

CLASS NOTES

Maine West News and Events for and of the Great Class of 1968

AUTUMN 2021



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The 2021 Version of Fall

As I look out the window of my home office, I see that the leaves are not only turning, but they are also falling. That means that this 71-year-old body will have to eventually get outdoors and get those leaves raked up and bagged. When I lived with my family on Orchard Street and Maple Street, we would pile them up at the curb and light 'em up!!! Not only was I physically able to help with that chore (after the appropriate diving into the piles) but I was also able to watch those leaves burn. Of course, at that time we had no knowledge that we could have been doing damage to our lungs and that people that suffered from chronic ailments had a much different view of the smoke-filled neighborhoods. Thankfully, I am still physically able to rake and bag, but now I simply haul the bags to the curb and a big green truck (or is it blue?) picks them up and takes them to a secret place.

As we move into the new season, many changes take place in our weather patterns here in the Midwest. Temperatures drop, winds pick up, and fall rains come in waves; which will eventually turn to snow later on. As I write this editorial,

all of those elements are in full swing: about 50 degrees; strong winds and light rain. Whew!!! Welcome fall. In this version of *Class Notes*, you will find some classmates have shared their favorite fall memories. I'll kick it off by sharing mine. It was all about football. From fourth grade Park District football all the way through my final season at Maine West, the fall was filled with the sights and sounds of the game. The sport still dominates my falls. I only wish that my favorite team could put it together as they did in 1985!!!

Did you know that it has been 57 years that we entered the halls of Maine West High School as little, shy, and inquisitive freshmen? Isn't that hard to believe. In our Music section and history section, I will focus on things that happened and songs that were played on our radios from the fall of 1964.

I am hoping that you and your's are doing well and staying healthy. I know that we are all very, very tired of this COVID thing.

Keep in touch,
JC

The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty. ~ Winston Churchill



Featured Contributors

What do you love about Fall?

Fall is my favorite season because football is my favorite sport. Remembering MW games; being good friends with the players, and Romano's Pizza post-game. Some of the best and most lasting memories of my life revolve around those cold fall days cheering for our Warriors.

~Lindy (Linda North Aavang)

I loved apple picking at Bell's Apple Orchard in Wauconda.

~Linda Wells McNelley

The smell when burning the fall leaves...back in the day when we could do it....that's autumn! Love the colors orange, red, yellow so this is my favorite time of year.

~ Lorrie J. Perrone

Raking leaves with my brothers and then jumping in them, then burning leaves with marshmallows on a stick. I can still smell the glorious smells!

~Elizabeth Dent Wyse

I love the colors and cuddling up in warm socks and a blanket.

~Elizabeth Lorz



Nothing Gold Can Stay

Robert Frost - 1874-1963

Nature's first green is gold,

Her hardest hue to hold.

Her early leaf's a flower;

But only so an hour.

Then leaf subsides to leaf.

So Eden sank to grief,

So dawn goes down to day.

Nothing gold can stay.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 1964

SEPTEMBER

- September 21 – Reds Chico Ruiz steals home, beats Phillies 1-0. Phillies start a 10-game losing streak that gives the Cardinals the pennant
- September 22 – “Fiddler on the Roof” opens at Imperial Theater New York City for 3,242 performances
- September 22 – “Man from U.N.C.L.E.” premieres on NBC-TV
- September 23 – “Munsters” premieres on TV
- September 27 – Warren Commission released, finds Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone

OCTOBER

- October 1 – San Francisco cable cars declared a national landmark
- October 12 – 1st time 3 people in space
- October 14 – Martin Luther King, Jr. wins Nobel Peace Prize
- October 15 – Craig Breedlove sets auto speed record of 526.283 mph
- October 15 – St. Louis Cardinals beat New York Yankees, 4 games to 3 in 61st World Series
- October 17 – Yankees fire Yogi Berra
- October 23 – Time Magazine uses the term “op-art” for the 1st time
- October 25 – Viking Jim Marshall runs 66 yards in the wrong direction for safety
- October 27 – Singers Sonny and Cher wed, Cher wore bell-bottoms

NOVEMBER

- November 3 – Lyndon Baines Johnson defeats Barry Goldwater for president
- November 23 – Beatles release “I Feel Fine” and “She’s A Woman”

DECEMBER

- December 3 – “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” 1st airs on TV
- December 15 – 1st time 4 people in space



**WLS SILVER DOLLAR SURVEY FROM
SEPTEMBER 25 TO DECEMBER 18, 1964**

- Pretty Woman – Roy Orbison
- Do Wah Diddy – Manfred Mann
- The House of the Rising Sun – The Animals
- Last Kiss – J. Frank Wilson
- Remember – The Shangri-Las
- Bread and Butter – The Newbeats
- From a Window – Billy J. Kramer
- Chug-A-Lug – Roger Miller
- Have I the Right – The Honeycombs
- Tobacco Road – The Nashville Teens
- Come a Little Bit Closer – Jay and the Americans
- The Leader of the Pack – The Shangri-Las
- You Really Got Me – The Kinks
- I'm Into Something Good – Herman's Hermits
- She's Not There – The Zombies
- Ringo – Lorne Green
- Ask Me – Elvis Presley
- Mr. Lonely – Bobby Vinton
- I Feel Fine/She's a Woman – The Beatles
- Come See About Me – The Supremes

**HOW MANY OF
THESE DO YOU
REMEMBER?**

Susan's Musans



... Thoughts and Memories from Susan Calabrese DeMerit

It's time to get ready to carve those pumpkins, get the treats ready, and reminisce! Not only about Halloween and all the fun we had, but our high school years. Homecoming, football games, and everything that went with it. Building Homecoming floats, crowning the Homecoming Queen, off to celebrate (win or lose) to Romano's for pizza. They were exciting times! I'm sure many of you have stories to tell...hmmm, or maybe not!

Out of all the seasons, autumn is my favorite. The changing of the foliage to brilliant red, orange, and gold, the falling leaves crunching underfoot, the cool, crisp air....what's not to love?

Remember back, too, when we were in elementary school and the Fun Fairs? How many of you loved the 100 Pocket Lady (at Central School, that was my mom)? Or throwing ping pong balls to win a goldfish, the cakewalk, every room was a different game. And, of course, dressing up for Halloween and parading throughout the school to show off your costumes. We were so fortunate to live in such an amazing time.

May all of you have a fabulous fall season!

Cheers!

SusanC



C-WING:

Carolyn Winging It



Surveys show that a majority of mid-westerners choose fall as their favorite season. Isn't that a bit ironic? After all, fall is the opening act to our least favorite season – winter.

It's late October, and the trees in Illinois this year are still quite green. Fortunately, we are seeing quite a bit of orange. Pumpkins are everywhere! Illinois is the #1 pumpkin-producing state in the United States. To celebrate our top ranking, here is a Pumpkin Pun story. (Remember, puns are supposed to make you groan.)

During the pandemic, my brother Jack gained quite a bit of weight. I now affectionately call him my plumpkin. I told him that I lost 30 pounds during that time, and he just stared at me. I asked,

“Orange you gonna say anything?”

He sneered, “Well, gourd for you.”

Naturally, we started arguing.

Me: I can seed that you're just jealous of my superior abilities.



Jack: You are always putting me down. I

Me: Do you have to vine about everything?

Apparently, I hurt his feelings, so I had to pulp up his ego. “Jack, you are so talented when it comes to detailing cars.”

I could tell he forgave me. “Hey, Sis, shell I squash your filthy car for you?”

So in the end we managed to patch things up. As we parted, I gave him some advice, “If you want to lose weight, eat more protein and cut down on carves.”



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