

BHS Alumni News

Spring Gathering at George's

We had a great get-together at George's on April 24. About 50 people gathered to share stories and celebrate the fact that we are still enjoying one another's company, 53 years after graduation. Larry Siskind offered a brief update about City of Brockton happenings, including the announcement of the installation and dedication of the Rocky Marciano statue near the high school.

Judy Higgins Donohue announced that the Brocktonia newsletter will now be semi-annual and will only be available online. She noted that the success and the frequency of the newsletter will depend on how much news classmates send her. You can reach Judy at 352-561-4084 or at: judithdonohue@gmail.com. Kerry Harkins, who designed and manages our class website,

(<http://bhs1960class.com>) also took some video at the meeting and after processing will add one or more to the Mini Reunion page. Thanks to Nick Camillone who took most of the photos at the April 24th gathering. We will meet again in the fall at a time and place still to be determined. Read on and enjoy!



TRIVIA

TI. Who was Mayor of Brockton when we graduated?

Beer Theories . . .

One night at Cheers, Cliff Clavin said to his buddy, Norm Peterson:

"Well, ya see, Norm, it's like this.. A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members! ; In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Excessive intake of alcohol, as we know, kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine! That's why you always feel smarter after a few beers."



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Up Close and Personal:

Jim Sarantopoulos



When we caught up with Jim Sarantopoulos in May, he had just returned from draping the altar at his church, Annunciation Greek Orthodox on Oak Street, for the annual Greek Easter celebration. An active member of the church since his youth, Jim is able to offer the church his expertise as a drapery expert, assisting with worship services, teaching Sunday School for 35 years and helping with other special events at the church.

Jim's interest in fabric dates back to the early 1960s when he started as a fabric cutter with Century Sportswear in Brockton. "What I remember most is the challenge of matching

plaids," he says with a laugh. "I really learned how to get everything exactly right." He then moved to W.T. Grant where he sold and installed draperies for nine stores in New England. After several years with W.T. Grant, he started his own drapery business and landed a lucrative contract with Filene's department store. That business relationship lasted for 27 years, until Macy's acquired Filene's. Not quite ready to retire, Jim and a partner currently operate Window Décor Company in Newton Center, working primarily with home designers and decorators.

Jim has lived his entire life in Brockton. He grew up on the East Side, attending Sylvester and Perkins Elementary Schools and Paine Junior High. (Sports fans will remember his brother Steve

(BHS'62) who was a star basketball player and a member of the BHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Their younger sister Janice Sarafoglou (BHS'69), is a longtime Brockton English teacher for 25 years and a guidance counselor for 10 years.)



In addition to his drapery business, Jim enjoys spending time with his wife of 49 years, the former Alike Tepadis (BHS '61), their four children and 10 grandchildren, all of whom live within three miles of his Campello home. He is also a member of the St. George Masonic Lodge on Prospect Street, where he has been active for 50 years. A great booster for the City of Brockton, Jim is proud to have lived, worked and raised his family in the Shoe City. He is still connected to many of his high school friends and cherishes the years he spent at Brockton High. You can reach Jim at demetrios186@comcast.net.



Up Close and Personal (Cont'd)

Ron Matta

Our classmate Ron Matta will be making a second bid for the Mayor's office this fall. A relative newcomer to politics, Ron says he became interested in the workings of city government when he "saw things that just were not right." He says the more he looked into things, "the more he felt the need to get involved, to try to change things." He became a community activist and organizer for a grassroots citizens group called Brocktonians for Limited Taxation (BLT).

"I think my business experience combined with my knowledge of this city make me a good candidate," he says. "My most significant accomplishment has been uncovering corruption in the school department," he says.

Ron grew up on Wyman Street on the North End and attended Perkins Elementary and North Junior High Schools. He spent many years working in the family business, Edmund's Restaurant in Easton (formerly Red Rooster). He also worked as a contractor. Ron acknowledges that it will be an uphill battle, since he is not only a relative newcomer to politics, but also a Republican in a city where, he says, "virtually every office holder and department head is a Democrat."

He noted that the last time the city had a GOP mayor was in the 1970s. It may be a crowded race, according to the Brockton Enterprise writer Alex Bloom, who said there could



Ron Matta

be as many as four contenders in the race this fall.

Ron and his wife, the former Barbara Nelson, have been married for 21 years. He has two children from a prior marriage, as well as two step-children and three grandchildren. They live on Breer Street, not far from the "old" Brockton High School building he attended as a teen.

Clearly Ron is committed to the City of Brockton where he has spent his entire 71 years. Whether or not he wins the mayoral race, he plans to continue to try to protect the interests of the city's taxpayers.

