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## Elementary Schools – Class of 1954

Hi, classmates. I sent an earlier email about our elementary schools. This email has pictures from our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion on March 7, 2020 with classmates grouped by their elementary schools.

Some of the people at the reunion were having such a good time, that they didn't make it over to the picture area when it was their turn.

### Bayview



Janice Crawley (Elrod) and John Frost.

### Fishweir



Rod Hentz, Stan Cooper, Karen McMillan (Spsychalski), ???, Judy Brown (Donaghy), Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer), Mack Crenshaw, Elaine Perry (Starling), Diane Railey (Curington), Denny Broome, Carol Griswold (Abraham), ???, and Nelson Hilty (Carter).

**Hyde Park**



Dona Meserve (Hice), Sherry Allen (McAlister), Larry Whittington, and Martha Terrell (Baskerville).

**Lackawanna**



Linda Manus (Shiffler), Jim Yarbrough, Kathleen Raulerson (Crook), Butch Driggers, Brenda Harrington (Fields), Martin Denney, Lewis Parrish, and Sonja Vinzant (Harpe).

**Ortega**



Bonnie McGregor (Robeson), Nancy Jenkins (Kinser), Liz Clark (Davis), Bob Cowles, George Martin, Dave Norton, Marian Barnett (Poitevent), Ken Keefe, Sid Linton, and Kingsley McCallum.

**Ruth N. Upson**



Linda Fos (Van Landingham), Arnold Slott, Mary Kay Cowart (Montford), Jack Chancellor, Lewis Parrish, M. R. Simpers, Bob Basford, Linda McLucas (Fisher), Robbie Stedford, Andy Shaw, Eleanor Chance (Baker), John Steed, Mary Pierce (Jordan), and Joyce Helms (Hooker).

**Wesconnett**



Joan Pugh (Avent) and Wendell Davis.

**West Riverside**



Jack Huddleston, Peggy Croom, Larry Kirkman, M. C. Elmore (Harrell), Denny Broome, John Runton, Kaye Johnson (Williams), Diane Railey (Curington), Ray Van Landingham, Mary Kay Cowart (Montford), Audrey Jones (Williams), Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels), Vaden Bessent, Mack Crenshaw, Madelaine Mackoul (Cosgrove), Janice Phillips (Buck), Sid Linton, Larry Harvin, and Vangie Futch (Gault).

**Central Riverside**



Penny Gilberstadt (Smith), Roger Peele, and Mike Carter.

**St. Paul's**



Jim Sullivan and Linda Burch (Hall)

## Lee High School – Class of 1960 – Emails from February 2021

### COMMENTS:

**Mack Crenshaw** said, “This is great, thank you! Thanks for sending those pictures, Larry! I hadn't seen them before! Great memories! Thanks for the magnificent encouragement for us all!”

**Ed Brand** said, “I didn’t realize you went to Hyde Park Elementary. I went to three elementary schools: 1. Ruth N. Upson, grades 1-4. We lived on Astral Avenue, across from the Normandy Drive-In Theater, also adjacent to Brownie’s Drive-in restaurant. My sister Connie and I walked to school. 2. Ramona Elementary was a new school, grade 5. 3. Hyde Park, grade. 6. We had moved from Astral Avenue to St. Johns Avenue. Mrs. McCubbin was my sixth grade teacher. Lake Shore Junior High grades 7-9, then on to Lee High School. BTW, when Lee burned, my brother Richard was stationed at number 10 and his unit was the first to respond to the fire.”

**Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer)** said, “GREAT ... Enjoyed those so much. Thanks Larry.”

**John McDaniel** said, “These are terrific! Unfortunately, I was one of those who was either too busy or more likely didn’t hear the instructions. Let’s do it again at our 70th!”

### Teen Slang

Hi, classmates. Are you up on current teen slang?

For example, what we used to call “cool”, is now “fire”. And, to “cap” is to brag or lie about something, whereas “no cap” is to tell the truth. If someone is “salty”, they are annoyed, upset, or bitter, usually about something minor. And, special codes are used for texting, like L8R for “later” and WYD for “what you doing”.

Of course, we had our own slang while in school. Did you ever use or hear these terms?

