

## 2005-2006 RUSHFORD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

(Received by members in July of 2006; *newsletter for 2006-2007 will be posted in July of 2007*)

Greetings from your newsletter editor, Jim Pomeroy ('60), and also the person now responsible for maintaining the alumni database on computer. (Note: the number in parentheses after a person's name refers to the year that his or her class graduated from high school.) I will try to continue in the footsteps of Lois Buttifant Bruce ('46), who performed these tasks so well. Thanks to Lois for making the photocopies of the newsletter again this year at no expense to the Alumni Association.

The newsletter is what you want to make it--so if you have anything about yourself or your class that you'd like to include in the 2006-2007 newsletter, send a note to the Rushford Alumni Association (Box 1, Rushford, NY 14777), or send me an email at [jkpomeroy@localnet.com](mailto:jkpomeroy@localnet.com) no later than June 1, 2007. If you do send me anything by email, please type "Rushford Alumni" in the subject box.

Many items for the newsletter are taken from the notes some of you write when you make your banquet reservations or when you send a donation. If you are planning a class reunion and you need some addresses for some of your classmates, or you just want to locate and renew acquaintance with another alumnus, I might be able to help. If you do have a class get-together, please let me some information about it for the newsletter such as who attended.

Thanks to Susan Clark Holmes ('66), Eva Smith Alderman ('42), Francis Owens Gilbert ('45), Audean Haskins ('65), Peggy Metcalf Armstrong ('76), and Audrey Pomeroy Wolfer ('78) and her daughter Lacey for helping stuff envelopes for the mailing that was done in 2005. Nearly 800 pieces of mail were put together and sent. The total number of responses from you in the form of banquet reservations and/or dues and/or scholarship donations between July 2005 and May 2006 was around 225.

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Nearly 170 people attended the 2005 banquet. Decorations and table settings were arranged by Peggy Metcalf Armstrong ('76) and her mother Ruth Smith Metcalf ('56) with help from Audean Haskins ('65) and Lynette Covert Owens ('65). Susan Clark Holmes ('66) organized refreshments for the social hour. Art McElheny ('58) gave the invocation. A buffet dinner was put on and supervised by Kevin ('74) and Dawn ('77) Taylor. At the end of the banquet, music was provided by Cuba-Rushford Central School faculty member Aron Cole and his band. Of the classes honored (those whose graduation years ended with a "5" or a "0"), the Class of 1965 had the most members present. Alumni came from as far away as Florida, Arizona, and California. The oldest alumnus attending the banquet was **Vivian Gordon Marsh ('28)** of Williamsville, NY. Vivian, who grew up on her parent's fruit farm on Brookside Road, is also our oldest living alumnus. Ron Beverly ('65) was formally welcomed into the RCS alumni family, just as Patty Flynn Engh and her brother, Mick Flynn, were welcomed last year. (People who attended but did not graduate from RCS are always welcome as well as any Cuba-Rushford Central School graduate who attended elementary school at the Rushford campus.) Two people received remembrance at the banquet: **Francis Crowell ('41)** of Lowville, NY who provided for a \$2,000 gift to the Association in his will, and **Homer Norton** who taught high school English at RCS for 20 years beginning in 1952 and who later became Town of Rushford historian. The honoree of the evening was **Lois Buttifant Bruce ('46)** who has been maintaining alumni names and addresses on computer and been generating all the paper comprising the mailings in recent years. The latter included a newsletter that has been a real "shot in the arm" to the life of the Association. Corrie Worthington, a 2005 Cuba-Rushford Central School graduate, received our Albro Scholarship award (presently \$500); she had enrolled in college at SUNY Alfred. This was the fifth consecutive scholarship given by the Association which has awarded almost \$4,000 since 2001. Francis Owens Gilbert ('45) and Audean Haskins ('65) presented the 2006 slate of officers with Peggy Metcalf Armstrong ('76) replacing Jim Pomeroy ('60) as President, Susan Clark Holmes ('66) replacing Peggy as Vice President, Orpha Clark Brooks ('62) replacing Susan as Secretary, and Audrey Pomeroy Wolfer ('78) remaining as Treasurer. Over \$200 was contributed to the scholarship fund by the Class of 1958 in memory of classmate Faye Webster Bliss. Our Treasurer has been able to restart a checking account for the Association without incurring minimum balance penalties. Here is a breakdown on the financial status of the Association: as of September 15, 2005 the Association had \$3,405 in its scholarship fund and \$3,830.29 in the general fund.

