

HENRY C. CONRAD HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1955



50th Class Reunion
Newark Holiday Inn
Saturday, October 15, 2005

www.conradhighschool.com



PROGRAM

Cocktails/Hors d'oeuvres
Oliver's Restaurant, Cambridge/Oxford Room
6:30 P.M.

Welcome - Dinner
7:30 P.M.

Program
8:30

Classmate Pictures
9:30 P.M.

Music/Dancing/Social Time
9:00 - 11:00 P.M.

Optional: *Holiday Inn Brunch, Oliver's Restaurant*
Sunday, October 16 - 10:30 - 12:00 P.M.



Reunion Committee

Jerry Dobbs

Arlene Grimes Carpenter

Lois Gropp Hubbs

Shelva Henry Lewis

Janet Johnson Grimminger

Irvin Klair

Janet May Johnson

John Narvel

Jean Nixon Unruh

Dennis Sloman

Audrey Stewart Spengler

Jay Stenger

ATTENDEES – 50TH CLASS REUNION - OCTOBER 15, 2005

HERB ALFREE	HOLLAND, MI
PEGGY <i>AUSTIN</i> MYERS	ELKTON, MD
PAUL BASKIN	PRESCOTT, AZ
GEORGE BELL	ELKTON, MD
DONALD BERGNER	NEWARK, DE
EDWARD BROADBENT	WEST GROVE, PA
CAROL <i>BISHOFF</i> OWENS	WILMINGTON, DE
FRED BURNS	HO HO KUS, NJ
BARBARA <i>BURRIS</i> MACHEMER	ANNANDALE, VA
LOIS <i>CLUGSTON</i> HENRY	WILMINGTON, DE
JOHN COVERT	CENTREVILLE, MD
BARBARA <i>DICKERSON</i> SEDDON	WILMINGTON, DE
ROBERT DOWNES	ORLANDO, FL
GERALD DOBBS	PORT ST. LUCIE, FL
WILLIAM DRYDEN	NORTH EAST, MD
BETTY <i>DUNCAN</i> LATTOMUS	NEWARK, DE
DOROTHY <i>FINN</i> JOHNSON	WILMINGTON, DE
SHARON <i>FULLER</i> PECK	DAGSBORO, DE
ARLENE <i>GRIMES</i> CARPENTER	NEWARK, DE
LOIS <i>GROPP</i> HUBBS	WILMINGTON, DE
ROBERTA <i>HALL</i> MERRILL	WILMINGTON, DE
SHELVA <i>HENRY</i> LEWIS	WILMINGTON, DE
ELEANOR <i>HITCHENS</i> NELLIS	SACKETS HARBOR, NY
BETTY JEAN <i>HOLDWAY</i> PHILLIPS	WILMINGTON, DE
ANN <i>HORISK</i> WALSH	WILMINGTON, DE
ELEANOR <i>HORN</i> HARDY	NEWARK, DE
JANET <i>JOHNSON</i> GRIMMINGER	MIDDLETOWN, DE
JOAN <i>JOINER</i> POCHVATILLA	NEW CASTLE, DE
HELEN <i>JOSEPH</i> WOLFE	WILMINGTON, DE

ATTENDEES – CONT'D

JANE <i>KIRK</i> PAGE	CHATTANOOGA, TN
IRVIN KLAIR	WILMINGTON, DE
JANE <i>KOPSHINSKY</i> ROBINSON	SELBYVILLE, DE
MARYALICE <i>MAKINSON</i> CREGG	NEWARK, DE
WILLIAM MILLER	MT. LAUREL, NJ
JOHN NARVEL	BLUFFTON, SC
JEAN <i>NIXON</i> UNRUH	LEWES, DE
CARL O'DONNELL	BRADENTON, FL
JOAN OWENS MURRAY	POTOMAC, MD
DINAH <i>PARDEE</i> BROADBENT	WEST GROVE, PA
GAIL <i>ROBERTS</i> GRAHAM	WILMINGTON, DE
WILSON ROWE	OCEAN VIEW, DE
ROBERT SAMWORTH	CAPE CANAVERAL, FL
KATHRYNE <i>SCHULZ</i> MITCHELL	HOCKESSIN, DE
BETTY <i>SHOEMAKER</i> DAVIDSON	WILMINGTON, DE
CURTIS SLICER	WILMINGTON, DE
DENNIS SLOMAN	HOCKESSIN, DE
LEE STAFFORD	NEWARK, DE
CAROLYN <i>STEINEBACH</i> HEPLER	WINDSOR LOCKS, CT
JAY STENGER	BEAR, DE
CHARLES STETTER	HOCKESSIN, DE
AUDREY <i>STEWART</i> SPENGLER	WILMINGTON, DE
JAMES STRICKLAND	MILFORD, DE
DAVID TAYLOR	HOCKESSIN, DE
LETHA WILLIAMS	TUSCON, AZ

