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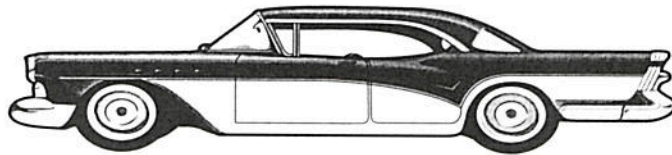
ALUMNI NEWS

WINTER, 2002

MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



ALUMNI NEWS



1957-
***A Great Year to Be a
Student
at a Great School***

MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MEMBER PROFILE/INTEREST FORM

Please fill out and return as soon as possible to:
Montgomery Blair High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1434
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Name _____ Name at Blair _____

Class of 19_____

Address _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

WHAT'S GOING ON? PLEASE LIST ANYTHING SPECIAL GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH FELLOW GRADUATES

SPECIAL BONUS SECTION! TELL US YOUR SINGLE BEST MEMORY OF BLAIR (KEEP IT CLEAN). YES, IT CAN BE ABOUT A PERSON.

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STATEMENT OF PUBLISHING

The ALUMNI NEWS is published by the Montgomery Blair High School Alumni Association, P.O. Box 1434, Ellicott City, MD 21042. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Association.

This publication is sent free of charge to dues paying members of the Association. Additional copies can be obtained through the Association.

EDITORIAL**Getting With the Program**

Even someone who is as dense as I am has to get the message some time, so we broke down and the Alumni Association now has an email address. You can contact the Association at blairalumni@aol.com. Now don't get carried away - there is no web site, chat room or bulletin board (at least not yet). Still, feel free to contact us, especially if you have information about upcoming reunions or want to get in touch with other graduates. We're not going to be the "finder of lost classmates" but we'll do our best to get graduates in touch with each other when we can.

In this issue, one of our graduates, Fran Oldridge ('58) mentioned in her favorite memories that she and her friends used to go over to the Villa Rosa after the sock hops to get pizza. It reminded me of how long it had been since anyone had mentioned that wonderful old place. After reading her note I went through some old

photos and, sure enough, I found that picture of my Cub Scout Blue and Gold dinner that we held at the Villa Rosa back around 1957. I had forgotten that one of the fathers had arranged for a special guest to appear at the dinner - the one and only Pick Temple! I don't know how many Blair grads remember Pick (email us if you do) but he had an afternoon kids show on local t.v. where lucky youngsters got to sit in the hay loft and be part of the show. He was sponsored by Giant Food ("My favorite bread's Heidi, I hope it's your too...") and was a true local hero. Thanks for reminding me, Fran.

In our last issue of the Alumni News we mentioned some of the long-term impact that the attacks of September 11 might have on people. We didn't mention (because we were unaware) that one of our fellow graduates, Bill Caswell ('65) was among the victims of those attacks. Bill, who was in the National Honor Society, the Chess Club, and the Library Club while attending Blair, was on the plane that crashed into the Pentagon.

'57 WAS MORE THAN JUST CLASSIC

If you think that attending Blair in 1957 conjures up memories of a more simple time, and an idyllic setting at the beautiful school "by old Sligo's winding waters," you'd probably be right. Although it's been 45 years since they graduated from Blair, members of that class look back now and still have some pretty vivid memories.

"When I first set foot in Blair back during my sophomore year, I was pretty much overwhelmed," says **George Allmon**. "I came from the area around Ritchie Road in Takoma Park and went to Takoma Junior High, where everything was in one building. At Blair I thought I had walked into a college setting. It had those big columns in front and all those impressive teachers, and it was really something."

Even though he worked while at Blair and didn't get to play varsity sports, George participated in intramurals and followed the basketball team on Friday nights. "We won the school soccer championship by beating a team that had a lot of football players on it. It was quite an upset," George recalls. "Of course, the basketball games were the center of social activity on the weekends. We had some great teams back then, especially my junior year when Tommy Brown and Eddie Clements played."

After leaving Blair George went on to the University of Maryland, then into the military and on to a long career with the National Security Agency. He retired in 1999 and now lives in Columbia, MD. "We had some

great kids and great teachers. I remember our Biology teacher, Miss Mitchell, showing us a film of a lung removal operation where the patient had a black lung from smoking. She was trying to give us the anti-smoking message long before it was the accepted thing to do. Blair was that kind of place-the teachers really cared about the kids."

Stan Dunayer has some fond memories of Blair, too. Stan, who now lives in Palm Coast, Florida, went on to a military career after leaving Blair. he served for more than 30 years in the U.S. Air Force before retiring and moving to Florida. he never lost his enthusiasm for the athletics he participated in while at Blair, and now officiates high school athletics in central Florida, specializing in volleyball, basketball, and softball. We asked Stan if one person or event stood out in his memories of Blair, he did come up with one incident. "I do remember being a math assistant for Mr. Good, I thought I was pretty smart when on day I told him the class bell had already sounded and it was time to let the class go. I found out the hard way that he didn't think that was so funny - I got kicked out."

