

The Bandon Notebook: Classes 1913-37 Hold Reunion

By Maggie B.

HI, NEIGHBORS! Sunday afternoon was truly special to many very fine folk! Wayland (Gabby) Byrum and his lovely wife, Rubell, celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary by hosting the FIRST Student Reunion of the old, two-room Elmo School of Tyner, N.C. - Grades 1-7 in operation from 1913-1937. It was held at Gabby's Restaurant, Rt. 17N, Hertford.

At the appointed time, 2 P.M., students of Elmo School and their spouses began to arrive. They were greeted at the door and signed the Guest Book - then, immediately they were transported back to the days of their childhood when they glanced across the room and saw an exact replica of Elmo School gracing one end of the huge buffet table! They could not believe their eyes! But, yes, there it was - a beautifully sculptured cake (3/4" scale model) of the school, complete with the bell in the bell housing atop the roof and trees representing the "thicket" and trees and shrubs surrounding the school! Just as they remembered it - red brick foundation, gray clapboard siding, white trimmed windows, door and columns and wood shingled roof! It was a magnificent work of art - a masterpiece!

Everyone was seated in the large dining room which was "buzzing" with conversation by people who hadn't seen each other in many moons renewing

childhood friendships. A very jovial "Gabby" acted as emcee. After welcoming everyone, he introduced the teachers present. Miss Hazel Owens (1934-35 and 1935-36) expressed her joy at being present to see of many of her pupils. Mrs. Mary Nixon (1927-28) stated that in all the years she was a teacher, she had never taught any better children or received more support from their parents. She stated: "I loved them then and I love them now - they are my people and I love them."

The present occupants of the school house, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edna Asbell, were introduced. "Miss" Jennie Hollowell Asbell told that her mother and father met on the school grounds. She went to Elmo and also her two children. She and her husband moved into the building in 1939 after Mr. Hoffer had renovated it. Then in a few years, the Byrum boys helped them fix it up further, then they added a porch.

"Gabby" told the group that he went to see the Principal, Mr. W. J. Taylor about three weeks ago and "he smelt just like he did when I was a boy. It brought back 45 years. He was still chewing on his ole cigar."

"Gabby" introduced his brothers and all the students of Elmo. His brother, King George, took a mike to each so they could say a few words. There was much bantering back and forth, mischievous tales of pranks pulled on one another were told. Time had been erased

for a while - they were children again, back at Elmo School. Then, each told what they had been doing since leaving Elmo, number of years married, number of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Overall average was 45 years married, 5 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Gabby and Rubell have 4 boys and 4 grandchildren.

While all this was going on, there was a slender, gray-haired man busily taking pictures. "Gabby" called him to the mike then introduced Tony Saks, a semi-retired guitar teacher. He and "Gabby" met 45 years ago and have an engulfing passion in common - a love of music. Tony is the proud owner of a Rickenbacher electric guitar which has been played by and autographed in gold by each of the famous English Rock & Roll Group, The Beatles. Earlier he had photographed Gabby holding this instrument. He showed it to the audience and left it on the stage to be examined by them.

Comments were made by many that they had seen

Reading

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and explained how to read labels and what the information means to us. By reading labels, we were told, we could learn what foods are major sources of nutrients, and how to choose alternate foods.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. John A. Mitchener, 111. Mitchener spoke on school problems and an informal question and answer period followed the talk. He urged all of us to help get out the voters on Tuesday, May 6th, make our votes count to make things happen for better schools in Chowan County.

Mrs. Hollowell served delicious refreshments during the social period.

New-Old Sale Slated

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The American Legion Building on U. S. 17 South business, will host a New-Old Sale, Friday, May 2, from 4 to 10 P.M. and Saturday, May 3, from 8 A.M. until 5 P.M. There will be a mystery give-away drawing on Saturday.

The following Sunday, May 4, at 3 P.M. will be sign-up time for all baseball players from the Albemarle area desiring to tryout for the 1980 Albemarle American Legion Baseball Team. Interested players and their parents are to be at Post 40 by 3 P.M. to meet with Coach Marvin Hunter and Coach Alven Bunch. No player can be 19 years of age by August 1, 1980.

Albemarle American Legion Baseball Booster Club memberships are now being accepted. Booster club members receive free passes to all regular season home games. Membership dues are \$10. Checks should be mailed to P.O. Box 390, Edenton, N.C. 27932.

NEW-OLD SALE

Fri., May 2
4 P.M. Until

Sat., May 3
8 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Hwy. 17 S.
Business, Edenton
American Legion
Post 40 Fairgrounds
Mystery Give-A-Way,
Sat., 4 P.M.

For Support of Albemarle American Legion Baseball

friends they had never expected to see again and everyone was very thankful to be able to be present. They had come from near and far - Charlotte, N.C., Williamsburg, Richmond, Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, Va. and from nearby counties. Approximately 200 were present. "Gabby" expressed his appreciation to everyone who had helped in any way. He and Rubell were given a standing ovation for sharing their Anniversary with childhood friends.

Benediction was given by Mrs. Mary Nixon. The guests then savored the sumptuous buffet spread for their enjoyment. The cake was cut and served by Mrs. Nina Byrum who had baked it "from scratch". It was lovingly decorated by her husband, Jessie. The cake was not only a masterpiece of art - it was absolutely delicious! Everything on the heavy laden buffet table was luscious and plentiful. I've never seen so many platters of country ham biscuits disappear so quickly - but they never ran out!

