

MHS 1964 Class Notes

Issue 8 - January 2018

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If you have moved, or changed email addresses or phone numbers recently, please let us know.

Dennis "Moose" Brogna writes from South Carolina, "About a month ago, I decided to retire after 40 years as an athletic trainer. For me it was a very difficult decision to make, because I enjoyed working with professional athletes and the travel that goes with it. But my body (3 surgeries) was telling me that it was time. I worked with 3 high school, Bedford H.S., Milton H.S., and Carvers Bay (SC), The Boston Lobsters (World Team Tennis), U.S. Men's Field Hockey (got to travel all over the world), U.S. Coast Guard Academy, (New London, CT) Colleges -St. Thomas Aquinas (NY) and Connecticut College, Pro baseball - Cleveland Indians (Batavia, NY), (Waterloo, Iowa), Chicago Cubs (Salinas, CA), (Midland, TX), Toronto (Myrtle Beach, SC), (Hagerstown, MD), Dunedin, FL), Pro Hockey - Tampa Bay, Arkansas GlacierCats (AR), Monroe Moccasins (LA), Alaska Aces (AK), Idaho Steelheads (ID), Macon Trax (GA), Wichita Thunder (KS), Louisiana Icegators (LA) and the Stockton Thunder (CA). I've been very fortunate to work with many, many athletes from different sports and I loved every bit of it. It's been a very long journey and to me it was well worth it. I live presently live in Murrells Inlet, SC, where I'm a volunteer with the Murrells Inlet Garden City fire department. If you are ever in the area, call me - my cell # is (843) 318-6234 and my email is icedbmoose@aol.com. Have a nice Christmas and Happy New Year."

Brad Buck writes, "My wife, Linda, and I just returned from spending Christmas at our daughter's, and her son's (our grandson), house in McDonald, PA. Our two sons, Jim, and Andy, drove from MA to join us. Our daughter (Patti), cooked up a great ham dinner on Christmas day, and her man friend, Tom, cooked up a great prime rib dinner the following day. I now have to get back to the fitness center, and work off all of the extra calories that I packed on. Whooie, everything sure was good!

The day before we returned to South Carolina it was 1 degree Fahrenheit outside of Pittsburgh. We haven't been anywhere that cold in a long time! It was nice to get back to SC where it was 53 degrees F.

This is probably pretty boring to you all, but the MHS newsletter rules state that news doesn't have to be interesting.

Happy New Year to you all, and I hope that you all are well, and healthy!"

Brad and Cynthia Lien Burgess write "On September 20 we went to France and Switzerland including an 8-day river cruise on the Rhône river from Avignon to Lyon. We went with Ron and Ginny Peterson and another couple who are old friends. We were in Marseille for 3 days and 3 days in Geneva, Switzerland and Paris. Wonderful trip! Already planning the next one!"



Bob Cadigan writes from South Boston, "I am semi-retired, living in South Boston, and enjoy working at a more relaxing pace. No big plans to travel, but like having more time to enjoy the many interesting activities in the Boston area. Went to some TED talks recently, and really enjoyed it. Check them out on YouTube. You'll enjoy them. I do go to the West Coast often to visit my daughter Jennifer who is a Doctor of Psychology in Seattle dealing with drug and alcohol abuses with adolescents, and also visiting my son, Brian, who is an attorney in Los Angeles and is still an avid Red Sox fan."

Ron Enholm writes from Encino, Calif., that he and wife Christie enjoyed a two-week trip to Tuscany with another couple in September, including a few days in Florence, a week in a rented villa in Chianti, followed by four days on the Cinque Terre. One highlight was having a private chef at the villa for a few nights to prepare and serve multi-course dinners with locally sourced ingredients and wine pairings. The villa stay included day trips to Siena, San Gimignano and Montalcino.

Cheryl Farrington wrote, "Hi Kids, A group of us got together this past June on a beautiful spring day to tour the Eustis Estate on Canton Ave in Milton. It is a beautiful piece of architecture (1878). 80 acres of land that abuts the Blue Hills. Great tour. It was acquired by Historic New England for "preservation , conservation, and educational purposes." Check out the web sites.

After the tour, **Joyce (Lennon)** and Jerry Manning (62) joined us for lunch at Novara's in East Milton (the old movie theater). A really great day.

Happy Holidays to all."