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*Items regarding individual alumni:*

'30 – **Pearl Gordon Tullar** of Olean, NY died in 2002. (Our database did not reflect this fact until very recently.)

'33 – **Pauline Butler Tullar** of Yorkshire, NY died in December of 2005.

- '35 – **Gerald White** of Warminster, Pennsylvania died April 5, 2005.
- '36 – **John S. Babbitt** wrote us 2005 that he and his wife had moved from a house where he had been for 23 years to an apartment in Exton, PA. "A big change for us but it means less work in terms of snow, grass, leaves, and gardens. At the same time our trips to the doctors are increasing. Best to all of you and have a great time at the upcoming get-together."
- '38 – **Dean Clark ('38)** of Rushford, NY and father of six Rushford alumni died June 1, 2006.
- '38 and '41 – **Everett Davis ('38)** of Greenville, SC died in January 2006 and his wife, **Linda Childs Davis ('41)**, died the following month. Everett had written us the following in 2005, just prior to the banquet: we moved this past spring. Our son Tim got a new position as artist here...Sorry to see the names of get the Davis history to Lois Bruce or LuAnn Bump for the big bi-centennial celebration of 2008."
- '39 – **Charles Balcom** of Franklinville, NY died in January, 2005.
- '39 – **Virginia Waite Miller** of Huntington Beach, California wrote us in 2005 that she enjoys the newsletter—"keep them coming". Virginia said that she was not as well as last year.
- '41 – **Arthur Jerman** of Belfast, NY died November 4, 2005.
- '42 -- **Arthur Davis** of Marble Hill, Missouri passed away September 2005 after a long illness.
- '42 – **Rowena Waite Meiler** of Warsaw, NY wrote us in 2005: "Just a word to say how much I enjoy the alumni newsletter. So saddened to read that old friends have passed away. I'm still in fair health and so thankful I'm able to take care of my ill husband."
- '42 – **Ernestine Beardsley Noble** passed away in August of 2002. (*Our database did not reflect this fact until this past year.*)
- '42 – **Mary Sprague Williams** of Leesburg, FL wrote us in 2005 that she couldn't attend the banquet in '05 but she hoped to do so in '06. "All is well with me...best wishes to everyone."
- '43 – **Elizabeth Jane Swain Clark** of Tampa, FL wrote us in 2005 that she would be unable to attend the banquet and that she loved to get the newsletter.
- '44 – **Shirley Taylor Adams** of Berrien Springs, Michigan wrote us in 2005: "Sorry I won't be able to make the reunion...I have been saving all the newsletters...keep on sending them. I'm fine and still going!!"
- '47 – **Florence Babbitt Fuller** was chosen as one of the New York State's Distinguished Women of Year 2000 for her community service. It included a trip to Albany to receive the award from Governor Pataki. (*Late as this news is after the fact, we say "Congratulations Florence!"*)
- '48 – **Alma Foss** of Baldwinsville, NY wrote us in 2005: "I look forward to the newsletter each year. I celebrated my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday in July by taking a group tour to the Canadian Rockies. My sister, Judy, accompanied me and we visited our cousin, John Moon, and his wife in Edmonton, Alberta."
- '48 – **Dean Stubbs** of Ely, Nevada wrote us in 2005: "Best wishes to everyone. Wish I could make it to the dinner but it's doubtful as my construction business is so demanding at this time of year. I will certainly be thinking of all of you."
- '48 – **Arlene Miller Warner** wrote us in 2005 that she was no longer living in Delevan, NY; she now has an apartment in Arcade.
- '49 – The Class of 1949 celebrated their 56<sup>th</sup> year since graduation by meeting on August 6, 2005 at the summer home of **Barbara Priday Wilson** off the West Branch Road. Class member present were **Duane and Dorothy Davies Kofahl, Robert and Jane Guest, Jeanette Scott Hermenet and Roger, Richard and Jeanne Sadler, and Neva Warner Boysha**. (*In a related note received prior to the reunion, Barbara Priday Wilson wrote that she had built a small house on County Line Road west of Rushford and was hoping for several people to attend the class reunion which potentially could be as many as 9 actual grads.*)
- '49 – **Robert Guest** of Centerburg, Ohio died November 6, 2005.
- '50 – **Pauline James King** of Allentown, NY wrote us in 2005 that daughter **Beth Goldsmith ('73)** of Allegany, NY plays bagpipes for weddings, church gatherings, etc and also plays in the same band ("Unusual Suspects") as **Patty Vincent Waldron ('77)**. (*The editor hopes Beth will volunteer to give a little bagpipe concert at an upcoming banquet. "How about it, Beth!?"*) In a separate note Pauline wrote the following: Eleven grads and some spouses and three guests attended the Class of 1950 reunion at the Arcade Village Park on July 23, 2005: **Keith and Arletta Smith Slocum, Alton Westfall, Jeanette Davis Kofahl, Eldyn and Pat Davies, Irene Blom Francis and Norm, Alton**

