *special time in history*. *The substance of our friendships at Yokohama High* the armed forces. Later, there was another great cocktail party and dinner in the main ballroom. During the evening, everyone was asked to stand and say a prayer for those exes and spouses that have passed on, and for those exes and spouses that either through illness or injury are unable to attend our reunions. Rosanne Santorelli (59) wrote and read the following: *"There is a destiny that has made us a community for half a century; this is a phenomenon! At the time we were simply classmates at Yo-Hi, studying in a distant land while our parents and teachers served their county in many different capacities. For the most part, we were unaffected by the work, perhaps not realizing it was a special time in history. The substance of our friendships at Yokohama High School,*

(See Reunion p. 3)

YO-HI Mini Reunion - Balloon Fiesta! By David Powles and Ron Peugh (59)

Blown in on the winds from Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and California, Jim (58) and Gay Cunningham, Bob Carlson (Louise Simon 58), Ron (59) and Liz Peugh, Jeannette (McClure 58) and David Powles descended on 6,000 feet high Albuquerque for the 37th Annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. Hosts Julie (Sadilek 59) and Dick Moore opened their elegant home situated in the foothills overlooking the balloon launching and flying grounds. From the backyard with our naked eyes, we marveled at the hundreds of balloons hanging like Christmas ornaments in the sky.



Maureen. Jay had attended elementary school in Negishi Heights while Julie attended YO-HI. They all became honorary members of the YO-HI group. Julie invited all alumni in Albuquerque and New Mexico to attend. Several

people were planning to come but political campaigns and illness prevented their attendance at the last minute. Several other people indicated that they would love to attend another mini reunion in Albuquerque. Stay tuned!!

(See Balloons p. 10)

The Devil's Playground

SPLISH SPLASH by Larry Rowe (58)

It was the summer of 1957, school was out, none of us had jobs, and if we didn't find something to do soon chances are we would have gotten in trouble. So, eleven guys, one from Atsugi, six from Yokohama, one from Yokosuka, and three from Zama, decided it would be fun to go climb Mount Fuji.

When we arrived in Fuji half the day was shot, so we checked into our hotel, and made our way to the first station. If we climbed all night we should be at the top at daybreak. The word was that watching the sun come up from the top of Mount Fuji was breathtaking, and it was. The climb up seemed like it took forever, and the thought of turning back did cross our minds. However, after being passed several times by some little old Mama-sans carrying cases of beer on their backs, those thoughts quickly dwindled. We had very few problems getting to the top, but only six of us actually made it. The problems occurred when we decided to make our descent down the lava slide. Three of the guys fell several times, and got cut up pretty bad. When we reached the bottom, we took them to the Fuji hospital to get stitched up. Then it was back to the hotel for some relaxation, and a round of Kirin beer. After a several rounds, someone got the bright idea that we should all go to the Japanese bath house to sooth our tired bodies. The bath was just a short walk from the hotel. So we did. We entered the bath house, stripped, put our clothes in a little cupboard, and took our showers. The attendant gave each of us a robe, and a small cotton wash cloth. We walked into a large room that contained three different shaped pools of water. Having never been to a bath house before, and not knowing what to expect, I let those, who had this experience before, lead. The first bath held cold water, and it took some time for me to get acclimatized, but I did. We didn't stay long in that bath, and quickly moved to the next one. The warm water felt good, but I didn't get too comfortable because I knew we had one more pool to go. Steam was coming off the last pool of water, and it took a short time to get accustomed to how hot it was. Once I did, I closed my eyes, settled back and relaxed, and had visions of staying there for quite awhile. After about twenty minutes, the first group of guys decided to call it quits, then a few more left, until I was completely alone. As Bobby Darin would say, "I was laxing in the tub".

About ten minutes later I heard some people speaking Japanese, figured they were coming in to let me know it was closing time. But to my surprise, it was a family of five, and they were wearing robes and carrying a small cotton washcloth. There were two young boys about seven and eight, a girl about fourteen, and a mom and dad. We stared at each other, and I knew I had that "deer in the headlight" look on my face, but couldn't do anything about it. They all bowed, disrobed, and climbed into the cold water, cotton wash cloth and all. Just about then I thought it would be a good idea to start making plans for my retreat. The family quickly made their way into the warm water, and I knew it was only a matter of time before they would be joining me in the big pool. I stayed as low in the water as I could, and made my way to the edge of the bath, climbed out, strategically placed my cotton wash cloth, and trying to act as cool as I could strolled toward my robe. Not knowing if there was such a thing as "Bath House Protocol", I didn't turn and bow, but quickly left

the room. dressed, walked back to the hotel, bought a beer, and began to tell my story to the guys. Over the years one thing has always bothered me about that experience. Now, I want you to know that I'm not complaining, but I am curious. Why is it that if men and women shared the same bath, they gave each of us only one cotton wash cloth?



