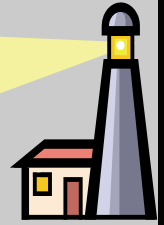


BEACON LIGHT

NEWSLETTER FOR AND BY ALUMNI OF ISHPEMING HIGH SCHOOL

Moving Forward, Yet Looking Back



VOLUME SIXTEEN • NUMBER THREE

FALL 2004

The Halls Still Shine!

When visitors come home for the Fourth of July week and take the tour of Ishpeming High School, the one comment most often heard is “the halls still shine.”

There are great praises for the beautiful auditorium, the new gymnasium, the library, the music rooms and the outstanding grounds. All are testaments to the fine maintenance crews but maybe there is more to it . . . tradition.

Tradition is carried on by the people, teachers, staff, and those

who willingly volunteer their time to serve on the School Board.

Ishpeming High School graduates have shown a desire to continue their education and return to our area as principals and superintendents and to carry on the traditions of excellence that they learned at IHS. As an example, currently in our area we have the following IHS alumni in administrative positions: Brian Sarvello (1976) IHS Principal, Charlene (King) Willey ('72), C.L. Phelps Principal; Bob Trebilcock ('68), Negaunee Middle School Principal;

Mark Marana ('76), Negaunee Assistant Principal; Bob Bonetti ('70), Negaunee High School Principal; David Boase ('88), Westwood High School Principal; Dennis Tasson ('70), Aspen Ridge Middle School Principal; and David Rodda ('69), Aspen Ridge Elementary School Principal.

This is an impressive list of those who are carrying on our tradition of excellence. May our halls always shine!

-Terry Thompson '52

2004 Open House

This year's open house was a one-day event held on Friday, July 2. Once again, the turnout was excellent. Those who attended saw a few changes.

Posters hung on the wall representing each decade from the 1930s to the 2000s. Visiting alumni signed in under their decade. The objective was to offer an opportunity for alumni to let others know that they were in town for the weekend. In all, there were over 400 signatures. The '40s and the '50s had the largest representation by far. This really isn't a surprise since the importance of maintaining a connection to our alma mater grows stronger as we grow older.

Another popular area at the open house was a slide show of pictures scanned in from various annuals. The slide show allowed alumni an opportunity to catch a brief glance of the past. Next year, we will provide seats for those of you who would like to sit for a while and watch the pres-



entation. (Sorry, you'll have to bring your own popcorn—we only provide donuts and cookies.)

The Alumni Association board decided not to invest funds in merchandise to sell this year. In the past, profits have been minimal. Since the Ishpeming High School store, Hematites 'R' Us, already carries a wide variety of merchandise, it made sense to have them market their products.

We invite you to mark Saturday, July 2, 2005, on your calendar with a bright blue marker for no other color would ever do. For those who have never attended an Alumni Association open house or softball game, you are missing an opportunity to renew old friendships and reminisce of days gone by. Please try it. You will enjoy yourself.

-Ellen (Penrose) Roberts '71

I.H.S. Authors

Your very own book has just been newly published, and you are joyfully handing out signed copies to friends and colleagues. The title you chose is an eye-catcher, and your name is on the front cover.

Are many among us who have not had this fantasy of seeing our written work published in book form? For some, this dream has been realized, and the author may even be someone you know and a former classmate.

In a recent issue of the *Friends of the Library Newsletter*, Marilyn Swanson Andrew ('56), compiled a list and background of published authors who had ties to Ishpeming, and the number is impressive. In this article, we chose to focus on those authors who are graduates of Ishpeming High.

Sometime when you are browsing at the Carnegie or your favorite bookstore, look up these names: William Bjork, class of 1961, Robert R. Archibald ('66), Ward Quaal ('37), Jean (Maddern) Pitrone ('38), Francis Leone ('66), the Rev. Dr. Bernard Hillila ('36), Dominic Paris ('27), Zita Wright ('41), Gertrude Tupala ('39), Peter Kivisto ('66), Mary (Brandt) Goloversic ('59), Dan Fountain ('69), Joann (Austin) Hakala ('52), Jane Piirto ('59), John Pontti ('54), Ken Luostari ('52), Melvin Holli ('51), John Voelker (Robert Traver)

('22), Joan Hansen ('50), Pastor Robert Dobson ('58), and Ron Hocking ('50). Please let us know if you are aware of any others, and we will track them down!