Bad News	Depressing person
Barf	To vomit
Bash	A party
Beat Feet	Depart quickly
Big Deal	Who cares?
Big Tickle	Really funny
Blast	Good time
Bogus	False, bad, poor, fake, untrue
Boss	Great
Bread	Money

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Burn Rubber	To accelerate a car hard and fast
Bust A Gut	Laugh very hard
Candy Ass	Wimp or easily scared
Cat	A hip person
Church Key	Can opener
Cloud 9	Really happy
Cooking With Gas	Doing something the best way
Cool	Indefinable quality that makes something or someone extraordinary
Cooler	Jail or another place where you feel locked up
Cool it	Relax, settle down
Cranked	Excited
Crazy	“Like crazy, man.” Implies an especially good thing
Cruising	Driving around looking for action
Cut Out	Leave
Cut A Rug	To dance
Dibs	A claim – as in “got dibs” on that seat
Dig	To understand; to approve
Don’t Have A Cow	Don’t get so excited
Dough	Money
Drag	A short car race; or, a bore
Drowning	Nothing is going right or boredom
Fab	The best of something
Fat City	Great thing or place; Happy
Fink	Someone who tells on you, usually to the police
Flat Out	Fast as you can
Flick	Movie
Flip	To get very excited
Floor It	Push the accelerator to the floor
Frosted	Angry
Gangbusters	Outstandingly excellent or successful
Gas (it was a gas)	Fun, a good time
Get With it	Understand



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Gig	Work, job
Go Ape	Get very excited
Goof	Someone who makes mistakes
Goopy	Messy
Goose It	Accelerate the car fully
Greaser	A guy with tons of grease in his hair
Grody	Sloppy, messy, or dirty
Hang	As in “hang out”, which means to do very little
Haul Ass	Drive very fast
Hip	Someone who is cool, in the know
Hissy Fit	Angry outburst, losing it
Hit The Road	Time to leave
I’ll Clue You	I’ll fill you in
In A Jiffy	In a hurry; I’ll do it now
Jacketed	Going steady
Jazzed	Happy about something, excited
Keen	Good, cool, great
Kick	A fun or good thing
Kill	To really impress
Knock-out	Really good-looking girl
Knuckle Sandwich	Fist in the face
Kookie	Nuts, in the nicest possible way
Loaded	Lots of money, or a drunk
Made In The Shade	Success guaranteed
Make out	A kissing session
Neat	Really cool or good
Necking	Making out, kissing (1st base)
Nifty	Good, cool, or great
No Sweat	No problem
Obtuse	A person that is annoyingly insensitive and hard to understand
Odd Ball	Someone a bit off the norm
Pad	Home

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Parking	Making out in the car, necking
Party Pooper	Someone who is no fun to be around
Passion Pit	Drive-in movie theater
Peachy	Unusually good or fine
Pedal Pushers	1950s version of capri pants
Peel Out	To accelerate a car hard and fast
Petting	Making out, touching (2 <sup>nd</sup> base)
Pop The Clutch	Release the clutch pedal quickly so as to get a fast start
Pound	Beat up
Put A Lid On It	Stop talking; shut up
Put Down	To say bad things about someone
Rag Top	A convertible car
Rattle Your Cage	Get upset
Raunchy	Messy or gross in some other way
Rockin'	Something that was good, a term of approval
Royal Shaft	Badly or unfairly treated
Shades	Sunglasses
Shaft or Shafted	Getting a bad deal
Shiner	Black eye
Shot Down	Failed
Snow job	Attempt to deceive or persuade
Souped up	A car modified to go fast
Spaz	Someone who is clumsy; a klutz
Split	Leave
Square	Person who is old-fashioned and out of touch with cool trends
Stacked	A well-endowed woman.
Swell	Great or wonderful. Can also be used sarcastically
Swinging	Lively, exciting, fun, and fashionable
Tank	A large sedan (usually driven by parents)
Tear Ass	Drive (or go) very fast
Think Fast	Usually said right before someone threw something at you
Threads	Clothes

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Tight	Good friends, or drinking too much
Tops	Something that is the best
Unreal	Exceptional
Upchuck	Vomit or throw up
Wet rag	Someone who is no fun
Wheels	A car
Wicked	Accentuates a word like “wicked” cool, meaning very cool.
Yuck	Annoyance, displeasure, or anything gross
Z’s (get some z’s)	Get some sleep or shut-eye

### COMMENTS:

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “Always fun to hear from you. I remembered a lot of those. One more. What about holy cow?”