ONSENS by Mike Murphy (60) - A response to "Splish Splash"

When the Japanese family acknowledged you with a "bow" and proceeded to take their daily bath, you felt a little uncomfortable. Having spent the last 14 years there in Koyabe (about 8 clicks) from the base, my wife Karen and I had many opportunities to travel throughout Japan, and we did. We visited 37 of the 46 prefectures and took advantage of all the customs. Today, most of all the bath houses (Onsens) are segregated. We probably visited over a hundred of them during our time in Japan, from the very small ones, that accommodate most of the local people, and only take in a few at a time, to some of the largest and oldest, (e.g., "Dogo" in Shikoku) that are three floors, several bathing pools...ice water in one, warm in another, chemical in yet another, very hot in another, followed by Jacuzzis and saunas.

Most hotels provide their customers with "Yukata's" (summer kimonos) that can be worn anywhere in the hotel, and outdoors. To them, this is relaxing. The Japanese are famous for getting to the destination (the hotel) eating, drinking and bathing at least three times a day, between naps. That is very relaxing to them. On several occasions, we would join our neighbors on short trips of four days or less, but would venture out on our own to visit the community. We would join them in the evening, for dinner and bathing. But now days, most of all Onsens are segregated by gender. There are still some exceptions, but very few. One exception, still present, is that most fathers will take their children (boys and girls) with them....not the mother...and only if the kids are not in early stages of development. The Japanese still believe when they enter any bath house, they see only the face of the individual.

Hopefully one day we'll all be able to take a trip back to our roots in Hayama, Zushi, Kotsubo, Oppama, or Nagai, and I will take all of you to one of the finest Onsens in Kanagawa.

(Reunion)

whether they were peripheral or close then, continues to expand and have significant meaning in the tapestry of our individual and communal lives. If not, why would so many of us choose to meet annually to reminisce and develop deeper connections? Because of this special bond, we share in joys and sadness; a celebration of life in its stages, sickness as it has affected many of us, and in sorrow when one leaves our circle. At this moment in time we offer thanksgiving for this particular Yokohama High School reunion, for the class of 1957. We continue to be grateful for the loving dedication and sacrifices made for love of country with stirring patriotism in a difficult era, and we remember those who cannot physically be with us, as well as those loving hearts that have passed into eternal life. We are assured we will always share a presence with one another, as the journey unfolds. May the One God of all, in His infinite goodness, guide and watch over us, while we may be absent from one another. For when we gather, we are called to remember, to celebrate, and to believe. Amen."

After some Former Students Association (FSA) business, and a short speech, we got down to the heart of the program by honoring twenty-one of the Class of 1957 for their 50th Anniversary. Class of 1957 attendees were: Lorin Cary, Evelyn Chen, Diane Fordney, Frank Hall, Homer Haughey, Russell Kelly, Barbara Kendall, Robert "Tex" Lavery, Charles "Mac" MacIvaine, Patti Maxwell, Sammy Milwit, Sandy Milwit, Ginny Murphy, Sue Perry, Anitria Pullen, Gerald "Tex" Ramsey, Nancy Ruehlow, Patty Shelley, Mike Smith, Dennis Van Liew, and Carol Wittmaack. Each honoree was given an inscribed gold picture

frame with a current class picture taken at the reunion. We also gave special awards to those that hosted past reunions, and to those that assisted. That night, we also honored a very special lady, Barbara Edwards (Fac 54-64), who was celebrating her 80th birthday that same night. She was presented a cake with one candle, and a bag containing over 40 birthday cards, for her to read on her trip home. She was also presented with a miniature jewel-toned globe on a pedestal, representing the many countries where she had taught school. Barbara had some interesting comments about her many years in the Military Dependent school system. One in particular caught my attention, when she mentioned that of all the schools she taught at, YO-HI was the only reunion she attends.

Jim Zinn, this year's reunion coordinator, was presented a glass paper weight from Carol Wittmaack, on behalf of the Former Students Association (FSA). Enclosed in the glass is the Military-Brats Flower, the dandelion. The dandelion was selected because:

*"It puts down roots almost anywhere.
It is almost impossible to get rid of, and
it's a survivor in a broad range of climates.
Like the flower, we are children of the world,
blown to all corners of the world,
we bloom anywhere."*

See you in Phoenix, AZ in 2008 to honor the
Class of 1958!