The wide range of subject matter of these writers is itself intriguing: the story of the evolution of skiing, textbooks for mathematics, sociological treatises and ethnological studies, inspirational and spiritual writings, memoirs of growing up in a small town, fly-fishing, a fond look back at old camps in the area, the lure of gold, movie stars in our midst, creative people and what makes them tick, American big-city mayors (the best and the worst), what constitutes a real "community", and a variety of novels. There is neither time nor space to comment on all the works, regrettably, but two that we have recently been reading are those of Jane Piirto and Robert Archibald.

Do you remember a summer day in our town when you hopped on your bike (with a brown bag picnic lunch) and rode up to the Cleveland Location? To explore, and maybe take a peek at the Mather Cottage and surrounding gardens? Jane Piirto has written *A Location in the Upper Peninsula*, an account of her growing up in that area, with delightful allusions to her ethnic background and with an appreciation for the

natural wonders that surrounded her. She has also published collections of her poems. Some of these may be found on her website, which also has links to her essays and scholarly works dealing with the creative mind. She describes her work as being 'in the field of the education of the talented.'

In *A Place to Remember: Using History to Build Community*, Robert Archibald gives a glimpse into a journey of self-discovery, and a call to those of us who mourn the loss of "community" in small towns across the country. Upon visiting Ishpeming after being away for many years with work and career, his story begins with a stop at Andriacchi's store on Division Street. He has come to see Theresa, a proprietor of the store, and as his conversations with her unfold, we come to understand and appreciate that Theresa seems to be the embodiment of the spirit of commitment to community.

As readers we, of course, bring our own interpretations and life experiences to what we absorb from the printed page. That's half the enjoyment of reading, and whether we have been enlightened or entertained by our fellow graduate authors, we are certainly enriched.

-Sue (Bussi) Blomgren '56

I.H.S. Alumni Association Scholarship Approved

The I.H.S. Alumni Board of Trustees approved, on June 12, 2004, the creation of an Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. The Fund's mission grants to all I.H.S. graduates the ability to apply for financial assistance while pursuing either an undergraduate or post-graduate degree in any curriculum. Accumulation of moneys for this fund will be through non-tax deductible donations, invested in a prudent manner by the Alumni Association Treasurer. A committee of at least three Association

trustees will review applications and may consult with the high school principal and guidance counselor before making the award.

Initial gifting to the fund was from Sue (Phare) Boback, treasurer of the Class of 1972, in memory of deceased Class members. Additional contributions have been received from Betty Lund in memory of Clive Lund, the Class of 1949, and from the Class of 1954.

Forms to apply for the new Alumni Association scholarship, and others available to I.H.S.

graduates are available at the High School April 1, and must be turned in by May 1. Awards are announced at the annual Honors Convocation. Graduates interested in learning what awards and scholarships are offered can see a listing by accessing the School District's web site. Approximately 60 entries are currently listed.

-Al Goodney '54



A Letter from a Past Exchange Student

Have you ever wondered what's become of some of the foreign exchange students who attended Ishpeming High School? Eleven years ago, Ishpeming High School welcomed two Russian students. One of these young women lived for six months in the home of Teri and Ken Arseneau with their children, Matthew and Jennifer. This is the letter that Irina (Ira) Tikhonova recently sent regarding her experiences at Ishpeming High School and what she's been doing since graduation.

