

TigerTales!

The Newsletter for 50s and 60s Alumni of Taipei American School

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Tales of Marcia...

On June 25th, I gave a talk at the Library of Congress called "Scenes of the Crime; or, Maryland Can Be Murder." I was delighted to see two TAS Tigers in the audience -- my longtime friend, Claudia Chaille, as well as Mike Donnelly (who works at the Library) along with other friends from my past life as a librarian.

Afterwards Claudia and I went to Tony Cheng's Mongolian BBQ on H Street and had a lovely time reminiscing about similar meals we shared at the riverside Mongolian BBQ in Taipei. While stuffing our seeded rolls with BBQ, we got to talking about using our collective detecting skills to try and find our best friend from freshman year in Taiwan, Mary Goodrich, who we hadn't seen since the summer of 1961. Claudia remembered Mary's mother's name and we both recalled that she had lived in Silver Spring, MD. The search was on!

When Claudia got home, she did an internet search through Ancestry.com for "Violet Goodrich" in the Social Security database, a search which revealed that Mrs. Goodrich had died in 1997. It also gave her address at the time. Claudia passed that information on to me. Since Silver Spring is in the D.C. area, I decided to search the online Washington Post for an obituary, hoping that it would list her survivors and tell us what Mary's married name might be.



Three Best Friends, 1961

Tales of Bill II...

During my sophomore year at TAS, while I still lived up the hill past the Tien Mou Police Station, I started to pal around with Tony Bowler who caught the school bus at the same stop. I recall other kids that caught the bus at the same stop... Bonnie McCoy, Jerry and Claudia Nelson, Tom and Jeff McNeff, Darby Erd, Khem Tang, and Jay Thacher. There were others, of course, but no names come to mind.

Tony was a year behind me, but he had the same English teacher that I did, Mr. Enger. Tony was one of those students who could write some beautiful poetry. One particular poem of his that I still remember was called "The Circle Cycle". I don't remember any of the verses, but the refrain was "The rounding, and the pounding, and the sounding of The Hammer". The poem itself was only about 5 or 6 4-line verses, but the imagery is about God building the universe and everything in it using His all-powerful hammer.

One of our mutual friends was Dave Schmitt who was a year behind me at TAS. I can remember the summer of '62, how hot and humid it was during a lazy Saturday afternoon, how the walk to the Teen Club ended in the well air-conditioned ballroom. I can also remember that if we felt rich, we could buy a small Coke for 10 cents (of which we would get a nickel back for the bottle deposit).

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Tales of Marcia...

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I didn't find an obituary, alas, but as I scrolled down through the search results, to my very great surprise, I found a listing of a house sale at that address, transferring ownership from a "Mary G. Daniels" to the new owners. Shouting "Eureka!" I immediately searched Whitepages.com, found the new owners' telephone number online and started dialing.

The husband answered. Yes, he remembered Mary Daniels. When I asked if he knew where she went, he said, "Someplace cold." I laughed. "Can you be more specific?" While I held on the line, he used his cell phone to call his wife at work. She told him where to find the address book, and within minutes, I had an address and phone number for a Mary and Bob Daniels in Brunswick, Maine.

Again, I dialed, and within minutes was catching up with Mary, who – I think it's fair to say -- was very surprised to hear from me! Now, Claudia has talked to our old friend, too.

On the back of her school picture Mary had written, "To Claudia, a real lifelong friend ... Don't forget to look me up when you return from Korea." Well, it took her nearly fifty years, but Claudia finally did it!

— Marcia Dutton Talley, '61

Note: Marcia's eighth Hannah Ives mystery, *WITHOUT A GRAVE*, is now available at a bookstore near you.



Claudia and Marcia, BBQ, 2009 reunion

Tales of Bill...

Continued —

I learned how to play ping-pong and shoot pool with the help of Tony and Dave. I can also remember being badly beaten at 8 ball by the likes of Ralph Lane and Joe Payne.