Honored Class of 1957



Standing L-R: Charles "Mac" MacIvaine, Sandy Milwit, Gerald "Tex" Ramsey, Frank Hall, Sammy Milwit, Homer Haughey, Patti Maxwell, Anitria Pullen, Robert "Tex" Lavery, Diane Fordney, Mike Smith, Patty Shelley, Dennis Van Liew, Russell Kelly, and Lorin Cary.

Seated L-R: Sue Perry, Nancy Ruehlow, Ginny Murphy, Carol Wittmaack, Barbara Kendall, and Evelyn Chen.

KURISUMASU-no- YESTERDAY NITE (A Japanese Night Before Christmas) Submitted by Jan Walker (54)

'Twas the nite before Kurisumasu when all through the uchi
Not a creature was stirring, not even the poochy,
The tabi were hung by the hibachi with care
In hopes that Santa Kurosu soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their futon,
While danced through their heads dreams of Mochi and udon;
And Mama in her yukata and I in fundoshi
Had just settled our heads to sleep a sukoshi.

When the passage of something across the roof shingles
Raised a noise that I knew just must be Chris Kringle's;
Hayaku I raced to open the shoji
Tore open the amado and looked out and ... Oh, Gee!

The tsuki on the breast of the new fallen yuki
Gave the luster of midday and made things look spooky
When, from the neon-lit smog should come scooting,
But a miniature rikisha and eight coolies pulling.

With a little old driver, so lively and jozu
I knew in a moment it must be Santa Kurosu.
More hayaku than kogatas his coolies, they ran
With takusan presento; and St. Nick, the toy man.

Now Speedy-san! now, Odori-ko! now Pakka-pakka and Inari.
On Comet-to. On Cupid-ko! on Kaminari and Inabikari!
To the top of the genkan! To the top of the tiles
Now, dash away! dash away! we've many more miles.

As momiji that before the wild typhoon fly,
When they meet with an obstacle mount to the sky,
So up to the roof the wee rickisha flits
With takusan new toys, 'pon which Santa Kurosu sits.

And then, bikkuri, I heard on the top story
The scraping and sliding of each little zori
As I drew in my head and hitched up my drawers
Down the ofuro pipe came old Santa Kurosu.

All of good fur was made his red mompei



And his clothes were all tarnished and ashy and grey!
A furoshiki of toys hung over his arm,
And he looked like a peddler from Mart Ginzakan;
His eyes how they twinkled! his dimples, how kawa-i-i
His beard wiggled like a grass skirt from far off Hawaii;
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a mikan,
His mouth wore a smile like O-Kame-san.

The stub of a Shinsei was tight in his fist,
And the smoke, it encircled him like Kyoto mist.
He had a broad face, and well rounded bloomers,
That rolled when he laughed like bouncing Darumas.

He was chubby and plump; a right jolly old Tengu;
And I laughed, when I saw him; that's all I could do.
A twist of his head and a twink of his eye,
Soon gave me to know that I had no shimpai.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to shigoto
And filled all his tabi; yada! then ready to go
And holding his hana with a fur-covered mitt,
And giving a "saah," up the stove pipe he flit.

He sprang to his rikisha, clutched the reins to his bosom,
And away they all wafted like a bloomed cherry blossom.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove off much farther,
"Merry Kurisumasu all, minasan, sayonara!"

WHERE ARE THEY?



Larry Rowe needs help in locating the following exes that were found and are lost again!
Please search your memories, and help us get these "lost" exes back on board.....

Charles "Chuck" Colby (59), Susan Conland (56), Marilyn Crockett (59), Bob Decker (56), David Holdren (56), Barbara "Bobbie"

Johnston (62), Albert Mays (55), Jerry (Miller) Hall (58), Carol Nelson (59), Jeanne Pinard (58), Sandy (Podbleiski) Verdugo (57), Michael Sowers (60), Daniel Standaart (59), Dollie (Stidham) O'Sullivan (57), Landon Waggoner (56), Maude Zimmerman (FAC)

It doesn't take much to keep in touch!

Reunion Passports



Remember when you traveled overseas with your parents, and everyone was required to have a current passport. Every time you entered a different foreign port they took your passport, and would stamp the name of the country you had just entered.

Now you can get a YO-HI reunion passport, and every time you attend a reunion, your passport will be stamped with the name of the city where the reunion is being held.