'57 Memories

- Oct. 4 - Sputnik is launched
- Nov. 22- Mickey Mantle named MVP
- Oct. 24- Christian Dior dies in Paris
- Sept. 25 - Troops sent to Little Rock

CARS AND INNOCENT TIMES

Another of those graduates from the Class of '57, **Wayne Young**, also has a lot of memories that linger on over the years. Wayne, who is now retired and living in Laurel, Maryland, says that he is "enjoying my second year of retirement and still waiting for my wife to retire. If and when that happens, we'll be headed for the land of golf courses (Myrtle Beach) to live out our lives chasing a little white ball." Wayne says that there are just too many memories of Blair to pick out one or two, but he says that "the championship football games were certainly a lot of fun to watch. I also remember the fun of the graduation parties and graduation itself."

Mary Langenbach Jones is now living in Santa Monica, California, and, like many from the class, is now retired. She has been active in a number of organizations over the years, including BPW/USA, and the American Legion Auxiliary in Santa Monica. Looking back on those times at Blair, Mary says that her most vivid memories are maybe a little more specific than some others might be. "I actually remember those great lunch hours we had in the lounge in D Building, next to the rifle range. I wonder if the students today still have a lounge area in the new school?"

Pat Butler Lynaugh is one graduate from the class who is still actively working, in her case as an Art Librarian for the Smithsonian Institution. Pat is now living in Wheaton, MD. She says that she is

"completing my 17th year at the Smithsonian Institution. I'm an Art Reference Librarian at the American Art/National Portrait Gallery Library." Pat has two children, and now has four grandchildren.

Like most graduates, Pat has her own favorite memories of Blair. "I guess one of the things that still stands out, even after all these years, was getting asked to the Senior Prom. That might seem like a big deal, but I got asked when I was a junior!"

How Much Do You Remember About 1957?

1. What building that opened on Colesville Road in January was the one that virtually all Blair students just had to 'check out'?
2. What movie star, who was often identified by his dark looks and ever-present cigarette, died of cancer?
3. The Silver Spring fire department opened its newest station in what Silver Spring neighborhood?
4. What "half" of America's greatest comedy team died in Hollywood?

Answers:

- 1) The "new" Silver Spring Library
- 2) Humphrey Bogart
- 3) Montgomery Hills
- 4) Oliver Hardy

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BLAIR

Yet again, Blair at The Top

**Seventeen Intel STS semifinalists
net \$17,000 for the school**

Three seniors in the Science, Math and Computer Science Magnet Program were named finalists in the 2002 Intel Science Talent Search (STS) on Jan 31, giving Blair more finalists than any other high school in the nation for the second time in the past four years.

Seventeen magnet seniors, including the finalists, Jennifer Alyono, Jacob Burnim and Jean Li, were named semifinalists in the STS at a Blair assembly on Jan 16. In this competition, considered the "junior Nobel Prize," Blair had the most semifinalists of any school in the country and tied a record set by Stuyvesant High School of New York for the most from one school in any one year.

Each of the 40 national finalists will receive \$5,000 and a laptop computer from Intel, the computer-chip maker which since 1998 has sponsored the former Westinghouse STS. The finalists will stay in Washington, D.C., from Mar 8 to 11 to

compete for \$530,000 in scholarship money, \$100,000 of which goes to the first place winner.

Semifinalists received \$1,000 each. In addition, Blair received a total of \$17,000 from Intel.

The applicants submitted research projects they had completed with a mentor during the past year. They were judged on three criteria: independent research ability, scientific originality and creative thinking.

Blair's previous record of 13 semifinalists was set in 2000, the last time Intel came to the school to announce the results of its competition. Of those 13 students, six went on to join a group of 40 finalists, setting a state record. Last year, ten Blair students became semifinalists, and two went on to place third and tenth nationally.

Three hundred semifinalists were chosen from 1,562 applicants in the 2002 STS.

UPDATE

Bev Freedman (Schiff) ('52) is retired now and lives in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. She says that "Florida is the place to be when you're retired – golf, tennis, and beach, beach, beach. The suntans never fade. It's a tough job but someone has to do it!" Her best memory of Blair was "Bill Clave telling the cheerleaders to do all the right cheers – at the wrong time!"

Karen Davis (Huggins) ('80) lives in Olney, MD and is and Executive Secretary and BAE Systems (does she know Gary Waters?). She says that she was married last fall in Las Vegas – "but NOT by Elvis."