One of my clearest memories of Tony Bowler happened at the Tien Mou Teen Club and involved Larry Simpson. Tony and Larry were shooting a game of 8 ball and everybody expected a somewhat short game as Larry was an accomplished pool player. Only a few shots into the game, Larry accidentally sunk the 8 ball early, losing the game. Larry was a bit more than just perturbed that he lost the game and told Tony, "Not one word. Don't say one word." Tony's response was, "One word," and Larry began a merry chase after Tony several times around the pool table before Tony ran thru the Teen Club and finally outside. I can't help wondering what would have happened if Larry had ever caught with Tony.



I also remember walking to a pool parlor to play snooker. This particular parlor had a snooker table that was larger than the regulation tables we normally played on. When we had a few extra NT, we'd rent this large table and learn a few new skills that we could use at the Teen Club. Sometimes we learned something new, but most times we just had some fun. In those days, it cost about 10NT (25 cents US) to rent the table for an hour!

-- Bill Mar, '65

50 Years Ago!

Gathered by Ginny Thayer Osgood



Greetings, classmates wherever this finds you.

Fifty years? Really hard to fathom. I still consider myself 'young', even if I'm turning 68 this August. Some say 80 is the new 60!!! You

all know I'm here in Coronado - smack in the middle of San Diego Bay. Since our reunion in Taipei in 2000 (where I met Sylvia Chu) I've been fortunate to have visits from Judy Warren Heaps & her husband, Karin Jacobs Machanic and her late husband, Mike and his wife, Rose Ching Tung and Nancy Hillis Lundsgaard.

I met up with Deirdre "Doots" Field Cram in Colorado, also Keith Brock from Class of '59. Also had correspondence from Terry Eade, Andre Nelson, Chuck "Tucker" Jackson and Sue Wright Eller. Not too bad, considering how far we've been scattered. Thank you for responding and sending photos. And for those of you who are reading this and haven't replied, get to your computers ASAP! We miss you and would enjoy hearing from you in this historic year. Whenever I hear "Pomp & Circumstance" played, I'm mentally back in the old gym at TAS!! In my memory, we had just received our last report cards before we marched out and onto the stage.

Do stay in touch. You are always welcome here in America's finest city, and that is a sincere invite from your former class secretary. God bless and keep you one and all,

Ginny Osgood, TAS '59



From Karin Jacobs Machanic

Hello everyone, I'm still living in Vermont, running my B&B and catering business. Am looking to sell my house though, it's too big and too much work for me alone. Otherwise, having fun looking after my two adorable grandchildren several times a week.

Anyone know someone looking for a nice house overlooking Lake Champlain, tell them to look at www.karinsinnvermont.com.

Take care all, hope to hear from some or all of you before the next 50 yrs. go by! Stay well,

Karin Jacobs Machanic



Karen's Inn (above) and Karin (below)



50 Years Ago!

Continued —

From Nancy Hillis Lundsgaard

I'm here, too. FIFTY years! I think we all look pretty great, anyway.

We're back in Seattle - having made our 18th move in 45 years of marriage and I am DONE MOVING. The picture shows me with one of our six grandkids.

I'm sort of retired after a lifetime in corporate communications and writing (with a few little detours), but still do free lance work for a couple of nonprofit clients, so not quite as retired as I would sometimes like. Have three kids who live in Seattle, Houston, and California, so we get around. Last year I had a wonderful visit with Liz "Swish" Swisher Schumacher, class of 57, now in Philadelphia - a good friend from 53 on. At least Doots would remember her, I think.

Andre, our son, married a woman from Gustavus Adolphus - as I recall, Ginny, you went to one of those small Minnesota colleges. That one?



Nancy Hillis Lundsgaard as grandmother

From Michael Fliniau



I am still here taking nourishment. Ms. M still flying for AA but another furlough may be on the horizon. We seem to be healthy and happy. Happy 50! Hard to believe.

Cheers, Mike Fliniau

From Judy Warren Heaps

I am not very computer savvy. I just wrote a message which I managed to erase. We are doing well here in Red Lion, a small town outside York, PA. I think I may be able to "reunion" with Tucker as I think he is near



Allentown, PA. Please let me know if I am correct. Ken is almost fully retired; he is doing an expert witness thing for a DC law firm, which he enjoys. He did one for another law firm last year. With this economy a little extra is always nice. I volunteer as a CASA and am a member of a Youth Aid Panel for our school district. Once we find out where everyone is maybe can plan a reunion. Does any one know about Ann Ogden West? I think my number for her is very old but I will give it a try.

