Olney Memories # 138

Feb 16, 2018



Hello everyone,

Before I forget…if someone wrote me a contribution for the OM’s and doesn’t see it in here, please resend it to me so I can include it next issue. I was having some computer problems and somehow I feel like I missed putting it on # 138. This also goes for *anytime you write* and don’t see what you sent in. I never leave anything out intentionally so if I do please resend it. Thank you.

Thank you for helping me find the correct e-mails for the incorrect ones that we all have been searching for. Little by little the good ones are trickling in and this helps so much.

Ann Weesner King

Class of ‘60

Richard Williams

[rrw41@earthlink.net](mailto:rrw41@earthlink.net)

**Hello “OM” Subscribers!**

**Happy Days to you all, this seventh year of the TAC – TPAA scholarship program for seniors of Richland County High School (RCHS)!  Below I introduce this year’s campaign!**



**As many of you know, the Tiger Alumni Center members have been very generous every year of the past six years -- raising a total of $71,000 for 71 scholarships!  Both of your last two years, you donated $20,000 for twenty scholarships and for each of the two years before that, you TAC donors raised $10,000!  The first two years we began by awarding four (2012) and seven (2013) graduates.**

**The 2018 goal is $20,000 for twenty scholarships.**

**One hundred percent went to the scholarship!**

**Want to help?**

**To donate!**



**Please Mail Checks to:**

**Janet Everette, Treasurer, TPAA**

**906 East Cherry Street**

**Olney, IL. 62450**

**Please make your check out to Tiger Pride Alumni Association**

**Remember: the Tiger Pride Alumni Association, Ltd., is a charitable, tax-exempt, 501(c)3 organization.**

**Janet will mail you a statement acknowledging your donation.  To do that she needs your help.  Please be sure she knows the donor's name(s), the return mail address, and any special requests.**

**For more information, visit the TAC page.  Click:**[**http://www.erhsalumni.net/Scholarships-2018.htm**](http://www.erhsalumni.net/Scholarships-2018.htm)

**Happy Days!**

**Richard Williams**

**Class of ‘60**

**--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

Marti Melrose

[martimelrose@gmail.com](mailto:martimelrose@gmail.com)

Marti Melrose here....I share Pete Weber’s memory of the performers at the Elks.... I remember all kinds of family occasions there... I also remember when the Community Concerts were held at the high school years later....  And, I remember my grandfather taking me to the western movies on Saturdays at the old Elks Theater.... we were both "cowboy movie fans" then!   Very fond memories of the Elks.....

Marti Melrose

Class of ‘60

John Helm

[mlehjerhs@gmail.com](mailto:mlehjerhs@gmail.com)

Ann:  Just finished reading your latest Olney Memory Column; Pete Weber mentioned the Elks Building, as did Mary Jane Hughes.  On Saturday mornings the Elks Theater showed western movies, for sure.  One thing stood out to me about the Elks Theater; the floor of the theater was wood.  As a kid of ten or eleven I always wondered what would happen if the floor caught fire; strange how kids' thought processes work.  Also playing the organ at the Elks Club was Ernie Berger.  My dad always enjoyed listening to Ernie play.  My dad played a good Hammond organ himself..

Another little neighborhood grocery store was The Fair Market, three doors down from my girlfriend Helen's house, in the 600 block.  Ramona Weber's folks, Ray and Evelyn operated the store.  My mother shopped there often, as it was only a block and a half from our house on Boone Street.

John Helm

Class of 1958

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Marilyn Brock

[marilynbrock39@yahoo.com](mailto:marilynbrock39@yahoo.com)

I kind of remember this the Christmas books people got- it’s been awhile.  
  
Marilyn Brock

Class of ‘56

David Mitchell

[David@Mktg.Org](mailto:David@Mktg.Org)

Hi Peter,

Bolet did indeed play there.  His piano took a hit in moving and they needed a spare, so my parents FW and Nelda Mitchell loaned our Steinway.  He said the action was a little stiff and needed a lot of playing.  We still play it and the action isn't stiff anymore!  I've played a lot of pianos and for some reason, this one has a wonderful ring quality that I've never heard elsewhere, except in the lower 10 keys where a huge grand will exceed it.

He and your parents came to our home for an after-concert party and mom served sirloin after most of the other guests left.  He and his crew were starved and asked for second steaks, which thankfully were there.  I remember attending such an earlier party at your home, when a string quartet played.  They asked your mother to play her violin for them and gave her fine compliments on her skill.