Fran Oldridge (Kramer) ('58) lives in Anaheim Hills, CA. She says that she had two grandchildren last year and has been traveling often to see them. She remembers "sock hops at Blair in the gym and them going to the Villa Rosa for pizza after the dance." (Ed. note; Thanks, Fran, for mentioning the Villa Rosa. That's a memory that hasn't been brought up n quite a while.)

Ranny Pearce ('61), lives in Port St Lucie, Florida and is retired. She says her son is working on

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Broadway in scenic and lighting design and her daughter is ia a Human Executive with Citicorp. Is there a favorite memory of Blair? "Playing trumpet and being part of the annual shows all three years."

Florence Monroe (McPherson) ('35-don't you just love it?) is retired and lives in Locust Grove, Virginia. Her three children all went to Blair – Ted ('61). Jean ('64), and James ('68). From her own years at Blair, Florence recalls "Miss Stickley, Maisie Wood, Miss Santini, Mr. Douglas, and many more memories of a LOT of good times."

Jean Snyder ('68) is an Activities Coordinator and Volunteer Network Coordinator at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. She is Past president of the league of Women Voters and active in many organizations, such as the United Methodist Women and the Sunshine Circle. When she looks back on Blair Jean remembers "Mr. Dobler in Earth Science and Mr. Paroda in Biology who took students on geological digs, explorations, and cavin expeditions. This interest in geology has lasted my entire life. I thank them!"

UPDATE ON

David Lloyd ('45), is retired and living in Berlin, MD. He recently went to Spain, Portugal, and Africa and is now in Florida for the rest of the winter. He says that his health is good and that he enjoys being in an area where he can do a lot of sailing and power boating. Although his memories of Blair are more than half a century old, they are still vivid. "I remember a lot of great things about those years," he says. "I remember the basketball games, and the zoot suits, with the big hats and long chains and pegged pants. And I also remember the GREAT dances from those times."

Susan Wheeler (Goldsborough) ('57) is a retired English teacher who lives in Bala Cynwyd, PA (ed. note: I always loved that town's name). She says she recently had a happy reunion with her Blair friend, Alice Schneider, who is now accomplished artist Alice Pritchard. They are both wondering if the Class of '57 is having a 45-year reunion (can anyone help them?). Susan's favorite memories of Blair are "Miss Marguerite Robison's stimulating English classes (we still correspond yearly for 45 years!)" and "the doors to the theater that Richard Pioli opened

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when he took us to the old Arena Stage to see plays like *The Lark* and *Inherit the Wind*."

Bob McDowell ('51) retired after a long and satisfying career at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab to become Montgomery County Master Gardener (and a grandfather). He likes to travel around the county giving talks on gardening and editing two newsletters. His best memories of Blair are "the friends I gained, especially through the extra-curricular activities such as Discussion Club, the Rifle Team, the school store, and the Library Club."

John Wylie ('61) lives in North Myrtle Beach, SC and now is self-employed in finance and advertising after leaving his job with the state of New York. He is also an EMT and Chief of the North Myrtle Beach Rescue Squad. He says that when he's golfing he frequently runs into people from Blair, and when not golfing he is scuba diving or traveling to his vacation home in Fenwick, DE. At Blair he loved "the feeling of independence of driving to school senior year and trying to find a spot to park while listening to WDON in Wheaton."

UPDATE ON

Gary Waters ('61) is a support clerk with BAE System Technology and lives in Rockville. He is still umpiring baseball in Montgomery County (for 45 years now) and still playing slow pitch softball in the 50 & up division (and maybe in the 60 year old division!). His best memories of Blair include "the football games, Helen Seals (my first girl friend), sock hops, fast cars, and Ann Marie Groomes, girlfriend and all 'round good person."

Renee Sehtzer (Parcover), ('60) lives in Sandy Spring, MD and is a Correctional Specialist with the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She says she has "the best German Shepherd in the world." Her favorite memories of Blair are the "cast parties after the school plays."

David Sookne ('60) lives in Culver City, California. He works as a computer programmer at UCLA. When looking back on his Blair years David recalls an incident in "Mrs. Feldman's 11th grade English class when Penny Gordon got in trouble for talking in class so she got put next to me – I was supposed to be quiet and studious. But then I started talking

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to Penny and when Mrs. Feldman asked who I was talking to I said 'I was talking to myself' so penny wouldn't get in any more trouble. I got laughs from the class and thanks from Penny."

Lisa Caputo ('97) lives in Silver Spring and is a Patent Examiner with the U.S. Patent Office. She just graduated from Johns Hopkins with a degree in electrical engineering and hopes to go to law school in the future. Her best memories of Blair? "Easy," she says, "all my friends."