Louise (Simon) Carlson (58), our dear friend and classmate who passed away in March, and her husband, Bob, designed a "passport" book, and a seal for each reunion with the date and graphic.

Bob has regularly attended the reunions and, as a "Friend of YO-HI", Bob has graciously agreed to continue to be the "keeper of the passports".

You can buy your passport books at any reunion or by contacting Bob Carlson. The books are \$3.50 each (plus 2 stamps for mailing) and the reunion seals are free. If you are missing any seals, let Bob know which reunions you have attended and he will send you the correct seals.

Contact Bob Carlson at:

501 Emery Street, Longmont, CO 80501

(303) 774-1977

E-mail: loubobC62@worldnet.att.net

REUNION UPDATE....Bruce Eastley (56)

No matter how I describe Bali, it simply does not do it justice unless you go there. My group (31 of us in all) was simply overwhelmed with the sheer beauty of the island...its gracious and smiling people...and the many activities that kept them busy. And of course, the give-away price of \$1,649 that included R.T. air...12 nights in three 5-star resorts with daily buffet breakfast. Some want to go back with me on my next trip. But right now I will begin working on a MALAYSIAN tour for 2008.



BRATS - OUR JOURNEY HOME

The "BRATS FILM TOUR - Our Journey Home" is the first-ever documentary about us... about growing up as a BRAT... and how it has profoundly affected our lives!

JAPANESE TRIVIA

- * Japan has more different surnames than any other country in the world..
- * The most-visited amusement park in the world is Tokyo Disneyland. It opened in 1983 and more than 17 million people visit it each year.
- * Japanese stores play "Auld Lang Syne" to notify customers that the store will close shortly.
- * The oldest festival in the world is reputed to be the Aoi Matsui, held every May 15th or 16th in Kyoto.
- * The biggest statue of the Buddha in Japan is the "Daibutsu" (Big Buddha) at Todaiji Temple, Nara. At 15 metres in height (49 ft), it is also the largest gilded-bronze Buddha in the world. It was completed in 749. It is housed in the Daibutsu-den, which is the largest wooden structure in the world, measuring 48 metres in height, 57 metres in width, and 54 metres in depth. The original Daibutsu-den was completed in 743, but was destroyed in a fire in the mid 16th century. The current building was constructed in 1692, and is actually smaller than the original.
- * When one thinks of Japan's contribution to world cuisine, probably the first thing that comes to mind is Sushi. But Japan has given us much more. In 1958, in a shack in North Osaka, Ando Momofuku invented the instant Ramen noodle...the first flavor was chicken.





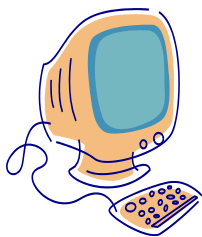
What Did You Want To Be When You Grew Up?

Did you ever wonder what ever happened to that student in school that was the Valedictorian, or was so good in athletics, or maybe played in the band? Most of us noted in the yearbook what we aspired to be after graduating, but did we actually

Thoughts from Pinky Hart (56)...I almost (emphasis is on "almost") feel foolish when I read what some of our friends stated they wanted to be when they grew up. Mine was done with tongue in cheek when I said I wanted to be a wrestling coach at a girls school, and now it seems like everyone had such serious ones. Oh well The other day I caught the first episode of "Star Wars" and started wondering if Mark Hamill ever publicly stated he wanted to grow up to be Luke Skywalker and have two robots for friends. Too bad he never seems to acknowledge his days at YO-HI anymore. In case I haven't told you the story before, I about drove off the road many years ago when I heard him being interviewed on the radio. Most of us hadn't started locating other ex YO-HI'ers then so when I hear him starting to sing "In the shadows of Mt. Fuji stands our school so dear", I went crazy. I've never seen nor heard anything about him going to YO-HI since, but what a moment that was. He was Luke Skywalker...now, if he feels like I do in the morning, he's probably more like Yoda ... moving slowing!