Lois on the Line:

Lois Berman is back on talk radio, after a hiatus related to the sale of the station. Her "Lois on the Line" show deals with current issues that bring a different point of view on the topics of healing, guidance and insight. Lois invites authors, healers, spiritual leaders and people with amazing stories to talk, and thus inspire listeners. "Our goal is to

heal broken wings and broken hearts," Lois says. "Callers can connect with joyful energy and get a personal message about their situation."

"I am so excited to be back on Brockton Radio once again. . . ." Tune in!
Lois

Listeners can join "Lois on the Line" Fridays from 3-5 p.m. on **WXBR, 1460 AM**

in Brockton. You can contact Lois at: L647@aol.com



Updates:

Charles Droukas may be our class's most recent newlywed. He married the former Barbara Wood (Woburn H.S. '61) in March, 2011. Charles says, "We decided to spend the rest of our lives on a honeymoon, traveling through the USA." Barbara is a retired special ed teacher and Charlie retired in January 2012, after a career that included everything from baby photography to sandblasting. His most recent business was a painting and maintenance company based in Deer-



field, NH. Charlie recalls bumping into two BHS classmates over the years, Roberta Powers Preston, then living in Brockton, and Ann Doten, living in Londonderry, NH. Both Ann and Roberta are on our "missing classmates" list, and information about either of them would be appreciated.

The couple is currently in Langston, Alabama where Charlie is a volunteer painter at Mt. Lakes Campground. The Droukas' longterm honeymoon includes camping, fishing and playing cards. In addition, Bar-

bara has written two novels and is looking for a publisher. If anyone in the class has publishing connections, please let Charlie know. You can reach him at: cdroukasc lngs@yahoo.com.

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T2. Who was Brockton's first Mayor?

T3. What year did Christo's Restaurant open at 782 Crescent St.?



Updates (Cont'd)

Gail Fulginiti

A few issues back we reported that Gail Fulginiti was having surgery related to cancer. Classmates will be glad to know that Gail is doing well, after multiple surgeries and almost three years of various chemotherapy treatments. "I will not win the war, longterm, but I am definitely winning a lot of battles," she said when contacted at her home on North Warren Avenue. In the past 33 months she has been treated by doctors at some of the nation's best hospitals—Mass General, Brigham and Womens, Dana Farber and Johns Hopkins. Though she reports some "bumps in the road," Gail says the results have been "better than I ever expected."

"I make the most of each day. I go out every day, shopping, visiting friends and enjoying life as much as possible," she said. "This is not how I had planned to spend these years. I was scheduled to return to Europe when I learned I had cancer. So plans changed and instead, I am savoring wonderful memories and satisfying experiences I have had over the years," she said.

Gail says she is looking forward to attending the next BHS Class of 1960 mini-reunion in the fall. "I always enjoy the camaraderie of my classmates," she said.

Brocktonia chronicled some of Gail's adventures in our Spring 2010 newsletter.



Blast from the past!

T4. What year did Brockton become incorporated as a city?

T5. What was the number one hit song when we graduated?

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More Updates:

Cherie Galante O'Brien

After living on Marco Island in Florida for many years, Cherie Galante O'Brien has returned to live in the home she grew up in on Grafton Street. "It's great to be back up here, close to my huge Italian family," she said. She especially enjoys seeing more of her two daughters and two grandsons, age 7 and 13. Over the years Cherie has stayed in close touch with high school friends, and often flew up to Brockton to attend mini-reunions of the BHS Class of 1960. Welcome Home, Cherie. You can reach Cherie at obriencherie@gmail.com.



55th Reunion Planning



An informal survey taken at our Spring Mini-Reunion at George's Café April 24th indicated that there is a lot of interest in having a 55th Class Reunion in 2015. Those polled also said they would like at least one overnight stay as part of the event. ALL members of the class are welcome to be part of the planning committee. If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact:

Larry Siskind (Lawrence@siskindlaw.com) or Hugh Ellis (hellis@oreckhosp.com).



50th Reunion Photo. Will there be a 55th?



Spring 2013 Mini-Reunion at George's

Photos by Nick Camillone from Our April 24th Spring Fling—P1



George Riordan, Hugh Ellis & Joe Giovanello



Donna MacDonald & Anne Hoffman Durgin



Bernie Carney & Hugh Ellis



Gerry Saba Ferrari, Deanna Tarantino,
Cherie Galante O'Brien & Viola Marrese White