"Our education system is different from yours. When we returned home from the States, we had a very difficult time because the country had changed a lot and we changed a lot. My stay in America taught me to cope with change and solve problems. We came back home in January. I studied really hard to cover the first semester that I had missed in Moscow school, had to pass all the high school exams and, most importantly, had to get ready for the exams to enter the University. When I returned from the States, my parents were praying I would pass the final school exams. I got all "A's" at school and also did pass the University exams. In my case, I entered two universities: the faculty of journalism at Moscow State University and the faculty of philosophy of Russian people at Friendship University.

I realized during my stay in America that people start earning money when they are kids and sav-

ing for college, etc. I got several babysitting jobs and really enjoyed it. It gave me a chance to teach English to kids of different ages. I also found a job with a Russian-American company call "Camp Counselors USA". They were recruiting students for summer work in American summer camps, resorts, etc. My American experience and background helped me a lot because I worked with the Russian students to explain the customs, traditions, and way of life and work attitudes in the United States before they came to the States to work.

Following graduation, I won a scholarship to study at the University of Valencia in Spain. When I returned to Moscow, I was immediately hired as a professor at Moscow State University where I am teaching Spanish. I'm doing my PhD dissertation right now and I'm majoring in American place-names. I have been studying this topic for the last seven years and this passion for American geographical place-names (like "Ishpeming" and "Negaunee") is due to my stay in Michigan.

In spite of the fact that I did forget a lot of my English as I don't have much practice now, every time I hear the English language or see a person reading a book written by an American author, my heart starts beating very quickly. I cannot control myself. There is something inside of me that makes me remember every detail of my stay in Ishpeming. I still remember all of the

teachers and sometimes try to introduce some of the methods of teaching I saw in Ishpeming. I wish I could again visit IHS and attend the classes of Mr. Clancy, Mr. Croze, Mrs. Gauthier, Ms. DeCaire, and Mr. Langness.

Many years have passed but a lot of people take me for an American. Sometimes, policemen stop me in the Moscow subway and ask me for my VISA. Once, when I asked the policemen what was so suspicious about me, he said "a normal Russian person never smiles and his eyes do not shine as yours."

America gave me a lot: new precious values, new experience, and a new family. IHS, it's teachers and my American family gave me more during those six months than anyone or anything (other than my real family) in my 27 years. If I hadn't stayed in Ishpeming and hadn't studied at Ishpeming High School, my life would have been very different. Just imagine: we had never heard of Halloween and never celebrated Christmas. Now, every year on the 24th of December, in my thoughts I am flying to the UP, covered with snow, with Christmas trees and lovely holiday atmosphere. What happened to me eleven years ago was the best experience of my life. I was extremely lucky to live in a fairy-tale for six months."

-Teri Lee (Thompson) Arseneau '73

Trivia



Q. Which I.H.S. graduate served the longest term as I.H.S. Principal?

A. W.C. Peterson (1942-1952) He also had the longest I.S.D. Superintendent term of any graduate (1952-1969)

Q. The first meeting of the I.H.S. Alumni Association was held when?

A. June 1892 per Friends of the Library Summer 2004 Newsletter

Association By-Laws Reviewed/Updated

Your I.H.S. Alumni Association Board of Trustees has taken on the task of reviewing and updating the By-Laws of the Association. A portion of each recent meeting was devoted to sentence-by-sentence scrutiny and discussion directed at bringing the By-Laws in line with current operating realities. The Board hopes to have the updated document ready soon for final review and approval. More on this important item in future issues of the Beacon Light.

-Al Goodney '54

Theme Songs

When the political battles on television became too much to bear, I tried to find a pleasant distraction to temporarily allow my mind to rest from the insane antics of the world in which we live. As I began to surf the channels, I came upon the great musical, “Meet Me in St. Louis,” an old time favorite. By today’s standards, it would probably only rate one star, but it was a highly acclaimed 40’s musical that could be viewed by the whole family. I waited in anticipation for Judy Garland to burst into song with her famous rendition of “The Trolley Song.” It was then that I realized that every time I heard that particular piece, I thought of her. It had become her personal theme song. My restless mind began to invent. There are many famous people who deserve to have a theme song of their own. With that notion in my head, I quickly started dreaming up appropriate song titles for some well-known personalities. Of course, Bill Clinton’s would have to be, “There is Nothing Like a Dame,” while Hillary is off somewhere trying to learn the