- Barbara Joyce (58)** - Get married & have a family - She did & started her own company, Spirit Graphics & Printing, and a Catholic Book & Gift Store in addition to the printing; now runs two businesses. Not retired yet.
- Marilyn Elliott (59)** - Attend college - Became a housewife, mother, and finally a civil servant.
- Tom Gard (60)** - Pilot - Worked in airport operations.
- Mark Keeney (61)** - Detective or an FBI agent with fellow YO-HI grad Don Wood (61) - Had a career in airborne Infantry, Army, aviator, followed by years of work as a business management consultant; Now teaches English business conversation to Japanese businessmen who work in the Atlanta area; Retiring for good in NH.
- Doug Dial (53)** - Naval Officer - Retired from investment management after 40 years on the job.
- Reldon Gifford (54)** - Not the slightest idea - Volunteered for the draft after HS; Became an owner operator/trucker & drove cross-country for 47 years; Retired in 2001 & moved to beautiful Kentucky near Mammoth Cave National Park.
- Jim Couch (55)** - Electrical engineer - Retired after 42 years with an insurance company as the Claims Manager.
- Gay Havens (56)** - A nurse - Got married, studied psych, early childhood, a year of law school, pre-med and finally focused on Life and Financial Planning; been in practice for the last 30 years. .
- Frank Hall (57)** - Go to college, and be a success in life - Did just that.
- Pat Powers (58)** - Beautician - Became a domestic engineer.
- Jeanne McBeth (59)** - Go to college & be a cheerleader - Went to college and became an aerospace secretary, then entered nursing.
- Linda Darnaud/Conroy (60)** - Actress - Got married & became a "Home Mother" raising 5 children, 14 granddaughters, 4 great granddaughters and 3 great grandsons. For the last 23 years she has been a machine operator for Hermes Abrasives making sandpaper rolls and belts; plans to retire this year.
- Jim Polk (61)** - Navy pilot - Served in Viet-Nam and was decorated; went to college and became an engineer who patented several tools; semi-retired, loves to work on motorcycles, and target shoot professionally.
- Georgianne Fahler (62)** - Secretary - Attended Hamilton Business College and ended up in NJ working as a dental assistant; got married, raised a family, started her secretarial career in 1972 & retired as the executive assistant to the hospital commander at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.
- Margaret Bronson (63)** - Get married and raise a family - Married a "Navy Brat", had one daughter. Later, she attended college at the Univ of Texas - Dallas, earning a degree in accounting. For the last 30 years she has worked as a CPA, and has no plans to retire anytime soon.
- Terry Arndt (64)** - Teacher - Earned her teaching degree at Western Kentucky University; Taught school for two years and then decided to stay home with her children. Went back to college and became a paralegal. Worked for seven years, then became a medical researcher. Now she's a clinical research associate who monitors pre-approved FDA drug trials.
- Nina de Maagd (53)** - A career in acting; - Got a degree in Theatre Arts and worked for the Red Cross to pay off my college debts; Met and married a career Army man and wandered the world (doing a fair amount of acting in Army Entertainment) until we retired in Santa Barbara. . .now we enjoy this beautiful place.
- Phil Battey (54)** - Mathematician - Worked 32 years for the Navy as a computer programmer.
- Al Cope (55)** - Get out of HS - Didn't make it from YO-HI (flunked English - Miss Wolmann; Did a year at Baylor Military School then two years at North Carolina--Partied a lot and was asked by administration to leave until I figured out what I wanted to do with my life. Dad gave me 5 choices--Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and two weeks to make choice. I joined the Navy, and while on the USS George Washington SSBN 598 (Blue Crew), took two year college GED and departed for Pensacola, FL for flight training. Later commissioned and spent the next 18 years flying here and there. One of my duty stations was NAS Atsugi where my dad had been CO while I was in YO-HI. Retired as a LCDR, returned to college, degree in business, and spent the next 15 years or so working with Special Ed kids in an alternative high school. Have been retired, here in The Villages, FL., since Jan 05.
- Adie Muirhead (56)** - Get married and have children - And she did.
- Dave Nock (58)** - Get ahead in the world - Feels he's more behind than ever.

COMPUTER TIPS



WHAT WILL THEY THINK OF NEXT? Submitted by Sam Barker (58)

In Japan, they have replaced the impersonal and unhelpful Microsoft error messages with Haiku poetry messages. Haiku poetry has strict construction rules - each poem has only 17 syllables; 5 syllables in the first, 7 in the second, 5 in the third. They are used to communicate a timeless message, often achieving a wistful, yearning and powerful insight through extreme brevity. Here are some actual error messages from Japan. Aren't these better than "your computer has performed an illegal operation?"