All the Byrum boys and their wives - James, Jessie & Nina, Moral & Mae, Wayland & Rubell, Hubert & Miriam and King George & Hazel - worked together in love getting all the details worked out for this event and in preparing and serving the food.

Congratulations!! It will be a day long remembered by everyone present.

This glorious Lord's Day dawned bright and beautiful. The waters of the mighty Chowan were slick as glass - Purple Martins were chattering away - squirrels were chasing each other from tree to tree - sounds, scents and the beauty of nature were everywhere! A perfect day for one to go to God's House

to recharge your spiritual batteries! The fine group gathered at Bandon Chapel for Sunday School were joyfully welcomed by Supt. B. Kent Rowley. Mr. Rowley announced that Prayer Meeting will be Tuesday at 7 P.M. followed by Choir Practice at 8 P.M. The BCWG meet on Thursday, starting at 10 A.M. When our Circle of Love was formed after the Children's Dept. and Teen-Age Youth Group joined the adults, it was heartwarming to see the large number of bright and smiling faces as all sang "Blest Be The Tie That Binds".

Prayer List: Miracles happen when God's people pray together. Please add our friends to your prayer list. Tom Blanchard is still confined to Chippenham Hospital, Chippenham Dr., Richmond, Va. following knee surgery; Ray Byrum, brother of Sylvia Biggs, suffered a stroke Wednesday and is confined to Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City; Mrs. Lillian Peters of Hope, N.Y. is out of the hospital and staying with her son until complete recovery; please remember Mary Lou Chick, Owen Pate, Jeannie Church, Wallace Taylor, Bob Harvey, Mrs. Paul Harrell, Dan Darden, our American hostages in Iran and leaders of our Country, our missionaries, Nita Pride, David & Linda Smith, Robin Carson & Mary Catherine Moshos, and our beloved pastor, Dr. Bill and his Sarah.

"Living in the Light of the Promise", II Peter 3:3-13, was the topic for our adults, beautifully taught by Mary (Flagg) Campbell. Aim was that adult Christians wait patiently for the day of the Lord, resisting the temptation to scoff at God's promise.

Dr. W. J. B. Livingston's delightful and inspiring message for our morning Worship Service was "How to Make Every Day a Good Day", Matt. 28:1-10, emphasis on vs 9. When Jesus spoke to the two women he said "Good Morning". Hewas saying that every day should be a good day because Christ is ALIVE. Every day will be a good day when you put Christ FIRST in your life. You need never worry about anything again - God will see to it that your needs are met.

Covered Dish Supper Friday night was super! Many thanks to Clarence and Ada Barnes and to their two daughters, Martha Shirley and Mary Harvey who came down from Portsmouth, Va. Our hosts for May will be Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gregory. Mark your calendars now!

Men's Fellowship Breakfast Saturday morning had a large turnout. They enjoyed a delicious breakfast and heard a fine speaker, Mr. Hugh Clarke. Many thanks to Cecil Gregory and his crew. In May, Trus Bunting and his crew will be hosts.

I would like to express my appreciation to my "Ghost" writer for the fine article he wrote for the Bandon Notebook last week while we were in New Jersey. Also to Butch Smith who played the organ in my absence. My sincere "Thanks" to you both.



The Brazilian palm species *Raphia taedigera* has leaves 70 feet long and 19 feet wide - the largest in the plant kingdom.

Instructor Needed Recreation News

Swimming Instructor Needed:

A certified swimming instructor is needed to teach Beginner and Advanced swimming lessons this summer. Anyone interested should contact the recreation department at 482-8595.

Umpires Needed:

Anyone interested in umpiring Little League or Jr. and Sr. Babe Ruth Baseball, Men's and Women's Softball should contact the recreation department at 482-8595.

Midget Soccer:

	W	L	T
Blue Express	0	1	2
Green Machine	1	0	2
White Lightning	0	0	2

Little League Baseball: Tryouts will be held for all players between the ages of 10-12 which did not play last

year. Tryouts will be held April 28 at 6:30 P.M. on the Little League Field with the draft following at 8 P.M. in the recreation department office. The raindate for the tryouts will be Tuesday, April 29 at the same time. Jr. and Sr. Babe Ruth Baseball:

Tryouts will be held for all players between the ages of 13-15 which did not play Jr. Babe Ruth last year. Tryouts will also be held for players between the ages of 16-18 which did not play Sr. Babe Ruth last year. The tryouts will be held May 7 at 6:30 P.M. on Hicks Field with the draft following at 8:00 P.M. in the recreation department office. If these tryouts are rained out they will be held May 8 at the same time.

Symposium On Reading

Approximately 225 "Right to Read" directors, representing local school systems throughout North Carolina, will gather April 24-25 in Southern Pines for a "culminating symposium," marking the conclusion of the seven-year federal program.

Among those joining the conference, to be held at the Sheraton Motor Inn in Southern Pines, will be Governor Jim Hunt and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Craig Phillips.

Each of the local directors has participated in a Reading Academy, featuring training for leadership in im-

plementation of local Right to Read programs, during the seven years.

Directors will be awarded certificates commemorating their participation in the program and will hear from Shirley Jackson, Director of the National Basic Skills Program with the U. S. Office of Education and former Right to Read director.

The program will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 and will continue through lunch on Friday.

Governor Hunt will speak at Friday's luncheon, to be followed by a ceremony celebrating the development of literacy through the Right to Read Program.

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