and **Betty Pettit, Betty Scott Klein and Dick, Jack and Janet Finch, Joyce Finch Brown** (guest), **Art and Marilyn Clark Kellogg, Ted and Marge Crowell, Pauline James King and Don.** Other guests were **June Clark and daughter Melody ('73).** "Great time had by all."

- '50 – **Hope Vincent Mosher** died in Kearney, Nebraska in October of 2005. She is survived by six children.
- '51 – **Kate Smith Chromey** wrote us in 2005 that she couldn't attend the banquet—was still busy getting settled in Cumming, GA. She suggested that we could save some money by not including a return envelope in our mailings. Kate said she hoped to join us in '06 and expressed thanks for the newsletter. (*The Alumni Association adopted Kate's suggestion.*)
- '51 – **Jean Riley Davis** wrote us in 2005 that "we won't be able to attend the dinner...we enjoy the newsletter so much." She and husband LaVern are still living in Lakeland, FL.
- '51 – **Lewis Stoffel** of Lima, NY wrote us in 2005 that he enjoys the newsletter ...he notices the class of '51 is not very well represented. "I am still at the cross-roads of Western New York, Routes 5 and 20 and 15A. Still working at retirement."
- '54 - **Maureen Brown Green** of Rushford, NY died on March 20, 2006.
- '55 – The Class of 1955 held their 50<sup>th</sup> year class reunion on July 17, 2005 at the Moonwinks Restaurant in Cuba, NY. Members of the class attending included **Lawrence ("Buck") Durkee, Clarence ("Eddy") Edwards, Jack Falsion, Walt Francis, Pat Lucas Reynolds, Bob Pettit, Marv Pomeroy, Warren Pomeroy, Mabel Roblee Meloche, Arletta Smith Slocum, Audrey Sprague Mason, Anna Mae Sweet Van Nostrum, Patricia Vickman Sampson, Sandy Webster Ward, and Dorothy Wixon Chapman.**
- '55 – **Pat Lucas Reynolds** of Stover, Missouri wrote us the following in 2005: "Doug and I and family are all OK. Still have chickens...I made it to the Class of 1955's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion---wonderful to see classmates again. Sorry to hear of Homer Norton passing; he was a wonderful teacher and so loyal to our class. Thanks again for the newsletter."
- '56 – **Bernard ("Tim") Westfall** of Jefferson, Ohio died on June 4, 2006.
- '57 – **Rita Henry Kester** deserves thanks for helping the editor identify and locate the addresses for a number of alumni who grew up in the Farmersville area. Rita lives with her husband Dale near Farmersville (1758 Edmunds Rd., Freedom, NY 14065). She and Dale will be married 43 years this December. They have three children (Bill, Laura, and Karen), 9 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild all living in the Jamestown area ...(*one wonders how many have Rita's red hair.*)
- '57 – **Nina Kirkby Rhoades** of Bellwood, PA wrote us in 2005: "I am looking forward to coming to the banquet...The last time I was in Rushford was with my children about 30 years ago...After graduation I went to school at St. Francis Hospital School of Practical Nursing in Olean. My daughter graduated from there 27 years later...My husband John and I were married in 1961. We had three children all 15 months apart. At present there are seven grandchildren. We lived in East Aurora for 20 years and then moved to PA to follow the railroad as John was an engineer. Unfortunately he died last month (June 2005)...No big plans yet to move back to the area---only time and God know... My email address is [jr701285@aol.com](mailto:jr701285@aol.com)."
- '58 – **Faye Webster Bliss** of Freedom, NY died during the summer of 2005.
- '59 – **Sandra Albro Munson** of Medford Lakes, New Jersey wrote us in 2005: "Sorry I can't make it to the banquet...glad I was able to see many people (in the Rushford area) in July. Thanks for the update and keep up the good work".
- '59 – **Donalee Baker Price** of Torrance, CA wrote us in 2005: "Hi, everybody! Thanks for keeping things going. I can't make it this year—think Tom will be representing the Baker kids. Have fun."
- '59 – Philip Van Wilson, the husband of **Sharon Flynn Wilson ('59)** of New York City unexpectedly passed away in December of 2005.
- '60 – **Ruth Kellogg** wrote us in 2005 that she had retired as Executive Director of the Capital Area School Development Association but was still teaching leadership courses at SUNY Albany. "My husband, Carlos Gutierrez, and I reside in Saratoga Springs, NY and spend three months of the year in Sarasota, FL. We enjoy returning to Rushford to visit the family."
- '60 – The Class of 1960 celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> year since graduation by meeting at the home of **Bill and Elana Kozak** in Farmersville on September 17, 2005. **Ruth Kellogg and Carlos Gutierrez, Joan Zweemer Velej and Bill, Bill and Barb Rutecki, Richard Russ, Judy Henry Dailey and Terry, Meredith Durkee Fisher, Karen Farwell Forsyth, Connie Pearl Perkins and Alan, Marv Covert**

and guest, **Jim Pomeroy**, and **Betty Connors Wende ('61)** were in attendance.