50 Years Ago!

Continued —



From Andre Nelson

Hard to believe it has been 50 years. I retired two years ago after a career as a physician doing newborn intensive care. Elaine (my wife) and I live part of the time in Minnesota and part of the time in St. Louis, MO where our two daughters and granddaughters are. Hobbies are travel and gardening. We were last in Taiwan in April of 2008 when we attended the 50th anniversary of Chiayi Christian Hospital where I spent the first 7 years of my medical career. Attached picture is in the mountains of Norway.



Keelung Harbour from Joy (Ellis) Lewis

From Our Emailbox

From Joy Ellis Lewis

A great big thank you for the trip down memory lane. Just reading the letters from the other alumni took me back to another place and time. It triggered so many memories. These are just a few:

1. Our parents teaching us to play bridge during typhoon Gloria (I have 3 brothers).
2. Playing Chinese checkers with our maid, Mako (She always won).
3. Train rides south to the school soccer games.
4. Grabbing one of those yummy brownies the cafeteria always had available after school.
5. Swimming in the Red River (Mom hated that).
6. Checking out the older kids at the teen club and trying to be cool like them.
7. Playing canasta at the O Club pool.
8. The trip the CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship) took to paint the seminary.
9. Mrs. Ma, the PE teacher and those awful gym uniforms.

From Our Scrapbook: First TAS Construction



Excerpts from the story of TAS

I just can't help getting into the history of TAS. The story is a fascinating one, and the 50th anniversary, in 1999, provided the opportunity for Richard Vuylsteke to capture the memories in an oral history of students, teachers and other interested people who have been part of the history of the school. So for those of you who haven't seen this wonderful book, I will be providing excerpts from *Ties That Bind* to remind you of the uniqueness of that place in your history. SEK

From *Ties That Bind*

Prior to December 1949, China had had a long relationship with American and European missionaries, businessmen and other groups.

Chinese students had long attended American colleges and training, and American institutions set up English language programs in China as well, as a means to modernize China and instill western ideas on the country.

During World War II, the Japanese and then the Communists took control over various parts of China. The foreigners moved from province to province to avoid the conflicts around them. This group included educators, missionaries, doctors and lawyers. They eventually ended up on Taiwan, an island returned to China at the end of the War, after 50 years of Japanese rule.

Many educators took positions at the universities in Taipei, and some of them became teachers at TAS. TAS staff included Chinese trained on the mainland, priests, missionaries, and spouses of businessmen who had been forced to leave Chinese cities such as Beijing and Shanghai.



Taipei – 1960s

TAS was founded in 1949, and from then until 1953, it was run by medical missionaries. The school was housed in the basement of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and the doors opened to 8 students on September 26th, 1949. That first day set a pattern for TAS that still exists today: the curriculum was American and the students were international and included Americans, European and Chinese children.

To be continued...

From Our Email box

Continued —

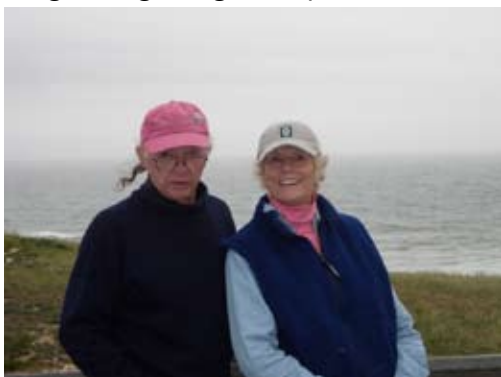
Bonnie Phillips Lewis '64 (Remembering 20 years ago)

It was the wonderful year of 1988. I was chosen as Kansas Master Teacher that spring. I have been a teacher since 1968 and I was truly amazed that I was chosen by my peers to represent our district. I had been divorced for 2 years (married for 17), so that was a tremendous boost for my self-esteem. Since that time, my 2 children are grown with professions of their own, married and I now have two young grandsons (4 and 1). I remarried in 1990 to a wonderful man and life has treated me very kindly. I am still teaching as a media specialist at a middle school in Port Charlotte, Florida and loving every moment. My husband, Mike, works for Embarq (formerly Sprint.)

