

OUR CLASS HISTORY **Wauseon High School 1960**

In the year 1942, approximately 115 bouncing baby boys and girls were born in Pike, Dover, York, and Clinton Townships, Eventually, these children would come together to be one of the largest classes ever at Wauseon High up to that time.

But let's go back to 1942 when America was involved in World War II. Many of our fathers were drafted into military service and were wondering if they would ever return alive. Kathy Thrasher's father died when the ship he was on was sunk by a Japanese torpedo. This probably explains why there were so many babies born in 1942. Our fathers wanted to leave children to carry on the family names, or to keep our mothers pregnant while they were overseas fighting the war.

We have included in the booklet, several pictures and information about Pike, York, and St. Luke's children that joined us in our freshman year. These kids comprised 25 % of our class but have been basically ignored in previous books.

In 1948, we were 6 years old and ready to start school. Most of the schools did not have kindergarten back then so it was on to the 1 st grade. The kids in Pike Twp. went to the Pike School located in Winameg, Ohio. These kids were all farm kids except for one city slicker, Leland Hite, who lived in Winameg.

The kids who were from York Township were all farm kids, and the kids in Dover and Clinton Township were, for the most part farm kids also. So how do you explain that out of all these farm kids only DeAlton Boyers, Leonard Richer, and Richard Pfund were the only boys to go into the farming business? We had several girls who married farm boys but that was only because farm boys make better lovers, right girls? The best Ag chapter in the State of Ohio was Wauseon, and the teacher, Mr. Kantner, went on to be the president of all Vo-Agriculture in the State of Ohio. There even is a Kantner Hall named after our Ag teacher. So I know we were given very good training in the farming business.

The largest number of classmates went into the field of education followed by the nursing field, then by owning their own business. The rest of the class went in a variety of fields, all honorable professions I'm sure. Some examples are (1) Barber, (1) Plasterer, (2) Ministers, (1) Insurance Underwriter, (1) Car Dealer (1) Safari Operator, you get the point. We all went in different fields and now most of us are retired and enjoying our "Golden Years ".

Back to grade school years. We have enclosed some pictures that many of you have never seen before. Some of the people in these pictures you won't even recognize. My, how we have changed in 50 years.

I'm sure you all remember the pigeons, starlings, and sparrows that were in the study hall and we all thought it was funny until we all had to sit on our knees on the gym floor for days. That gym floor got awfully hard by the 3rd or 4th day. Dam those not to be named boys!

In 1957 we would all come together at the high school on Clinton Street in Wauseon, and remained there until 1959 when we moved to the new high school on Parkview. We were in the new high school when our old high school blew up on Saturday, March 19, 1960, 3:32 pm. I'm sure everyone of you can remember what you were doing the day the school blew up?

Randy Pees' father was with the plumbers that day and it's a miracle that no one was hurt in the explosion. Several boys, including my brother, wanted to play basketball in the gym but Mr. Pees said no. Good thing as they probably would have been seriously hurt or much worse. Speaking of things that blow up, what about the Court House cannon? I'm pretty sure one of our classmates had something to do with. (How about that Bob Smith)??????

How many of you remember the tumbling team that Mr. Sapp put together in the 10th grade, if I remember right. The team put on an assembly for the school. The school board didn't consider us a sport and we didn't even get our picture in the yearbook. Jim Jacobs, Jim McGlamery, Brad Spiess, Hi Holister, myself and several other boys whose names escape me, were on the team. Help me remember the rest of the team.

Many of you listed the 1959 Championship football game with Napoleon as your fondest memory of your high school years. Some of Bob Smith's antics were listed along with senior skip day that never happened. Why didn't we skip that day???? I'm sure you all have some fond memories, and maybe some not so fond memories about our time at Wauseon High School, but I think you all will agree we had some pretty good teachers. We were all given a good education, and pointed in the right direction to go out in the cruel world.

We hope you enjoy this Memory Book and the information included. The 3 pages that have everyone's address, phone, and email address was compiled mostly by Lee Hite and I know Lee put a lot of time in compiling this info. Most of us should be settled down by now and this info should be good for a long time. So please use the book to keep in touch with your classmates. This will probably be the last book made as this book required many hours of work. Jan Isakson designed the cover and much of the layout work. Great job Jan.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the committee for all their hard work to put on this reunion. Until you put one of these special reunions on you can't imagine the countless hours involved. So enjoy tonight and try to visit with everyone here because many of you probably will never see each other again.

Roger "B " Nagel