NOTE: Holy Cow was an exclamation of surprise. I remember Phil Rizzuto, the Yankees baseball player and later sports announcer, would exclaim “Holy Cow” after a spectacular play. Another announcer, Harry Caray, said he used it to avoid lapsing into vulgarity. And, of course, Robin of Batman fame would also say Holy Cow, along with Holy Mackerel, Holy Smokes, and other Holy variants.

**Al Lyons** said, “Yep, remember these. Still use some today ... stuck in the 50's I guess.”

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “Texting needs it's own dictionary. I'd so much rather talk on a phone. You can lose the true meaning of one sentence in texting because you cant hear the voice or see a face. Causes many misunderstandings.”

**Barbara Jansen (Howay)** said, “Thanks Larry! A lot of these are handy in these crazy, COVID days!”

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, “These are good explanations. I use a lot of these now. How old are your grands? Do you use expressions that they think are "funny" or "off beat" in their world?”

NOTE: I don’t recall our grandkids (6 to 24) saying anything about our strange expressions, but I’ve noticed a few of the older ones on occasion rolling their eyes.

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, “By this measure, I am way out of date!!”

**John Steed** said, “Going over the list really was fun. Thank you for bringing a smile to all of us.”

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**Vaden Bessent** said, “Larry, Thanks. Still remember most of them. Great times.”

**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry, WOW! I didn't remember we had so many expressions. I do remember a couple I don't think I ever had occasion to use, e.g., COOL DADDY COOL, HE'S A REAL GONE CAT, and DADDIO. (Think I remember those from Blackboard Jungle which my mother would have forbidden me to see if she'd known).”

NOTE: Margie, Blackboard Jungle came out in 1955 and I didn't see it until years later. I remember it was considered shocking at the time, portraying an interracial school and juvenile violence.

Larry, I was friends with a girl across the street that was about three years older than me and I went with her. I don't know if they had ratings back then but from what I remember I must have been in about the eighth ninth grade. I remember Vic Morrow in it and thinking thank God our schools are nothing like that. It was sure worlds away from us. Another show similar to that in later years was Up The Down Staircase with Sandy Dennis.

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Still use a lot of these.”

**Tom Miller** said. “We need to keep using these, they're new to many people, so it'll give these sayings and slang a 2nd life or maybe it would be their 3rd or 4th.”

**Al Lyons** said, “Right on, Larry. Groovy.”

### Old Pictures

Hi, classmates. **Ray Van Landingham** sent me these random pictures from our younger days. Do they bring back memories?





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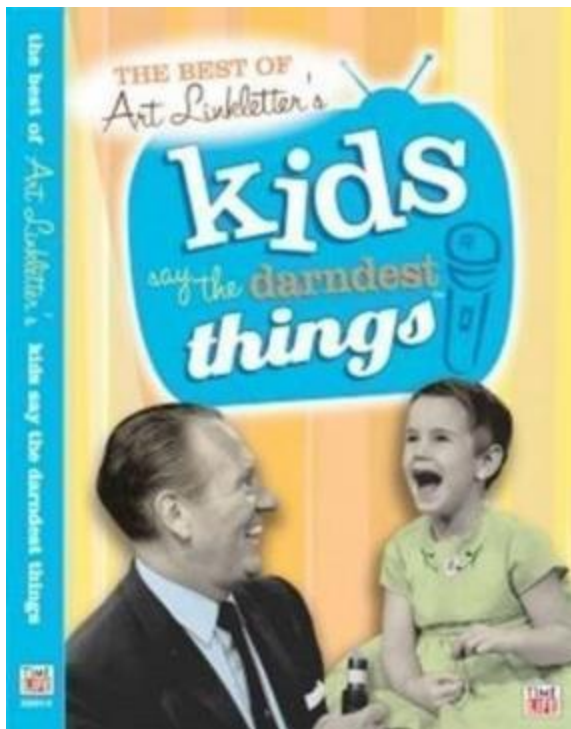