IN MEMORIAM

Leroy V. Anthony

Duane L. Austin

Howard E. Austin

Robert Bush

John S. Calvarese

Norine Cole

Edwin Collins

William Crist

Mary Lou Daggs

Robert Davidson

Barbara Davis

William Dignan

Doris Edwards

Thomas Ford

Gray Harris

Wayne Henretty

Harry Jarrell

Albert H. Johnson

Eugene Johnson

Shirley Johnson

Raymond Jones

Robert Kinkaid

Rosemarie Lafferty

Robert Marple

Janet Poole

Joyce Rhoads

William Robinson

Harry Russell

Frederick Smith

York Smith

Edward Stewart

Elaine Tibbett

Alma Mater

Hail to dear old Conrad
Hold her banner high;
With the winning spirit,
Fight to do or die.
From freshmen on to senior,
Be loyal, true and square,
Uphold her honor, students,
And we will victory share.
Be ever moving onward,
And set your goal on high,
For Conrad shall be honored,
A bright star in the sky

Conrad's Fight Song

Love and honor to old Conrad
Our high school old and grand.
Proudly we shall ever hail thee
Over all the land – rah, rah, rah
Alma Mater now we praise thee
Sing joyfully this day,
Love and honor to old Conrad
Forever and a day

I'm here for the reunion, of dear old Conrad High
50 years so ungraciously, passed us all by

50 Years, can that really be correct?
50 Years, full lifetimes, we all can reflect

I often wonder how many are still alive
Will I know anyone, from the Class of '55

As I pause and look around the Hall
My old eyes focus, trying to recall

Will anyone peer back, and recognize me?
Or am I not recognizable, what a possibility?

Wait a second, I see Dennis, Bill, Irv and John, Jim, Jay and two guys named Jerry
Who is that strange lady with them, is her name Joan, Shirley or is it Mary?

I see Gail and Pat and Shelva, and what's her name
Though a little wrinkled and gray, they still look the same

No greater lifetime friends, have ever been seen
They still mourn the loss, of their dear friend Norine

There's Lois and Jean, two Janets and Arlene
All looking good, my how long, it has been

I wonder if Herb, Fred, Dorsey, and Merrill are still around?
I forget so many others, good guys, the best to be found

I can't forget, those good lookin' ladies, so many to recall
Most are now Grandmas', they're lovin' it all

So many have left us, their tenures over, but I can only pray
That their lives were richly rewarded, during their stay

How profound each existence, just had to be
Their descendants bear witness, to each legacy

Every one of us conceals, so many fond images
Happy memories, but mostly, faint blemishes

Time has passed us by, my how it's flown
Most of us have children, that are well beyond grown

Our kids have our grand kids, that we coddle and spoil
We treat them like royalty, but can't wait, til' they hit the door

Some of us are lucky to still have a Mom or Dad
Some of us never married, but that's not so bad

All have lost Parents, Spouses, Children and Friends so dear
Time cannot erase, all the sadness, I fear

We can only pray Heaven is holding them, ever so near
One day we'll have a Grand Reunion, but in a holier sphere

So much bad has happened, in these past five decades
Wars, global warming, assassinations, Ugly Americans, Iraq and Aids