*The Web site you seek
Cannot be located, but
Countless more exist.*

*Chaos reigns within.
Reflect, repent, and reboot.
Order shall return.*

*Program aborting
Close all that you have worked on.
You ask far too much.*

*Windows NT crashed.
I am the Blue Screen of Death.
No one hears your screams.*

*Yesterday it worked.
Today it is not working.
Windows is like that.*

*Your file was so big.
It might be very useful.
But now it is gone.*

*Stay the patient course.
Of little worth is your ire.
The network is down.*

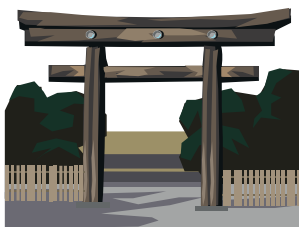
*A crash reduces
Your expensive computer
To a simple stone.*

*Three things are certain
Death, taxes and lost data.
Guess which has occurred.*

Japanese Technology Again...

The Japanese have finally revealed a mystery for us. Have you ever wondered how the small arrow on your computer monitor works when we move the mouse? Now, through the miracle of high technology, the mystery is solved! With the aid of a screen magnifying lens, the mechanism becomes apparent.

Click on the following link: <http://www.l-click.jp>. The image may take a minute or two to download. When it appears, slowly move your mouse over the light gray circle and you will see how the magic works. Also left click.



On October 8th, thirteen YO-HI alumni and friends departed San Francisco heading for the Narita Airport in Japan. We were met by our lovely Japanese guide who took us by bus to our hotel in Tokyo. We began with tours of Nikko in the north, Tokyo and environs and then down to Yokohama. Nearly a full day was devoted to visiting the many places we knew as kids living in Yokohama.

Especially interesting was the home of Betsy Ward Hatfield and Phil McLaren. This home is now a museum showing how foreigners lived on the Bluff in Yokohama. Most of the military buildings have long since been torn down and replaced with magnificent modern buildings. From Yokohama we took the bullet train, Shinkansen, to Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan. That evening we attended a performance of Geishas, dancers, musicians and Ikibana flower arranging. It was quite an evening. Next we traveled to Hiroshima, and a visit to the sacred Island of Miyashima. With the exception of a few sprinkles the first day in Nikko, we had spectacular weather that allowed us to see Japan at its most colorful. Included in our stops were temples galore, castles and monuments, gardens and loads of wonderful shopping. The last day was the visit to the Atomic Bomb ground zero and the Atom Bomb Peace Park. Each of us rang the Peace Bell with the prayer..."Never again!" This is the same saying as outside Dachau in Germany. A quick bus ride to Osaka and lunch of Okonomiyaki (vege pancake, like nothing on our menu here) and we were heading for the plane to San Francisco. Because of short connection times, goodbyes were fast and furious. That night 13 happy travelers sank into their own beds with familiar sheets and sweet sleep. Perhaps next year we might try China. Anybody up for China?



MILITARY-BRATS REGISTRY

The Military-Brats Registry is trying to get all the people that posted their name and other information on the Registry to update that information. Many of you have changed e-mail addresses over the years, which means that any of your friends trying to contact you through the Registry will not be able to. Contact the web site through military-brats.com and click on Edit Profile.

BIRTHDAY CALCULATOR

....Submitted by Gay Havens (56)

Go to Google, and type in Birthday Calculator. When page comes up, click on first column - Birthday Calculator. Enter your birthdate;



You'll get some of the following info: the date you were probably conceived; the day you were born; life path compatibility (this might shock a few); how many days till your

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

George Sidline (PG 53) writes: *"I just published a book, "Somehow, We'll Survive", which is a war time memoir that takes place between 1940 and 1947. It chronicles the life of me and my family in Japan during that time. I've had good reviews and maybe some of the YO-HI exes might be interested in it. The book is available on Amazon and Powell's Book Store in the Portland area as well as in other local bookstores."*

On another note....**Betty (Creech) McMillan (58)** - writes *"A couple of months ago I was asked by the Union Tribune to write historical stories for their website, "Story Tellers of East County". Now I am a BLOGGER. This is the new modern way to read the newspaper...I guess. Personally, I would rather curl up in my rocking chair with a real newspaper. " Go to:*

www.signonsandiego.com. Scroll down to the section, UNION TRIBUNE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES. In the GOING LOCAL section, click on UT-EAST COUNTY. In the UT- East County page, click on the BLOGS tab. Some of my stories are



YOU MIGHT BE A MILITARY BRAT if you.....

- * Graduated from 12th grade and it was your 13th school.
- * Had to tell your math teacher the last school was teaching subtraction, the new school was on division, and you missed multiplication.
- * Live in one state and your father/mother lives in another, because they were newly stationed there.
- * Still refer to your underwear as "skivies".
- * Insist on showing your dependent I.D. card when entering your civilian (local) supermarket.