Eliot Gilbert wrote from Dallas that the "**Fickle Finger of Fate Strikes Twice this Fall**". "My brother, my son, and I had been trying to coordinate a fishing trip for the last 5 years but there was always something that got in the way. I live in Texas, my brother, who still works full time, in Massachusetts and my son wherever his profession takes him. We finally found dates and a centrally located fishing mecca that was good for everyone. We booked a trip to the Florida Keys, guys only, for a long weekend after Labor Day. Unfortunately, hurricane Irma made a right turn over Cuba and headed for the Keys Fortunately, the hotel, charter boats, car rental and airline canceled the day before we were to leave for Fort Lauderdale. Back to the drawing board!

Then, in October I went with several golfing buddies for a week in Mesquite, Nevada. As Fate would have it, we changed our plans from early October to mid month to avoid over-seeding restrictions at the courses we wanted to play. We would have been in Las Vegas the night of the mass shooting at a hotel that is part of the Mandalay Bay complex We did see the boarded up windows at the Hotel and the shooter's home (albeit from down the street in Mesquite) when we were there the following week. Mesquite, although not on our golf bucket list, was a fabulous experience with 11 outstanding courses within a 10 minute drive of town. Really an oasis in the desert, but now a tourist spot for the wrong reason."

Moshe Ber "Mel" Katz called over the holidays to say he was visiting family in Brooklyn, NY for a few weeks before returning to Israel. His book, "Keep on Driving", will soon be available for purchase on Amazon.

Jerry Lunt Elsdon wrote recently, "After living almost four years in a Hanover condominium, Brian and I moved to a house in Scituate. We missed our Hingham house and the freedom of it. We planted around 140 shrubs and perennials that had been potted up and stored in various places. The house needs very little work as Brian hates big projects, but we do have a nice above ground pool for the taking if anyone wants it! (Scituate has five beaches for our seven grandkids to enjoy and explore.) We spend the winters in Venice, Florida, where we have a house and have plenty of activities - golf, kayaking, cycling, gardening, and the Y and Pickleball for me. My orthopedic surgeon who amputated my right leg below the knee ten years ago predicted I would have arthritis in my left knee and he sadly was right—I need a total knee replacement and will do so probably early summer at MGH.

Anyone visiting on the west coast of Florida is welcome to visit and check out Venice. We like it lots better than Naples."

Joyce Lennon McFadden wrote, "My husband, Jerry Manning ('62) and I just arrived on Hutchinson Island, FL for the winter. We are thrilled to get out of the cold! We hope to get together with classmates that are in the Palm Beach area of Florida. I keep in touch with Donna Winer Foster so we'll meet up I'm sure. If anyone else is in the area we'd love to see you. We are blessed to be away. We check out home thermostat and see it's zero outside at Nantasket Beach! It's a balmy 70 here today. The ocean looks pretty furious but I'm sure it will calm down. I wish all my classmates and families a happy and healthy 2018!"

Bob McCusker wrote, "Happy New Year to all our classmates and families. Great job, Bob and Ron, keeping us informed."

Paul Nangeroni writes from Monrovia, Maryland, "Greetings for a NEW YEAR filled with comfort, joy and adventure!"

By the way, if any of you are in or plan to visit the Washington DC area, I play violin every Saturday night 7-10 at RISTORANTE PICCOLO in the Georgetown part of DC. I still practice regularly and am going (fiddling) strong. (Paul recorded an album in 2005 which you can hear at <http://www.soundcloud.com/paulnangeroni>.) Come have a nice Italian dinner and bring me some musical requests! I'd love to see some old friends in 2018!"

Jeri Needel Epstein writes, "My husband Gary and I celebrated our third or fourth retirements, and 50+ years of togetherness, by traveling with friends to South Africa. We retire poorly but travel well. Our vacation began in Cape Town. It's a wonderful, sophisticated city with world-class geography. Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope were spectacular—and there were penguins! We took the ferry to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 years. The tours were conducted by previous inmates in the island prison. When we left Cape Town, we spent a few days in wine country. South Africa has a thriving wine industry that reminded us of Napa Valley and Sonoma. Our hotel had peacocks that tried to tip toe into the guest rooms and arrange their feathers on the heated bathroom floors. They pretended to be invisible and resisted eviction. Our third stop was Sabi Sands, next to Kruger National Park, to see "The Big Five." Rhinos, hippos, leopards, lions, varietal antelope, Cape buffalo, and hyenas were regular neighbors while we were there. We returned via Johannesburg. We had a wonderful time. Wishing everyone a happy holiday season."

Bob Powers continues to enjoy life on Cape Cod with his wife, Sandy. "I am trying to find time for pickleball, golf, skiing and cycling, but there never seems to be enough time. Our primary concern in life right now is our daughter-in-law, Erika, who continues to bravely fight her 4 year battle against stage 4 colon cancer, and we are praying 2018 brings her (and us) some good news. She has been a warrior!"