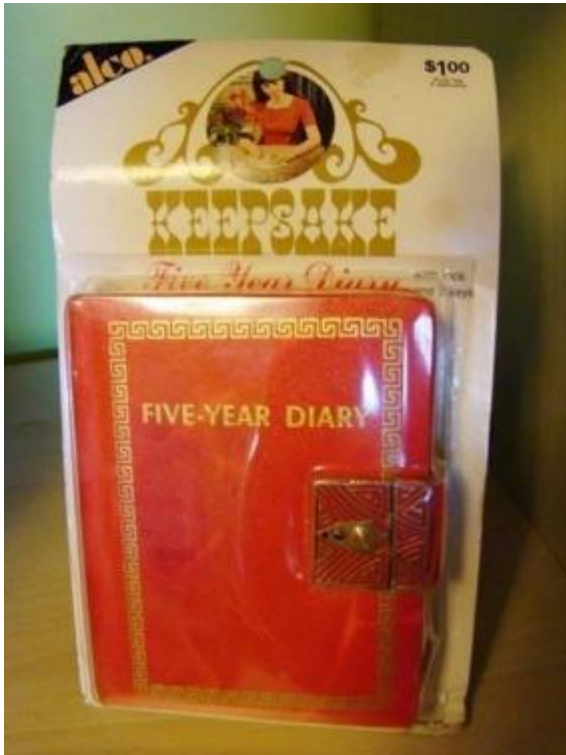








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823  
K474n

AUTHOR Kersh, Gerald

TITLE Night and the city.

Date Due	Borrower's Name	Date Returned
OC 10 '46	Charles Daniel	11/15/46
016 '46	L. G. Mitchell	
F 17 '47	H. Brady	Apr 24 '47
Apr 19 '47	George R. ...	
Nov 19 '47	C. J. Johns	12-16-47
F 4 '48	B. Barker	12-20 '48
115 '48	Patricia Pels	11-15 '48
Apr 22 '49	Madge ...	Dec 20 1948
SE 2 '49	-	-

(Form 16)

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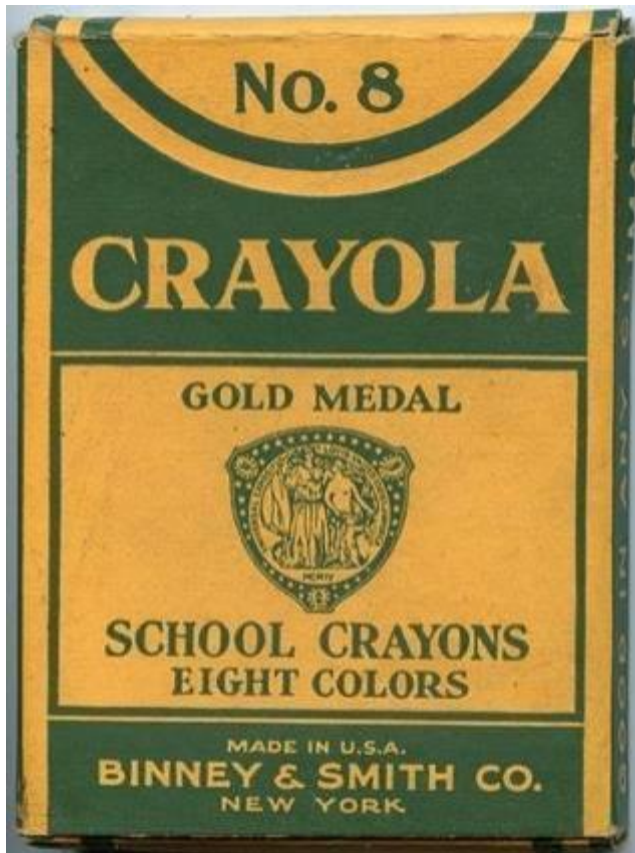
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Lee High School – Class of 1960 – Emails from February 2021