Warmly,  
David Mitchell

Class of ‘58

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Roy Ed Doolin

[roydoolin@hotmail.com](mailto:roydoolin@hotmail.com)

It was probably about 1954. I was playing cops and robbers or cowboys and Indians with my brother Marv and some boys from our neighborhood. One of the boys said it would be great if we could be Junior Police. Another boy said there had been a Junior Police group in Olney some time ago and it was disbanded because the boys misbehaved. We talked about presenting the idea to George Shipley, the sheriff. Soon after that, some of the boys went to the sheriff's office and presented the idea. Sheriff Shipley said it was a great idea and the Richland County Junior Deputy Sheriff's Association was launched. We had meetings, in a court room, once a month, with different speakers presenting useful and interesting information. Although I don't remember much of what he said, Sergeant David Crockett, of the Illinois State Police, stands out in my mind as being an excellent speaker. He said his great great grand pappy's uncle was the famous Davy Crockett. Sheriff Shipley and his chief deputy also spoke to the group. We members, took an oath, not to commit any crimes, then we were given a badge and an ID card. We toured the Court House and jail and were shown lots of confiscated weapons. I was proud to be a member. As I recall, the group became quite large.

It was probably about 1954. I was playing cops and robbers or cowboys and Indians with my brother Marv and some boys from our neighborhood. One of the boys said it would be great if we could be Junior police. Another boy said there had been a Junior Police group in Olney some time ago and it was disbanded because the boys misbehaved. We talked about presenting the idea to George Shipley, the sheriff. Soon after that, some of the boys went to the sheriff's office and presented the idea. Sheriff Shipley said it was a great idea and the Richland County Junior Deputy Sheriff's Association was launched. We had meetings, in a court room, once a month, with different speakers presenting useful and interesting information. Although I don't remember much of what he said, Sergeant David Crockett, of the Illinois State Police, stands out in my mind as being an excellent speaker. He said his great great grand pappy's uncle was the famous Davy Crockett. Sheriff Shipley and his chief deputy also spoke to the group. We members, took an oath, not to commit any crimes, then we were given a badge and an ID card. We toured the Court House and jail and were shown lots of confiscated weapons. I was proud to be a member. As I recall, the group became quite large.

Roy Ed Doolin

Class of 1964

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Peggy Kuenstler

[kcman53@outlook.com](mailto:kcman53@outlook.com)

My husband (Jim Kuenstler) also had a filling/service station in Olney.   He owned "Jim's City Service Station" on the S. W corner, at the intersection, of Rt 130 & W. Main St where Subway is now.  I'm not sure of the dates when he took over the business or got out of the business, but he was in that business in May of 1959 when our son Tony was born.  He sold gas & also did mechanic work there.  I remember one of his employees there was J. D. Adams, Noble, IL.

Peggy Kuenstler

Class of ’56 Clay City

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Peggy Kuenstler

[kcman53@outlook.com](mailto:kcman53@outlook.com)

Ann,

I have one of these little Christmas Song Books also.  We gals ( Ladies Aux. of the K. of C. ) used it to go caroling at Assisted Living places, Mark's,  S. Whittle,  Burgin's, Rt. 130 N., Emerald Glen, N. East St. etc. a few years ago.   Mark's & Burgin's  are no longer in service, Burgin's closed several years ago & is now torn down & Mark's on S. Whittle closed a year or so ago,  I have no idea what is there now.  Also our Aux. folded this year, lots of members, but low attendance/ interest.

Peggy Kuenstler

Class of ’56 Clay City

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Frank & Pat VanMatre

[vanmatrefp@gmail.com](mailto:vanmatrefp@gmail.com)