HAWAIIAN FOOD

Craig Dauber (66) writes:

Please pass this on to all Former Students who like real Hawaiian food. Almost anything, from all the pork dishes to Poi and Saimin, can be ordered by going to the web site: Zippys.com. All my friends from Hawaii order through there.

In Memoriam

- * **Lorna Donaldson (1959)** - Her brother, Jim Donaldson (56) reported that Lorna passed away on September 21, 2007 from complications of Alzheimer's.
- * **Jack M. Gladd (1956)** - His cousin, Paul W. Gladd reported that Jack was killed by a drunk driver as he was walking across a street in Hawaii. He was only 19 years old when he died.
- * **Viola (Gunter) English (56)** - Her daughter, Donna, reported that Viola passed away on August 21, 2007 from a massive coronary. She was an avid gardener and baseball fan (loved the Atlanta Braves). She is survived by her husband, Don English, and 5 children.
- * **Phillip D. High (1958)** - His wife, Betty, reported that Phil passed away on May 5, 2007. He had a massive heart attack the day before and the damage was just too great for him to survive. He enjoyed receiving all of the info from the newsletter and the reunion we attended last year at SeaTac.
- * **Carol "Corky" (Hudiberg) Hitt (54)** - Her daughter, Hollye Hitt, reported that her "beautiful sweet mother" passed away on August 6, 2007 from an unexpected heart attack. She had shared with Hollye how excited she was about being in contact with her YO-HI friends. You can visit the webpage that has been put together in her honor. You can read her obituary and view the slideshow that was shown at her memorial. Messages can be noted in the guest book. Go to <<http://www.mem.com>> . On the homepage, type in her last name, "Hitt", and then "Carol".
- * **Carol Ruth Lusby (1959)** - Her granddaughter in Sherwood, OR reported that Carol passed away on June 19, 2004 after a struggle with cancer.
- * **Ernie Meredith (1949)** - Wally Wollenberg reported that Ernie passed away on July 30, 2007 of congestive heart failure. He had been in failing health for at least 8 months. His wife Kitty Fox Meredith, is also a YO-HI alumnus. Her address is 2255 Lincoln St., Eugene, OR 97405-2607, 541-968-3881, email <kittymeredith@comcast.net>. His brother Russ Meredith also had a connection to YO-HI and is married to Pat Fox Meredith, another YO-HI alumnus. Russ' address is Mammoth Way, Gardnerville, NV 89460-8149, 775-265-7828, email <phoenix1@charter.net>.
- * **Guy L. Nitz "Tiny" (1960)** - In a search of the Social Security Death Index by Larry Rowe, it was noted that Tiny passed away September 26, 2006 in Isabella, MO. He had been fighting cancer for quite some time, and had moved to Arkansas for treatment. Larry had talked to Tiny over the years, and he always mentioned "One of these days I'm going to make to a reunion". He never did, but I know I'll see him again, and I'll let him know what he missed.
- * **Wilfred Yamaguchi (1951)** - Elaine (Yamaguchi) Chun reported that he had been in poor health for some time and died February 3, 2007.
- * **Connie Cohen (1955)** - From John "Hap" Haggard (56) reports that *"It saddens me to tell of the death of my long-time friend. She died in her sleep on October 29, 2007. There was no memorial service or tribute in the paper, so her friends would like to offer our own tribute to her. We laughed together more than you can imagine. We will remember the laughter--there were so many fun, good times, always filled with conundrums that would have us laughing hysterically. Her face was always "on". We will miss our Connie."*
- * **Barbara "Bang-Bang" (Gunn) Bucket (1965)** - Her husband, Don Buckel, wrote that she passed away on November 12, 2007. *"It was a quiet and peaceful passing. amidst copious tears on our part, there was also a great release that the Lord has seen fit to NOT allow her to linger. There was absolutely no pain on her part, and we are rejoicing that she is now with the Lord."*

IF MY BODY WERE A CAR

submitted by Marshall Hart (58)

f my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish and my paint job is getting a little dull ... But that's not the worst of it. My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close. My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather. My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins. It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed, and my fuel rate burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it -- Almost every time I sneeze, cough or laugh.....either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires!



CLASS NEWS

There was no information submitted in time for this section.



ELECTRONIC BIRTHDAY CARDS - Larry Rowe

Each year, I send out over 400 electronic birthday cards to those exes that have submitted their names to the YO-HI Birthday List. When you receive one, you will notice that it is usually a Hallmark card, and has the heading "Larry Rowe has sent you a Hallmark E-Card." In the "From" field, it shows my e-mail address ijnrowe@wcc.net. It says that if you recognize this name, click the link to see your e-card.