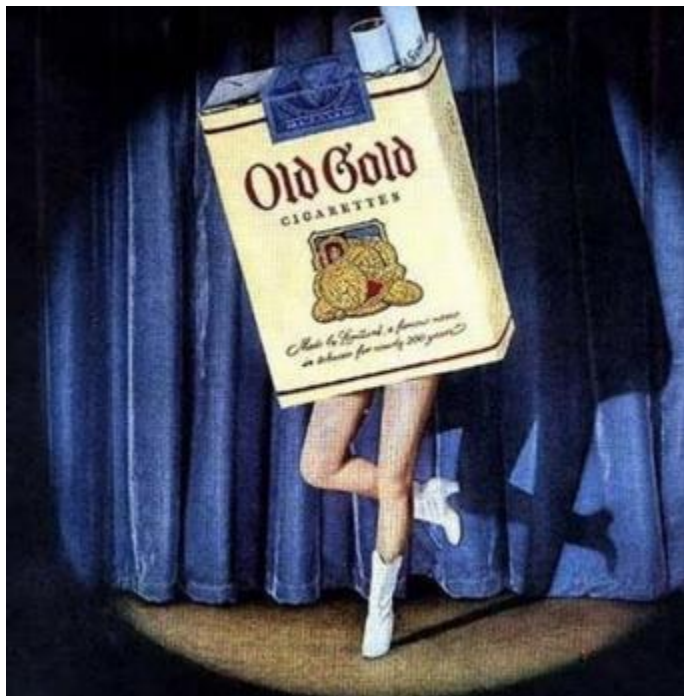




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**COMMENTS:**

**Gary Conklin** said, "Thank you Ray. Those pictures are worth far more than a thousand words."

**Pat Lowrie** said, "Please tell Ray he did an awesome job with the pics back in our day!!! It definitely was going down Memory Lane. Thank you, Larry. You are doing a fantastic job!!!"

**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, "These are great! Thank you."

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, "This is really great!"

**Sharon Knowles (Robichaux)** said, "Thanks for sharing! Great bit of history and loved the picture."

**Audrey Jones (Williams)** said, "Almost all look extremely familiar."

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, "You had to have been on Rensselaer Street at our old home. Even my watch I still have was in the pictures. They have really bought up memories. Thanks for sharing."

**Suzanne McCully (Wallman)** said, "Enjoyed that trip down Memory Lane."

**Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer)** said, "Oh, Larry, you and Ray outdid yourselves with this one!! Thanks again for helping us all keep our sanity."

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**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “That was fun. Thank you. How times have changed.”

**Millicent Carver (Spillars)** said, “Boy did those pictures bring back sweet memories ... Jacks which I loved playing!!! I was surprised Jump Ropes were not on the list. Enjoyed seeing this.”

**Larry Dixon** said, “Love all that you have been sharing ... old pictures included ... such great wonderful memories!!!”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “A lot of these things bring back a lot of memories.”

**Bob Forster** said, “Do you remember these?”



**NOTE:** In 1886, Dr. John Stith Pemberton, a pharmacist and former confederate soldier, produced the first Coca-Cola syrup. On May 8, 1886, he brought a jug of his syrup to a local pharmacy on Peachtree Road in Atlanta. Although most soda fountain drinks cost seven or eight cents at the time, Coca-Cola chose five cents and specifically marketed itself as an affordable option. Pemberton sold his remaining stake in Coca-Cola to Asa Candler in 1888.

In 1899, Benjamin Thomas and Joseph Whitehead, two lawyers from Chattanooga, approached Coca-Cola President Asa Candler about buying Coca-Cola bottling rights. At the time, soda fountains were the predominant way of consuming carbonated beverages.

Candler sold the rights to the two lawyers for one dollar, which he never ended up collecting. It is speculated that Candler sold the bottling rights so cheaply because he truthfully thought bottling would never take off, and he was granted the ability in the contract to "pull their franchise if they ever sold an inferior product". Unfortunately for Candler, the contract at the agreed-upon price had no expiration date, so he had essentially agreed to sell Coca-Cola at the same price forever.

Although Candler predicted differently, bottling did indeed become popular (surpassing fountain sales in 1928), and the non-expiring contract meant that Coca-Cola had to sell their syrup for a fixed price. Coca-Cola was able to renegotiate the bottling contract in 1921.