I have never been to a TAS reunion, but if one is in Florida, I will definitely go. I have wonderful memories of TAS, as I started there as a freshman (1960) and graduated there in 1964. Belonging to a sorority and singing in a band while there were some of my many highlights. It was great to read Kris's and Bev's memories. I don't remember Janice, but the group she mentioned in San Diego; Karen, Sandee, Kay, and John brought up a big smile. I hope all is well with the members of '64!

Mini Reunion in Boston, August 2009

After two years of planning, John Kelley '63 came to Boston for a visit and even saw Tom Cummings in Wrentham. He and I made our way to Provincetown, Gloucester and Boston. He ate oysters, and more oysters, and stopped long enough to get his picture taken.



John Kelley and Susan Keats

And from John Church '65...

After retiring from the Air Force Reserve in 2001 and from the Dept of Army (as a civilian) in 2003, I worked for a couple of years as a contractor. Also, I began to sort through thirty years of photographic negatives, in order to print some shots and exhibit others. There's little money involved, but the ego gets stroked on occasion. Two of my three children are successful in their chosen careers, while the youngest (son #2) is a graduate student in geography at the University of Montana, Missoula. I also travel when possible. Last September and October, for example, after my wife retired from the county school system, we celebrated by traveling in New Zealand and Australia. The season was "early spring" down under, so we avoided the tourists, but found chilly weather in the South Island and warming weather in Oz.

I'm providing a link to photos I took in Berlin in February 1990, as a reminder that twenty years ago the world changed when the Berlin Wall "fell." I think the black/white photos help recall the mood I felt many years ago, when dramatic changes were occurring in Germany, when the future was not clear, when for the first time in thirty years people could walk near, beside, and under the Brandenburg Gate. The wall was still up in that particular sector and as I walked at night on the East side towards the West, I remember hearing what I thought were crickets. Soon, however, all became clear - I was hearing people on the West chipping souvenir pieces of the wall. They would spray-paint a word or two, then chip, then spray again, etc., I recall the weather was cold, the night was very dark, and there were many people slowly strolling as if in a dream. The time was filled with powerful emotion.



Photo by John Church, Berlin, 1990

From Our Emailbox

Continued —

(Overheard in an email from John Church to Bob Lee...) TAS '65

I attended a mini-reunion of TAS students on Sunday [9/13/09]. I knew two people from the old days, i.e., Jay Thatcher and Janet Eggen. We met at the Hunan Lion. The best conversations began as we prepared to leave. In the process I asked Jay if he would try to locate Art Burleigh, as I lost track of him several decades ago.

Remember Peter, my son who attended Providence College as a freshman? He graduated from Georgetown, then completed an MA at the University of Virginia. My daughter is an RN, living in Denver. Mike, the youngest is completing an MA in geography at the University of Montana, Missoula. Barbara retired from education last July; we traveled through NZ and Australia in Sep and Oct. but got home in time to vote.

Until I retired from the Air Force in 2001 and from the Dept of Army in 2003, life was pretty much a blur, as I survived work and traffic in the Washington DC area. I'm now trying to sort my photographic negatives, with the idea of printing some, exhibiting others, and traveling for fun. If I can find fun employment, maybe I'll return to work.

(To which Bob replies...)

Hey John,

Great to hear from you. I haven't been very good in keeping up with old friends. I am "facebook friends" with Benny Mullinax and Cork McGowen. Since we last met, I've been more engaged with Asia, traveling to China several times, HK and Korea, although I haven't managed to get back to Taiwan. I am going to Vietnam in December so maybe I'll figure out a way to stop in Taipei.

Anyway, I can't remember when we were last in touch but two of my three kids are out of school. Kate teaches in charter school and teaches reading to kids with dyslexia. Luz just quit her job running a photo studio in NYC to start grad school in interior architecture. Our son Max is a junior in HS, a paintball ref, and

wushu practitioner.

I have just started as chair of the American Studies Dept. at Brown [University in Providence RI] (still working until Max finishes college....). Jennifer is the chief of staff and legal counsel to the Lt. Governor so that keeps us buzzing right along.

Both Jennifer and I took our 2nd degree black belts in wushu this June...not too shabby for somebody turning 60 next month. Let's keep in touch.