Donna MacDonald & Phil Sheppard



Gerry Saba Ferrari, Deanna Tarentino &
Mary Arnone Lalli



Joe Barbour & Lorraine Mandeville Barnes



Joe Barbour, Larry Siskind & Judy Donohue



Alik Sarantopoulos, Bernie Carney & Jim Sarantopoulos



Mary Arnone Lalli & Cherie Galante O'Brien



Diane Abruzzese Barbour & Evelyn Ferioli Ghelfi



Francis & Evelyn (Ferioli) Ghelfi & Betty Bravo



Photos by Nick Camillone from Our April 24th Spring Fling—P2



Donna MacDonald & Anne Hoffman Durgin



Don Brown, David Wahlgren & Dick Kelly



Jane Moynihan & Bernie Carney



Hugh Ellis, Nick Camillone & Bernie Carney



Joe Giovanello, Nick Camillone & Kerry Harkins



Jim Cappiello, Phil Sheppard & Walter Donila



Joe Giovanello, Nick Camillone, & Sandra Fama



Dick Kelly, Richard Manning & Joe Giovanello



Gene Gilmore & Judy Higgins Donohue



Muriel Berger & Lois Berman



Jeanne Bosque Newman & her husband



Roberta Camillone, Judy Gardner & Joanne Carney



Spring 2013 Mini-Reunion at George's

Photos by Nick Camillone from Our April 24th Spring Fling—P3



Diane Barbour, Lorraine Mandeville Barnes & Joe Barbour



Joe Barbour & Carol Denley Stanton



Cherie Galante O'Brien & Pat Harris Giannakoulis



Jane Sheehan , Lucille Yenovkian & Gerry Saba Ferrari,



Nick Camillone & Kathleen Hurley Bolinder

'60 BROCKTONIA

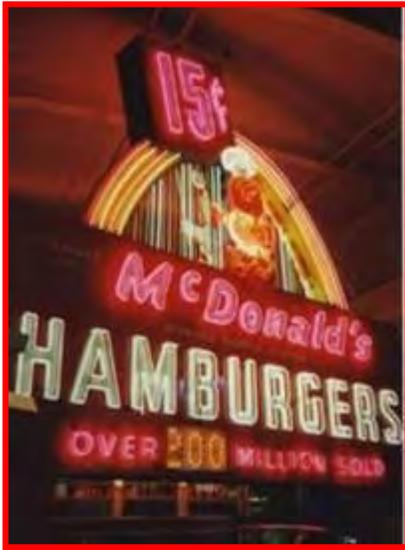
Brockton High School Class of 1960

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Trivia answers:

1. Mayor Elleshaw
2. Zeba Cary Keith
3. 1964
4. 1881
5. Cathy's Clown - by the Everly Bros.
Complements of Nick Camillone



When was the last time you paid fifteen cents for a Burger?

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Painting the porch

A blonde teenager, wanting to earn some extra money for the summer, decided to hire herself out as a 'handy-woman' and started canvassing a nearby well-to-do neighborhood. She went to the front door of the first house, and asked the owner if he had any odd jobs for her to do.

"Well, I guess I could use somebody to paint my porch," he said, "How much will you charge me?"

Delighted, the girl quickly responded, "How about \$50?"

The man agreed and told her that the paint brushes and everything she would need was in the garage.

The man's wife, hearing the conversation said to her husband, "Does she realize that our porch goes ALL the way around the house?"

He responded, "That's a bit cynical, isn't it?"

The wife replied, "You're right. I guess I'm starting to believe all those dumb blonde jokes we've been getting by e-mail lately."

Later that day, the blonde came to the door to collect her money. "You're finished already?" the startled husband asked.

"Yes, the blonde replied, and I even had paint left over, so I gave it two coats."

Impressed, the man reached into his pocket for the \$50.00 and handed it to her along with a ten dollar tip.

"And by the way", the blonde added.....

"It's not a **Porch**, it's a **Mercedes-Benz**".

Our thanks to Hugh Ellis for his contribution.

A Special Vitamin

This vitamin has no monetary value but it is one that pays back constantly and in many ways. It is absolutely priceless but necessary to us.

Why do I have a variety of friends who are all so different in character? How can I get along with them all? I think that each one helps to bring out a "different" part of me.

With one of them I am polite. I joke with another friend. I sit down and talk about serious matters with one. With another I laugh a lot. I may have a drink with one. I listen to one friend's problems. Then I listen to another one's advice for me.

My friends are all like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. When completed, they form a treasure box. A

treasure of friends! They are my friends who understand me better than myself, who support me through good days and bad days. We all pray together and for each other.

Real Age doctors tell us that friends are good for our health. Dr. Oz calls them Vitamins F (for Friends) and counts the benefits of friends as essential to our well being. Research shows that people in strong social circles have less risk of depression and terminal strokes. If you enjoy Vitamins F constantly you can be up to 30 years younger than your real age. The warmth of friendship stops stress and even in your most intense moments it decreases the chance of a cardiac arrest or stroke by 50%.

I'm so happy that I have a stock of Vitamins F!

In summary, we should value our friends and keep in touch with them. We should try to see the funny side of things and laugh together, and pray for each other in the tough moments.

If you are reading this, thank you for being one of my Vitamins!

Our thanks to Hugh Ellis for his submission.



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