So much bad, but by far, so much good
Men on the Moon, SST's, computers, A/C, cell phones, cures for diseases,
And a multitude of things, often misunderstood

Our lives have changed, beyond belief
So much to be thankful for, though fraught with grief

Science has created, greater expectation
Nothing is impossible - imagination, becomes creation

Some of our destinies were fulfilled, many were not
Those who survived thus far, have accomplished a lot

Some times as I pass by, our beloved Conrad High
No longer the same, but the wonderful memories won't die

Now Conrad Middle School, it goes to grade nine
The kids who attend there, are doing just fine

But they'll never enjoy, what I'll contend
The spirit and tradition, of our Redskin Legend

And so I must end, this reverie
And reacquaint myself, with old friends that I see

It's so wonderful to see everyone, just being alive
And to be a small part of The Class of '55

As our Redskin Theme states "Scarlet and Gray will never grow old"
But we sure as hell did!

Robert E. Downes
August 6, 2005

DOWN MEMORY LANE

MOVIE THEATERS: CREST, ACE, RITZ, GRAND, RIALTO, SAVOY,
WARNER, LOEWS, QUEEN, ARCADIA.
DRIVE-IN MOVIES: PLEASANT HILL, KERRY, BRANDYWINE.
THANKSGIVING DAY RIVALRY – CONRAD VS. NEWARK.
MILK MAID LIPSTICK, SEE-THROUGH BLOUSES, GARTER BELTS, CINCH
BELTS, PEDAL PUSHERS, NECK SCARVES, SCATTER PINS, CRINOLINES,
PEGGED PANTS, WHITE BUCKS, BLUE SUEDE AND SADDLE SHOES.
PIN CURLS, DA'S (DUCK "TAILS").
MASSEY'S DRUG STORE.
CROSBY/HILL, KENNARD'S, BRAUNSTEIN'S, ARTHUR'S, ROSENBAUM'S.
ELSMERE GAS WARS.
ALL THE GIRLS WORE UGLY GYM SUITS.
IT TOOK FIVE MINUTES FOR THE TV TO WARM UP.
YOUR MOM WORE NYLONS THAT CAME IN TWO PIECES.
MALE TEACHERS WORE NECKTIES AND FEMALE TEACHERS WORE
HIGH HEELS AND HAD THEIR HAIR DONE.
YOU GOT YOUR WINDSHIELD CLEANED, OIL AND WATER CHECKED
AND GAS PUMPED ALL FOR FREE AND YOU GOT TRADING STAMPS.
ITEMS FROM THE STORE CAME WITHOUT SAFETY CAPS AND SEALS.
NANCY DREW, THE HARDY BOYS, LAUREL AND HARDY, THE LONE
RANGER, THE SHADOW, ROY ROGERS AND DALE EVANS.
THE FULLER BRUSH MAN.
REEL-TO-REEL TAPE RECORDERS.
15 CENT MCDONALD HAMBURGERS.
5 CENT PACKS OF BASEBALL CARDS WITH PINK BUBBLE GUM.
JIFFY POP POPCORN.
HEAD-LIGHT DIMMER SWITCHES ON THE FLOOR AND IGNITION
SWITCHES ON THE DASHBOARD, USING HAND SIGNALS .
STUDEBAKERS AND PACKARDS.
BLACKJACK, CLOVE AND TEABERRY CHEWING GUM.
WAX COKE-SHAPED BOTTLES WITH COLORED SUGAR WATER, CANDY
CIGARETTES AND PENNY CANDY.
SODA POP MACHINES THAT DISPENSED GLASS BOTTLES.
HOME MILK DELIVERY IN GLASS BOTTLES WITH CREAM ON THE TOP
AND CARDBOARD STOPPERS.
NEWSREELS BEFORE THE MOVIE.
PARTY LINES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS WITH A WORD PREFIX
(WYMAN, OLYMPIA).
45 RPM RECORDS, HI-FI'S.
S&H GREEN STAMPS.
MIMEOGRAPH MACHINES.
BLUE FLASH BULBS.
AND ON...AND ON....