Lately I've noticed a puzzling trend, only about 60% of the e-cards I send are ever viewed by the person they're sent to. Once they are viewed, I can then update my records, which lets me know that the e-mail address is current. Apparently, the other 40% of you are either not getting the card (because of an incorrect e-mail address or maybe a typo on my part) or they don't want to open the card because they heard that there might be a virus attached to all e-cards.

I checked with Snopes.com, and there is a virus being sent out with the following subject line: "You've received a greeting card from a school-mate", or "You've received a postcard from a family member." Note that it never gives you the name of the school-mate, or family member. Sending out phony e-card notifications allows the hacker to camouflage viruses, and induce unwitting recipients into clicking on links that install malicious programs onto their computers.

Since many of these malicious messages imitate notification from legitimate e-card sites, you might want to get in the habit of never clicking on the links contained in the e-card notification. If you're concerned about online security you can go directly to the web site of the card company, find the card pickup page within that site, and enter the ID code included in the e-mail. If the message was a fake, the worst that will happen is that you won't get a card.



(Balloons)

To participate in the "mass ascension" (a near religious experience) on Saturday morning, we rose before dawn (4:30 AM) and rode yellow school buses to the grounds so many times that we began to feel like Tom Dooley caught in the endless loop on the MTA. It was dark, it was cold, everyone was hungry, but we were all so excited. It would soon be launch time. Over 700 balloons soaring into the clear early morning sky was breathtaking. That night we returned to the fiesta for the launch of the gas balloon race, but the wind was a little too strong, so the gals shopped and the guys wandered around the midway. Sunday morning was another Mass Ascension. It was really really cold before the sun came over the Sandia Mountains. On Sunday evening, we returned for the Balloon Glow. Seven hundred balloons were tethered to the ground and lit up in the dark at the same time while we wandered around them on the launch field. Wow!

Rising above her physical discomfort from back surgery, Julie, also known as the 'Energizer Bunny', worked day and night to make everyone comfortable. We ate and ate and ate the Southwestern cuisine, especially the Hatch green chili sauce flavoring omelets to fajitas to enchiladas. We toasted our greatly missed Louise (Simon) Carlson. We spent an afternoon knick-knacking

in Old Town Albuquerque and the Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival. Dick purchased a book about the Navajo Code Breakers which he had signed by the few survivors of World War II. For two days, we walked the art galleries of Santa Fe and ate dinner at El Farol, the oldest restaurant in Santa Fe – second oldest city in the US. We ascended (en mass) to over 10,000 feet via a tramway to view the vast high desert below, and Indian lands punctuated with profitable casinos.

Soon, everyone was heading for home. We had begun by talking about growing up in Japan, life in the military and moving every few years from station to station. We ended with sweet regret, promising to meet again next year at the annual reunion in Phoenix.



Treasurer's Report ... Carol Wittmaack Cope



Very few of the exes listed on the roster have paid dues this year. Did you know that, when you send your dues (\$10.00 per year) to the Former Students Association (FSA), they are used to publish, and mail out the roster, membership card, and bi-annual YO-HI Echoes...Then and Again newsletter? They are also used to give reunion startup funds to the hosts for the next reunion. After next year, your dues will pay for the annual scholarship.

May 2007 - Balance		\$15,152.69
Expenses		
Scholarship		\$1000.00
Newsletter (Printing & Mailing) 5/07		\$718.10
Gifts - Presented at 2007 Las Vegas Reunion		\$472.08
Membership Cards & Reunion Postcards		\$187.40
Gifts for Class of 1957		\$341.28
Advance for 2008 Phoenix Reunion		\$ 2000.00
	Total	\$4,718.86
Income		
Refund from 2006 Houston Reunion		\$1642.07
Dues		\$1999.00
	Total	3641.07
September 2007 - Balance		\$14,074.90

Please don't miss out on the opportunity to read the stories, see the pictures, and learn about what's happening in the YO-HI World. **To pay your dues, use the 2008 Dues form below.**



Yokohama High School Former Students Association - 2008 Dues Form

Name _____ Maiden Name _____

Year of Graduation _____ Years at YO-HI _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Make your check payable to: **YO-HI FSA**

Mail your check and this form to:

Carol Wittmaack Cope
 P.O. Box 2182
 Joshua Tree, CA 92252

Check if personal information has changed.

Contact Information

YO-HI FSA General Chairperson

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Vice Chairperson

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Secretary

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Got News? Contact your Class Representative....

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Class of 55

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Class of 59

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Class of 60-61

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