- '62 – **LaVerne Monahan Duncan** wrote us in 2005: “Many of my aunts and uncles are members of the Sweet family. I lived with my grandparents (also the Sweets) most of my years before high school. Then I had to move to Buffalo where I graduated from Grover Cleveland High School. ... I attended my first RCS alumni banquet in 2004 with my Aunt Carol Sweet Thompson and met a special person, Patty Flynn Engh, whom I hadn't seen in years. She is still the same Patty I knew way back when!!! ...I have worked at the post office in Port Deposit, Maryland for almost 19 years and will retire to my delight on June 1, 2006. I miss my grandmother (Mae Sweet) very much and now that she is gone, I don't have as much reason to go back to NY. ...I do miss Rushford and all the kids I went to school with, and their parents, and there is one special person that I miss a lot (to remain nameless). I hope to make another banquet, maybe next year when I retire.”
- '63 – **Patty Flynn Engh** of Alexandria, Virginia wrote us in 2005 that she and her sister, **Sharon Flynn Wilson ('59)**, and her brother, **Michael Flynn ('65)**, were looking forward to the banquet. (*Note: The Flynnns were not able to attend the banquet. Patty's daughter-in-law and granddaughter were killed in a tragic auto accident in late August. A few months later, Patty sent the following email: “Thanks to all the alumni who shared their thoughtfulness of loving support to me and my family. I received beautiful cards, notes and phone calls from so many. I was deeply touched and would like for everyone to know that we are finding more sunshine in our lives than darkness. It is indeed a long journey and with God's tender mercy, we shall find the strength to make it.”*)
- '64 – **Peggy Roblee Flynn** died of cancer in 1997. (*Our database did not reflect this until recently.*)
- '65 – **Ronald Beverly** was named Fire Fighter of Year 2005 by his South Buffalo area unit. He and his family spend part of the summer months enjoying the Ballard home (and birthplace of Governor Higgins) in Rushford.
- '66 – **Elaine Giboo Warrick** wrote us in 2005 that she “moved to Tennessee (Murfreesboro) in 1985---I am a real estate agent for Coldwell Banker and my husband is a residential contractor/builder...I really want to get to our 40<sup>th</sup> year class reunion (*in 2006*) and the 2008 bicentennial...I enjoy the newsletter.”
- '69 – We apologize for a mix-up in names in the '04-'05 newsletter: It was **Ronald Young** who died in 2004, NOT his brother **Dan**. Dan is a member of the Class of 1966. (*Dan, we trust that everything is OK with you and hope you can understand when a mix-up like this happens. In a way the situation brings to mind what author and humorist Mark Twain might have said if he had been in your shoes. Twain poked fun at himself by telling his audiences that: “The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated.”*)
- '69 – **Gail Williams** of Evanston, IL wrote us in 2005 that she couldn't make it to the banquet because she would be on professional music tour abroad, but to “say ‘hi’ to all.”