Conrad High to return, Baltz, Brandywine Springs to add grades

By Antonio M. Prado
Staff Reporter

Conrad High School will officially return by the 2007-2008 school year, and Baltz and Brandywine Springs Elementary schools will add grades by the 2006-2007 school year as they transform into a kindergarten through eighth grade format.

The Red Clay Board of Education voted 4-0 to give

final approval to the "school program enhancements" approval at its June meeting. Red Clay at its August 17 meeting at Highlands Elementary School in Wilmington.

Board President Irwin J. Becnel Jr., Vice President Martin A. Wilson Sr., Gary C. Linarducci and Marguerite E. "Peggy" Vavalla voted yes. Rodolfo A. "Rudy" Alfonso, Charles M. Cavanaugh and Loretta C. Rice were absent.

The school board had given the plans preliminary



approval at its June meeting. Red Clay Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Andrzejewski and his staff for scheduling the transformation of the Baltz and Brandywine Springs schools a year earlier than was originally proposed at the request of the public. Becnel agreed.

"K-8 offers stability and an environment that helps kids succeed," he said. "Why wouldn't we implement it as quickly as we can?"

Baltz and Brandywine Springs have taught kindergarten through fifth grade, but many parents argued during public meetings that Red Clay should add sixth grade a year earlier than was originally proposed. The revision will give this year's fifth-graders the option to stay at the schools through eighth grade, but they must file a choice application in order to stay.

The kindergarten through eighth grade format in public schools is a phenomenon that "has swept across the nation," Andrzejewski said. "Private and Catholic schools have been doing it for years," he said.

Baltz and Brandywine Springs were junior high schools and Conrad was a high school until a 1978 federal court order that forced the implementation of busing in order to achieve racial balances artificially between the city of Wilmington and its suburbs. The federal court order led to the closure or reorganization of several schools.

The busing order was lifted in 1995, and the state Neighborhood Schools Act was passed by the Delaware General Assembly in 2000 when school districts still maintained busing feeder patterns

because of social pressures. The state law precludes race from being a factor in determining where a child goes to school.

Conrad Middle School, which was a high school until 1978, will become a sixth through 12th grade magnet school that will combine an allied health and biotechnology program with a traditional program beginning with grades sixth through 10 in the Fall of 2007.

Andrzejewski has said that students in Conrad's feeder pattern will have first choice at the new school. They will be placed in a preference zone to provide all Conrad Middle School students a seat in the program if they choose. If they do not want to attend the Conrad program, they must file a choice application to attend another middle school in the district.

In addition, the English language learners program would remain at Conrad Middle, said Pati Nash, Red Clay's public information officer.

The program at Conrad would be conducted in partnership with Christiana Care, the DuPont Company, Delaware Technical & Community College and the Delaware Biotechnology Institute - a unit of the University of Delaware. These partnerships will give students the job shadowing and internship experiences.

1955 - YOUR YEAR IN REVIEW

1955 PRICES

AVERAGE INCOME	\$	4,137.00
NEW CAR	\$	1,910.00
NEW HOUSE	\$	10,950.00
LOAF OF BREAD	\$.18
GALLON OF GAS	\$.23
GALLON OF MILK	\$.92
GOLD PER OUNCE	\$	35.00
SILVER PER OUNCE	\$.90
DOW JONES AVERAGE		388.20 to 488.40

President - DWIGHT EISENHOWER
Vice President - RICHARD NIXON

Inventions - LEGO BLOCKS
UNBREAKABLE EYE GLASSES

Miss America - LEE MERIWETHER, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Life Expectancy - 69.6 YEARS