Fred Collison ('38) is retired and living in Springville, California. Fred wants to know "what happened to all of the 30's grads? My sister Margaret ('36) and I visited the area and saw Betty Weigle Krussburg ('36, and daughter-in-law of Mrs. K- yes, that Mrs. K) and some others." He says his memories of Blair, now more that 60 years later, are still of "the smell of new lumber in the attic cafeteria" and basketball games where any shot from beyond the foul line had to go over the cables that held the gym together. Needless to say, we took a lot of layups and corner shots."

UPDATE ON

Norman Standt lives in Silver Spring and is “well into my 34th year at Blair and 29th year as Senior Class Sponsor. I still love Blair and the Blair community.” He says that his favorite memories of Blair are “too numerous to mention or select one, but there is the joy of knowing that I’ve probably taught over 4,000 Blair alums and come into contact with over 15,000 seniors through the years.” (Ed.note: Mr. Standt is closing in on the record for the longest tenure in Blair’s history).

Richard Pioli spends his winters in Clearwater, Florida and his summers and autumns in Rockville. He says that he is “enjoying retirement, enjoying DC cultural life, and enjoying our 9 grandchildren. We are blessed.”

Vince Pugliese is retired after his long career as history teacher and football coach and now lives in Columbia, MD. Of his time at Blair he says that “some of my best years were spent there with a great group of young people who have become outstanding adults”

Joe Villani, who taught at Blair from 1971-1974, and was principal from 1980-1984, lives in German-

FACULTY

town, MD, was recently appointed as Deputy Executive Director of the National School Boards Association. He says that his “single best memory of Blair is of four graduations – 1981, ’82, ’83, and ’84. Those days were among the most rewarding and memorable of my life!”

Dr. Judith Docca, a former Assistant Principal at Blair, is retired from the Montgomery County School System and now lives in Montgomery Village. She was recently named as a member of the Class of 2002 of Leadership Montgomery.

Bernice Kisliuk, longtime Career Counselor at Blair, shares a similar pattern to her life with Mr. Pioli – she spends her winters in Boca Raton, Florida and the rest of the year lives in her home in Silver Spring. She notes that this past year she celebrated her 70th birthday and her 50th year of marriage. Her memories of Blair are numerous and very personal. “All of my children attended Blair while I was working there – Bruce (’77), Marty (’74) and Carolyn (’82). I love being part of their Blair experience – athletics, school plays, etc. A truly wonderful time.”

SEND THIS FORM TO YOUR CLASSMATES!!!!

MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear Fellow Graduates,

The school that we all attended - the beautiful campus on Wayne Ave. - isn't the home of Montgomery Blair High School any more, but the spirit and tradition that lived there for 63 years will always be a part of us. That's why we think that NOW is the time to strengthen our ties to Blair through the *Montgomery Blair High School Alumni Association*.

The purposes of the Alumni Association are:

- 1) To publish a periodic newsletter for graduates
- 2) To assist reunion committees in finding classmates, and
- 3) To keep the Blair spirit alive across the generations of graduates

Most of all, the Alumni Association can help us keep in touch with our friends who made three very important years of our lives more memorable. We think this, alone, makes an alumni association a good idea. Your fellow graduates must agree, because over 1,000 Blair graduates have joined the Montgomery Blair Alumni Association since it began in 1986.

We strongly encourage you to become a member of the Association. The annual dues of \$10.00 is really a small amount to pay to stay in communication with your Blair friends.

Please fill out the attached enrollment form, and return it along with your first year's dues today. Let's continue to enjoy the "spirit" of Montgomery Blair.

ENROLLMENT FORM MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NAME _____(Name at Blair)_____
CLASS OF 19____
ADDRESS _____PHONE(____)_____

Please fill out and return with a check for \$10.00 (payable to Montgomery Blair High School Alumni Association) to:

**Montgomery Blair High School Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1434
Ellicott City, MD 21042**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(NEW MEMBERS AS OF March 1, 2002.
MARRIED NAMES IN PARENTHESES)

CLASS OF 1951

Bob McDowell
Deane Atwood
Herb Morrison

CLASS OF 1954

Carole Christensen (Buck)

CLASS OF 1956

Marian Barnard (Cunningham)
Bob Wade60

CLASS OF 1959

Peggy Alexander

CLASS OF 1960

Anne Shaw (Miller)

CLASS OF 1972

Joelle Mechaly (Brooke)

REUNION CORNER

The **Class of 1942** holds its 60-year reunion is having a 60-year reunion on October 12, 2002 at the University of MD Inn & Conference Center. For information contact Ruth Roundy at 301-593-6726.

The **Class of 1952** is having a 50-year reunion on June 21, 2002. The contact for this reunion is David Forward. He can be reached at 301-365-2892.

The **Class of 1962** has its 40-year reunion weekend scheduled for October 18-20, 2002. The main event will be on October 19 at the Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad in Bethesda. For more info, call Kathy Black Hynson at 301-972-0835, or you can email her at blair62reunion@yahoo.com.

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Alumni Association
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