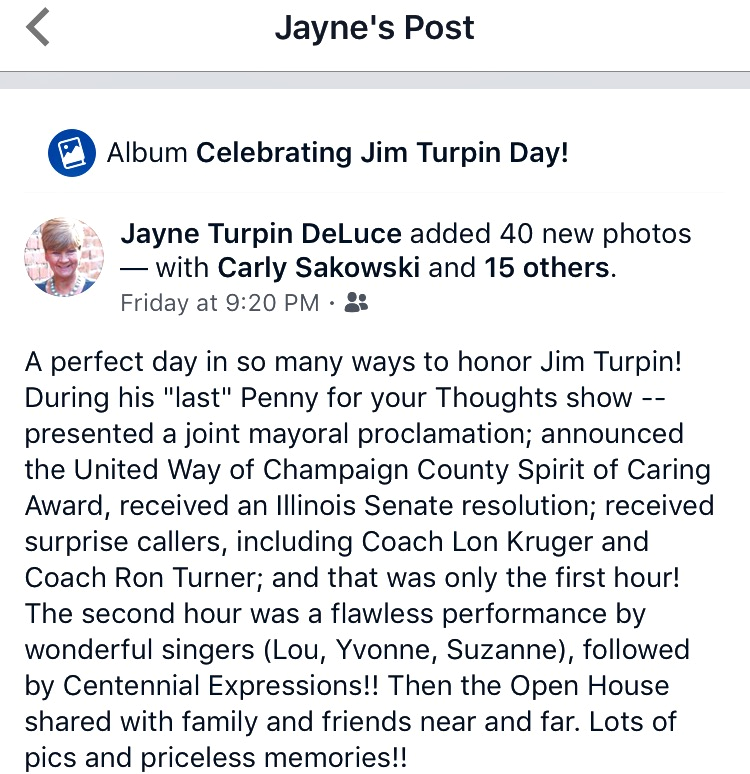
Ann Weesner King  
(I saw Frank and Pat at Monical’s when my daughter and I were in Olney for a brief few days in January at where else but Monical’s Pizza! He mentioned to me that he knew Jim Turpin’s new e-mail address which I had been looking for for quite some time now as most of you know. I was thrilled. He also mentioned that Jim had been honored recently and I asked ”Why don’t you write up a little paragraph about this for the Olney Memories”, because I thought many of you would probably remember Jim from the WVLN Radio station from years ago. So before we even got back home in Houston, Frank had sent me the paragraph below, much to my delight, for you all to read! Thank you, Frank & Pat.)

---

Jim Turpin Day in Champaign and Urbana Dec 22, 2017. Jim leaving after 40 years of broadcasting Illini Sports and Penny For Your Thoughts on WDWS. Jim worked at the Olney Daily Mail and WVLN in Olney, IL.

Ladies with Jim Turpin in picture are Mayor of Champaign and Mayor of Urbana reading proclamation that Dec 22, 2017 is Jim Turpin Day. Jim’s career spans 65 years in the broadcasting business.

Jim was Mr. Illini as he announced University of Illinois sports and a daily “Penny for your Thoughts” show at WDWS 1400 Radio.





Frank & Pat VanMatre

Class of ’56 & 54

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Frank VanMeter

[vanmatrefp@gmail.com](mailto:vanmatrefp@gmail.com)

(---Also while we were visiting at Monicals Pat told me she was Cheerleader for HS, and I asked that they write up a little something about this….from our conversation it sounded as if they had a barrel of fun!! ☺ Ann )

-----

HI Ann……This is Pat (Barnes) Van Matre and I was a cheerleader at East Richland High School from 1952-1956. Cheerleaders were Pat Barnes, Emily Eagleson, Connie Elkins, Peggy Wilburn, Dee Leet, and Janet Eagleson.

Pat Van Meter

Class of ‘56

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Steve Eichhorst

[sike72@nwcable.net](mailto:sike72@nwcable.net),

Olney Trivia - In 1841 the city of Olney, was laid out. It was laid off on either side of the trace road, but the town has built more toward the south. In the earlier years the town was called “the painted town” because the New Englanders, of whom there were considerable numbers, painted their houses, and this gave the town an attractive appearance. It grew slowly, having only 300 inhabitants in 1855.

(Trace Road is now what we call Main Street/Rt. 250 )

Steve Eichhorst

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Dick Landenberger

[dicklandenberger@gmail.com](mailto:dicklandenberger@gmail.com)

I grew up at 825 N Silver( my daughter Beth and family are still there- in the Lustron house built/purchased by my Mom and Dad, Gertrude and George Landenberger in 1949) graduating ERHS in 1957.  
As a youngster, the woods across the street was called Tippit's Woods. The Tippit family house was across Silver Street from mine.  
I would visit with Mr. Tom Tippit and he would tell me about the Indians that used to make their home in his woods. He showed me depressions in the ground that were the locations of lodges and sandstone sections of the creek bottom where clothes were washed.  
What a neat topic for further investigation.  
What do you think?  
P.S. Douglas Drive now weaves through the Woods 

Dick Landenberger  
Dallas. Tx.

Class of ‘57

===============================================================================================================================================================================================================