Minimum Wage - \$.75

AT THE MOVIES

★★ Academy Award Winners ★★

Best actor:
ERNEST BORGNINE
MARTY

Best Picture
MARTY

Best actress:
ANNA MAGNANI
THE ROSE TATTOO



MUSIC FROM 1955

UNCHAINED MELODY

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

HEY, MR BANJO

YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS

CRY ME A RIVER



SPORTS NEWS

Stanley Cup Hockey
DETROIT RED WINGS

HEISMAN TROPHY
WINNER
HOWARD CASSADY,
OHIO STATE

PRO FOOTBALL
CLEVELAND
BROWNS

NBA BASKETBALL
SYRACUSE NATIONALS

U.S. Open Golf
JACK FLECK

Indianapolis 500
128.209 MPH
BOB SWEIKERT

Boston Marathon
HIDEO HAMAMURA
2 HRS, 18 MIN, 22 SEC

Boxing
(Heavyweight)
ROCKY MARCIANO
KO's
DON COCKELL

Kentucky Derby
SWAPS Ridden by
W. SHOEMAKER

World Series
BROOKLYN (NL)

ROCKY MARCIANO
KO's
ARCHIE MOORE

HOW MUCH DO YOU REMEMBER?

Quiz:

1. Conrad faced what street in Woodcrest?
2. Name the two speech teachers.
3. Who was the field hockey coach?
4. Who was our class valedictorian?
5. What was the name of the sub shop across the street from the school?
6. Who was our senior class vice president?
7. Name the two Latin teachers.
8. What was the name of the football stadium?
9. Name our school nurse.
10. Who was the home economics teacher?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE FROM DELAWARE

1. You know what, when and where the Hummers Parade is held.
2. "Vacation" means going to Rehoboth or Cape Henlopen.
3. You know the best subs come from Capriotti's.
4. You know about punkin'-chunkin'.
5. You actually know what a "slippery" dumpling is.
6. You know who YoUDee is.
7. Somebody in your family has worked for the DuPont Company.
8. You remember WAMS and WCAU.
9. You know NewERK is in New Jersey but NewARK is in Delaware.
10. You know the name of every street in Delaware but not the route number.
11. Everywhere you go, you always run into someone you know or went to school with.
12. You've eaten salt water taffy from Dolle's and pizza from Grotto's.
13. When you go out of state to shop or eat, you are surprised about the tax.
14. You remember when Christiana Hospital was a field with cows.

Answers to Quiz:

1. Jackson Avenue
2. Phyllis Shaw and Joe Simmons
3. Barbara Washburn
4. Cynthia Pease
5. Molly Goldberg's
6. Jerry Quigg
7. Anna Acitelli and John Chanowski
8. Urie Stadium
9. Jean Albers
10. Mabel Conaway

MOST LIKELY, THIS WILL BE OUR LAST FORMAL REUNION

**IN THE FUTURE, WE HOPE TO SCHEDULE LUNCHEONS
EVERY YEAR OR SO AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT**

**IF YOU CHANGE YOUR HOME ADDRESS OR E-MAIL ADDRESS,
PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND FORWARD TO:**

**ARLENE GRIMES CARPENTER
3 WARE RD.
NEWARK, DE 19711
E-MAIL: ARLENECARPENTER@AOL.COM**

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We've Moved

Date: _____

FROM: Name: _____

New Address: _____

New Phone No.: _____

New E-Mail Address: _____

**Please keep me posted when you have the next Conrad
reunion.**



CONRAD CLASS OF 1955

PHOTOS OF 50TH REUNION



Carol Bishoff, Elenor Hitchens, Doris McDonald



Sharon Fuller, Carol Bishoff, Jane Kopshinsky



Jimmy Strickland, John Narvel



Jerry Dobbs, Mrs. Dobbs, Carl O'Donnell



Bob Downs



Kathy Shultz, Dennis Sloman, Letha Williams

PHOTOS OF 50TH REUNION



Joan Owens, Ann Horisk



Bill Rowe, Mrs. Rowe



Irvin Klair



Jay Stenger, Jane Kopshinsky, Joe Shea (Jane's friend)



Jane Kirk



John Covert & Wife

PHOTOS OF 50TH REUNION



Paul Baskin, Gail Roberts



Group Photo



Maryalice McKinson, Sharon Fuller



Jean Nixon, Betty Shoemaker, Carolyn Steinebach



Lois Gropp, Arlene Grimes



Letha Williams, Gail Roberts



Shelva Henry, Janet Johnson

PHOTOS OF 50TH REUNION



Carl O'Donnell, Janet May



Janet May & husband George