- '70 – **Cindy (Lucinda) Durkee** wrote us in 2005 that she was now living in Westfield, NY. She is married to Clark Parry and has retired from Motorola and Prestolite after 33 years of employment; she goes to Florida for the winters.
- '70 – **Jean Raimondi Lalomia** of Williamsville, NY wrote us in 2005: “Thank you (alumni association) for all you do.”
- '76 – **Richard Ashcraft**, originally from the Farmersville area, died during the summer of 2005.
- '77 – **Cheryl Kozak Siewert** of Delevan, NY died during the summer of 2005.
- '90 – **Karen Tullar Duttry** wrote us in 2005 that she “has been married since 1991 to Raymond Duttry...have two children, Samantha and Mathew...live in Yorkshire, NY...worked part-time at the Arcade Library for 5 ½ years...am employed as a secretary for the guidance department at Pioneer High School...”.
- '02 – **Paul Ronan**, a 2002 graduate of Cuba-Rushford Central School and the recipient of the 2002 Alumni Association's Albro Scholarship, was one of a very select group of Syracuse University graduates to be formally recognized as a *University Scholar* this year. Paul majored in geography and resided a semester each in Spain and Africa as a formal part of his undergraduate studies.

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**End of the line:**

- *It's now a scientific fact! Wrinkles are indeed hereditary---parents get them from their children.*
- *Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't possibly live long enough to make them all yourself.*  
–Sam Levenson
- *I'll feel better about the future when we stop treating Earth as if it was rented.* –Robert Orben

*Question: Is it OK to use cold water to clean dishes? Well..., probably not in the way to be inferred from the following story. (If you were at the 2005 banquet, you heard this.)* One fall Saturday, John drove out to visit his 90 year old grandfather who lived in a rural and very secluded part of Georgia. Upon arrival, the two of them spent an enjoyable evening chatting. The next morning John's grandfather prepared breakfast of bacon, eggs, and toast. John noticed a film-like substance on his plate, so he asked his grandfather if the plates were clean. His grandfather replied: "They're as clean as cold water can get them. Now just go ahead and finish your breakfast, sonny." For lunch the old man made hamburgers. This time John noticed tiny specks of dried egg around the edge of his plate---so again he asked: "Are you sure these plates are clean, Gramps?" Without looking up, the old man said: "I told you sonny---those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Stop fretting---I don't want to hear another word about it!" Later in the afternoon, John was ready to drive back to his home. On his way out the door, grandfather's dog started to growl and wouldn't let John pass. John called out: "Gramps, your dog won't let me get to my car!" Without diverting his attention from the football game that he was watching on TV, the old man shouted: "Coldwater, go lay down!!!"

**(JKP: 6/15/06)**