Also, as some know, we have vacationed for years in the Caribbean on Anguilla which was devastated by Hurricane Irma in September - sustained winds of 180 mph, and gusts up to 220, wreaked havoc on the island, including breaking or knocking down 90% of the power poles. I made it down in early December to check on the condo where we stay and to see friends, and was pleased to see that our place is fine and the island has made a remarkable recovery. Power was restored to virtually the whole island by Christmas, about 6 months ahead of the original schedule, and most of the restaurants and beach bars have reopened. Now all the island needs this winter is visitors - if anyone is interested in visiting a warm, true island paradise this cold winter, please let me know!"

Paul "Boomer" Smith writes, "A group of 7 Romeos (Real Old Men Eating Out) got together last summer for lunch at the East Bay Grill in Plymouth. Present and in the attached picture are, left to right, Bob Anderson (65), **Paul Smith**, **Mike Gerace**, **Bob Cadigan**, **Dave White**, **Chris Jepson** (blue shirt) and **Dave Sheptyck** (all 64). Great stories of the old days at the town field and MHS. Merry Christmas!"



Ron Suffers writes, "My apologies for not communicating more news about me over time; however, now I have some more time. I do internal audit work (not IRS) mostly as a temp contractor. I last did work for TD Bank last March when my assignment there ended. So, since then I guess I am unemployed or semi-retired or retired or something. I'd be open to continue audit work on a temp basis and then taking time off between assignments. I've spent more time with family this last year and have been overseeing bathroom renovation at my condo in North End of Boston.

Right now, I am at Miami Beach with my significant other and her grandkids. I hear it will be 5 degrees in Boston tonight (Dec 28) while it is in 70s in Florida. Sort of motivates one to move to a warm place. I'm sure other classmates have already made the move.

If I don't have audit assignments in 2018, I would like to spend more time traveling internationally. There are still many places to see and not enough time. They say one should travel when able to do so. For example, at the end of last year I did solo travel in India, Russia, Dubai, Belarus, Ukraine, Israel and Turkey...all wonderful places. Anyway, let me close for now. If anyone ever comes to the North End, feel free to look me up. I'm at 43 Commercial Wharf, Unit 9 and am at ronsuffers@yahoo.com and at 617-519-6641.

To all my classmates, let me extend wishes to you that 2018 and many more years after are filled with good health, much happiness, fulfillment and joy."

Jane Utley Aselizza wrote in late August, “Hello Whiz Kids! I still think about our 50th reunion . . . with a smile of course. It was so good to see the people I remember as friends during some of the more formative years in our lives. I still remember Canteen, pep rallies, majorettes, and the art room, my favorite classroom of course. This is where I prepared to enter The College of Art & Design at Lesley University (aka The Art Institute of Boston).

Meryl Thurman and I joined forces to make this experience one of the greatest in our lives, which it certainly was! Unfortunately, I did not become a famous fashion designer as I had intended (sigh). I am allegedly a retired professor from Curry College and William James College (formerly the MA School of Professional Psychology). I remain a disability specialist, art therapist and educational therapist, because . . . I don’t know how to do otherwise. However, now I write more about it rather than find myself in the midst of it.

My husband, Gene, and I have been together since 1968 and are parents to Brandon and Loryn. I am Grammy to Lily Rose (8 yrs) and Eva Sophia (5 yrs). We live on the South Shore of MA and summer at the Utley homestead, located on the harbor’s edge in Sand Beach, Nova Scotia (circa 1913). Bliss.

I hope you are all happy, healthy and enduring our current affairs as best you can. Pray for the survivors in Texas and all those who have volunteered to assist.”

David Wluka writes, “It has been an interesting year for **Nancy (Berger)** & David. Nancy is slowing down and moving towards retirement. Business is still strong so she has taken on a “partner” to help manage things. She is continuing her other career as an artist and has had several shows this year.

David was just installed as a Regional Vice President for New England for the National Association of Realtors. He also represented NAR at the Uniapravi Conference in Bogota, Colombia on financing practices for affordable housing in South America.

Our grandson Zach is a freshman at Roger Williams University where he is focusing on Biomedical Engineering. He is also going with a group of classmates to Haiti in January to work in the villages as part of a Social Justice program the school runs. Finally, we just came back from a trip to Havana, Cuba that was fascinating! We could fill pages with our experiences and feelings about it. We walked the Old Town, visited the largest of the three Synagogues left, went out into the countryside and learned a lot about the people there.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year to all of our classmates.”



In Memoriam

If you hear of the passing of any any classmates, please let us know.

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