(John answers Bob...)

My last assignment in the AF Reserve was as Assistance Air Attaché, Beijing, so Barbara and I traveled there for three weeks each year, 1998-2000. The kids joined us, too, one or two at a time. In 2004, we took Barb's nephew to Kashgar to see the market. At the time he had just finished HS and was enrolled at the U of Delaware as a chemistry major and Italian minor. He subsequently changed his minor to Chinese. Now, he's beginning his second year living in Beijing, teaching various subjects to Chinese college students. I feel really good about that.

Two days ago I emailed Bruce Bikle and he replied! That was pretty neat. At the time he was in Port Townsend, Washington. That's a beautiful, quaint town on the north side of the Olympic Peninsula.

Do you have any professional associates looking at Central Asia? Mike is interested, having ridden his bike through several of the STANS. Now he's looking for a good MA thesis topic. I've suggested something about Hui immigrants to Imperial Russia/early USSR, but from a geographers perspective. Any ideas?



Brandenburg Gate
Photos by John Church

Left: Taking down
The Berlin Wall



[Remarkable] Memories of the Teen Club

by **Bill Mar**

Tien Mou Teen Club '62-'64

The first Tien Mou Teen Club was well established when I arrived on Taiwan during the spring of '62. This Teen Club was located 'up the hill' in Tien Mou where the Red River ran just behind it. (Arthur Wu's house was directly across from the front entrance.) Actually, I didn't start going to the teen club until sometime during the fall of '62. It was a gathering place for teenage military brats, a place to get together and (hopefully) stay out of trouble. During the summer, the Teen Club was open 7 days a week, 1PM-5PM, then 7PM-11PM. During the school year, the Teen Club was only open Friday nights 7PM-11PM, Saturday from 1PM-5PM and 7 PM-11PM, and finally on Sundays from 1PM-5PM.

I remember the slow, hot, humid days of summer where we would walk to the Teen Club in the hot and humid Taiwan summer. We'd finally walk inside where all the air conditioners were running near full strength, but it was wonderfully cool inside. Sometimes there was a fair sized crowd during a typical summer day, other times there were only a few people there, but at least there was a place to go when there was 'nothing else to do'.

My slowly dimming memory also includes Mrs. Hoffman as the person who oversaw and ran the club. She arranged to have some movies shown and she would sometimes book a few traveling music acts that were touring the area. One group that comes to mind was called the Ink Spots (I think). This was one of the groups that seemed to hit it off with most of the kids at the time, doing mostly doo-wop music. (I'm not sure if they called it doo-wop at the time, but I think you follow.)

One of the groups that I remember clearly was called The Paulettes, an all-girl group made up of four girls from the Philippines who played songs like 'Wipeout' and 'Boys'. (I believe this was during a time just before the Beatles made their mark on the world.) I think the Paulettes were so popular that they played the Teen



Teen Club opens.

Photo from *Ties that Bind*, Richard R. Vuylsteke

Club three separate times from early '63 thru mid '64. No one had ever seen an all-girl group before.

Every so often, the Teen Club had a 'dress up night' where the boys had to wear a shirt and tie, and the girls were required to wear appropriate dresses. These times usually were the same times we had some of these music acts play. Usually, everyone looked pretty good, but there were times when people who weren't dressed up would try to crash the party, but that didn't happen very often.

In the spring of '65 the Teen Club moved to the old Tien Mou Elementary School that was near the pool and the bowling alley.

Who else has memories?

Tiger Tidbits from Caroll Williams

It seems incredible that 2009 is almost over...I hope everyone is weathering the economic storm and able to hang on until the situation improves. Keep a good thought for 2010!

It's been a busy and exciting time for me on the art front. I've recently been asked to join a gallery in Savannah in addition to the one I'm a member of in nearby Bluffton and another on Hilton Head. I've also been preparing for a one-person show in January in Beaufort and another in Columbus, GA in March. I will breathe a huge sigh of relief when March is over...

I just received a very nice email from **Paige Summers**, the Assistant Superintendent for Advancement at TAS, acknowledging the receipt of the check from TigerTales subscribers who elected to donate their remaining subscription money to the Hope N.F. Phillips Scholarship Fund when TigerTales went electronic. The check had arrived just in time for the announcement to be made to the reunion group in Taipei at the end of October. Thanks to all of you who agreed to be a part of this donation.