lyrics to “Your Cheatin’ Heart”. Do you think Bess Truman roamed around the White House humming, “I’m Just Wild About Harry?” Could be...But it is less likely that Thomas Jefferson would ever sing “My Gal Sal” when his wife was nearby. If discovered, he would have to do a lot of “hemming” and hawing...pardon the pun. Now the Elvis Presley hit, “Jailhouse Rock,” brings to mind a picture of Martha Stewart sewing curtains for her new cell...That is NOT a good thing, Martha, but maybe a good theme song for her.

Perhaps if Adam had sung “Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree” to Eve, his descendants wouldn’t be in such a sorry state today. Just maybe...For the much-married Liz Taylor, her obvious theme would have to be, “I’m Just A Girl Who Can’t Say No.” When I think of Barbara Streisand, I hear “Nobody NOSE the trouble I’ve Seen”...Whoops! Spell check, please! Ah, judge not, lest ye be judged! The wrongly acquitted O.J. Simpson needs to memorize the words to “It’s a Sin to Tell a Lie,” but wait! Isn’t he

still on the golf course looking for the guilty party? George Bush and Tony Blair could use “Tea for Two” as their theme for the next summit meeting. Evidently, France, Germany, and Russia decided to “Follow the Yellow Brick Road.” Meanwhile, huddled in a cell somewhere, waiting to be tried, is Saddam Hussein listening to his guards singing, “Who’s Sorry Now?”

There are likely hundreds of songs that one could associate with famous people, but the last one that comes to my mind is one that we should all memorize and be proud to sing. Whenever we hear it, or sing it, we must remind ourselves that no matter how tedious or trying these campaigns and elections can be, we are still free to express our opinions and vote freely for our choices, because we live in a land that gives us that right. So the next time you hear or have the opportunity to sing “God Bless America,” put your hand over your heart and proudly claim it as your very own theme song.

-Jan (Lofaro) Boase '50

Class Get-Togethers and Reunions Look How Active I.H.S. Graduates Are!				
Class	Date	Location	Time	Contact Information
1936	Second Tuesday of each month	Country Kitchen	Noon	Lowell Holmgren at 486-8265
1939	Second Tuesday of each month	Country Kitchen	11:00 a.m.	Doreen (Amell) Brown at 486-9473
1940	Second Thursday of each month	Country Kitchen	9:00 a.m.	
1945	July-60th Reunion	TBA	TBA	Ann Marie (Nelson) Hammar at 486-6479
1947	First Friday of each month	Country Kitchen	9:30 a.m.	Barbara (Husby) Nuorala at 486-9283
1948	Last Tuesday of each month	Country Kitchen	9:00 a.m.	Joanne (Belstrom) Gaboury at 485-5261
1949	Second Wednesday of each month	Country Kitchen	9:00 a.m.	Jean (Stone) Johns at 485-4322
1950	Friday, July 1, 2005 (55th Reunion)	Wawonowin Country Club	Noon	Jan (Lofaro) Boase at 486-6966
1950	First Thursday of each month	Country Kitchen	8:30 a.m.	Jan (Lofaro) Boase at 486-6966
1952	Third Monday of each month	Jasper Ridge	Noon	Barbara (Graham) Johnson at 226-0898
1954	Fourth Thursday of each month	Jasper Ridge	11:30 a.m.	Al Chapman at 486-9241
1955	Sunday, July 3, 2005 (50th Reunion)	Ishpeming Elks Club	3-8:00 p.m.	Hors d’oeuvres will be available; cost is \$25 each. The class will also construct a float for the parade.
1955	Second Thursday of each month	Jasper Ridge	Noon	John Ruusi at 339-2315
1958	Third Thursday of each month	Jasper Ridge	Noon	Robert Sihtala at 486-6950
1965	July 2005 (40th Reunion)	TBA	TBA	Carol (Lindberg) Palomaki at 486-9701
1970	July 2005 (35th Reunion)	TBA	TBA	Julie (Rundman) Stream 486-9677
1980	July 2005 (25th Reunion)	TBA	TBA	
1985	Saturday, July 2, 2005. They will also be having monthly meetings.	Ishpeming Elks Club	7:00 p.m.	Lynn (Anderson) French at 486-4526 or e-mail at LYNN85@charter.net . Check yooperalumni.com for updates.