Watch for the article about **Ollie Smoot '58** in the upcoming TAS Alumni magazine. The 'Smoot Marks', known by every graduate of MIT and beyond for the part 50 years are celebrating that anniversary

Tom Yager '60 recently got me caught up on what he's been up to: "Nothing much new here. Still going to Ireland every summer, still writing about it. Still doing statistical work in research projects—back to Vietnam veterans, in fact. My boss and I are doing an article now about the nature of post-traumatic stress disorder—to what extent it's a nearly inevitable reaction to extreme stress, what role vulnerability might play. Most interesting highlight is that harming civilians or prisoners seems to have a really strong effect. Not surprising, maybe, but it's not the kind of experience we usually think of in connection with PTSD."

Ginny Bristow Meyer '65 is now the proud grandmother of ten (yes, 10!) grandkids, and great grandkids, too. I feel like such a slacker with just 2 daughters, 4 grandkids and no 'greats' on the horizon!

Hugh Kaiser '61 writes to introduce his newest grandchild, Isaac: "Just on my way to airport after 10 days in Las Vegas with my grand kids and kids. Good visit, very busy with 1 m old Isaac and 2.5 r (twos!) Maile. This after several days in Seattle and a week in D.C. area."



Hugh Kaiser with Maile and Isaac

Andrew Ricketts '67 writes from Australia of a major weather system which ended up flooding large parts of northern New South Wales and SE Queensland with 120 mph winds that occurred during his last vacation on the coast: "Brought back memories of those typhoons in Taiwan. Unfortunately I didn't manage even to have a dip in the ocean, as the seas were too dangerous.

One good thing that has come from this is that the long-standing drought we have had for years has finally been broken. In two days the average of the dam levels increased from 40% to 74%!! So we had a massive amount of rain in a very short space of time. Last time we headed for the coast a similar thing happened although nowhere near as extreme. My sister reckons that if you want to break a drought just send me to the nearest beach!!

Tiger Tidbits **Continued** —

Ginny Thayer Osgood '59 writes with news of **Rose Ching Tung '58**: "Just had a Skype call from Rose Ching! It's been 8 years since we last visited. I plan to take the train up to LA soon to visit with her. She lives in BelAir (near Hollywood, CA), but her husband remains in Beijing where he has his business. Rose's daughter has just moved to Taipei to enroll Alessandra in TAS."



Bud and Pat Berry Dietrich '60 recently returned from a trip to Ecuador, which turned out to be a cooler place than expected from looking at its position on the equator: "Flew into Quito, elevation 9200 ft. right on the equator drove down to Cotacachi, 7500 ft. then flew down to Manta at sea level. Temperature seldom falls outside 55 to 75 degrees winter and summer. The cold Humboldt Current flows off the coast of South America and keeps things from cooking. In this photo, we are standing in front of one of the volcanoes surrounding the little town of Cotacachi, where we attended a Super Thinking and Spanish class (which was fascinating, by the way), while in front of us is another huge volcano across the valley. A beautiful place. The Ecuadorian Inca descendents believe the valley is the most sacred place in the world."



Penny Hennessee Mackay '62 is keeping busy these days with watercolor classes, workouts and trip planning: "Got a trip to San Antonio coming up in November and in December, my Mom (almost 91), and my kids and grand kids are taking a cruise for Christmas...we're doing the Caribbean. And another trip, to Amsterdam, with my best pal Judie Rothman Bearman. Ooooh, I'll have lots to paint when I go to Amsterdam!"



Mike and Sue (Brummitt) Roth '62 are visiting Hilton Head this week with their son, Joe, and his family down from Virginia. Got to meet them all at a fun beach picnic the other afternoon. Unfortunately, Sue and Mike were delayed getting here, so I missed seeing them. Maybe next trip.

Here's sending each of you all my best wishes for the upcoming holidays...and for an especially happy and prosperous 2010!

—Caroll

TigerTales! is published twice yearly, in the Spring and Fall, for the alumni, faculty, parents and staff of the 50s and 60s at Taipei American School.

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