Class of 1954 Donates to Scholarship Fund

Alumni Association President Anthony Bertucci (left) accepts check from Class of 1954 president Jim Ombrello (right). Jim commented “The centennial Class of 1954 celebrated their 50th class reunion on July 3rd, 2004. The Class unanimously voted to donate whatever amount remained of the reunion moneys, after expenses, to the Ishpeming High School Alumni Association. Due to the generosity of an unnamed corporate citizen and the excellent

planning of the reunion committee, the cost of the reunion was less than originally estimated. It is with great pleasure the Class of 1954 is able to present a check in the amount of \$750 to be used for the Alumni Association’s scholarship fund. The Class of 1954 encourages other classes to consider this means for helping finance the work the Alumni Association does in support of our alma mater.”

-Al Goodney '54



Class of 1954 — 50th Reunion

Your Beacon Light

We want you to enjoy your Beacon Light. It is your opportunity to keep abreast of what is happening to old friends, classmates, alumni, and your school.

Any comments and suggestions

are welcome. We especially want to encourage you to send us suggestions for future articles. If you would like to write an interesting story for a future edition, all the better.

Mail all your thoughts to the Alumni Office at Ishpeming High School (address on back) or e-mail them to alumni@ishpemingschools.com

-Terry Thompson '52

Ishpeming High School Alumni Association Donation Form

Date _____

Name (please include maiden name if applicable) _____ Class of _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Alumni Association donation for operating expenses (non-tax deductible)
 —suggested annual donation in the amount of \$25 or more
 (Please make contribution payable to the I.H.S. Alumni Association) \$ _____

Greater Ishpeming Area Community Fund – Ishpeming Alumni Fund
 (tax deductible endowment fund)
 (Please make contribution payable to GIACF – Ishpeming Alumni Fund) \$ _____

DID YOU KNOW?

When we finish our education and move on with our lives in a busy and shrinking world, we tend to lose track of what has been happening back home. We sometimes take for granted the core values our school system instilled in us. We want to keep you informed about how well our schools are doing in preparing new generations of I.H.S. alumni. Did you know that . . .

- I.H.S. has been accredited since 1908, making our graduates sought after by colleges across the country
- About 70% of last year’s graduating class are now enrolled in college
- A 2004 I.H.S. graduate, Katie Perrault, placed third in the nation in the Business Professionals of America Competition in Dallas, Texas
- All of our schools received “A” grades on the Michigan Department of Education Report Cards
- C.L. Phelps School has their own student-operated television station, called “Panther TV”
- There is a Federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) pushing for 100% student proficiency in mathematics and reading. The Michigan Department of Education has determined that all Ishpeming schools have met the Adequate Yearly Progress (ALP) standards.
- The Birchview, Central and C.L. Phelps schools are involved with the “Young Authors” programs (perhaps future contributors to the Beacon Light?)

There are just a few of the reasons that you can be proud of your home town and take special pride in being a “Hematite”.



BEACON LIGHT STAFF

- Teri Lee (Thompson) Arseneau '73
- Anthony Bertucci '01
- Natalie Bertucci '05
- Sue (Bussiere) Blomgren '56
- Al Goodney '54
- Trudy (Maddock) Johnson '65
- Kathy (Korby) Magnuson '67
- Mary (Koski) Morissette '66
- Ellen (Penrose) Roberts '71
- Dorothy (Lammi) Rundman '41
- Terry Thompson '52

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