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However, in part because of the costs of rebranding, the price of Coca-Cola remained at five cents until the late 1950s.

Another reason the price of Coca-Cola remained fixed at five cents was the prevalence of vending machines. Because existing Coca-Cola vending machines could not reliably make change, customers needed to have exact change. They feared that requiring multiple coins (e.g., six pennies or one nickel and one penny for a six-cent Coke) would reduce sales and cost money to implement.

The Coca-Cola Company sought ways to increase the five cent price, even approaching the U.S. Treasury Department in 1953 to ask that they mint a 7.5 cent coin. The Treasury was unsympathetic.

Reluctant to double the price to a dime — the next price achievable with a single coin — they were forced to keep the price of Coca-Cola at five cents. This constraint played a role into the 1950s, when vending machines began to reliably make change.

Inflation had begun to accelerate in the 1940s, making nickel Coke unsustainable. As early as 1950, Coca-Cola prices went up to six cents. In 1951, Coca-Cola stopped placing "five cents" on new advertising material. Coke prices were as high as 6, 7, and 10 cents, around the country. By 1959, the last of the nickel Cokes had been sold.

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, "All those old pictures I loved seeing and they brought back happy memories. Thanks so much for sharing to both you and Ray. You both bring us sunshine."

About this latest text, Candler is well known as a great philanthropist here in GA and mostly Atlanta. So much of the campus of Emory University was donated by him and the Memorial Chapel on campus, a beautiful building bears his name, along with many other buildings and streets. A good man. Thank you both so much."

**Al Lyons** said, "I remember when the soda machine went from 5 cents to 7 cents, and no one seemed to have the two pennies."

### Radio Garden

Hi, classmates. **George Wilke** sent me this link to Radio Garden that is based in Amsterdam, Netherlands: <http://radio.garden/>

Radio Garden says that it "allows you to tune into thousands of live radio stations across the globe. By bringing distant voices close, radio connects people and places. From its very beginning, radio signals have crossed borders. Radio makers and listeners have imagined both connecting with distant cultures, as well as, re-connecting with people from 'home' from thousands of miles away."

You can search for radio stations in a specific country and city, or for a specific station. Or, you can turn the globe and zoom in on a particular region. The green dots on the earth map

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represent thousands of radio stations all over the world. Click on any dot and you will immediately hear that station with good reception.

Warning: I found myself strolling all over the planet listening to music stations in different countries. It's addicting.

### COMMENTS:

**Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer)** said, "This is just wonderful ... I'm enjoying this immensely. Thanks once again, Larry"

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, "Wow."

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, "How interesting. Thanks George."

**Terry Ward** said, "Radio Garden is great fun and certainly habit-forming. Thanks for sending."

### Comic Books

Hi, classmates. Were you an avid reader of comic books? Were boys bigger fans of comic books than girls? Did you ever read them at the store without paying for them? Did you loan or swap comic books with your friends?

Cartoons appeared in newspapers as comic strips during the late 1800s. During our childhood, we referred to the comics section as the "funny pages". They were in black and white during the week and in color on Sundays.

The first comic books were published in the United States in the 1930s. They were originally humorous, but then expanded into stories of romance, crime, and horror.

In 1953, the U.S. Senate created a sub-committee to investigate the problem of juvenile delinquency. The Comics Code Authority (CCA) was created for self-censorship by comic book publishers. They were forbidden to use "terror" or "horror" in comic book titles. They were forbidden from depicting zombies, werewolves, and other gruesome characters.

As a result, comic books such as Tales of the Crypt were canceled in 1955. The Mad comic book became Mad Magazine in 1955 to avoid the CCA restrictions.

During our childhood, fantastic superheroes were the main subjects of comic books. The dates listed below are for their initial publication runs. Which ones were your favorites?

- Superman (1938-1985) – Superman is "*faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive.*"
- Superboy (1949-1977) – Superboy was the teenage incarnation of the Man of Steel.

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- Batman (1939-2020) – Batman has no superpowers; relies on intellect, fighting skills, and wealth. Robin joined in 1940.
- Green Lantern (1941-1949) – Fights evil with the aid of a ring that grants him a variety of extraordinary powers.
- Captain Marvel (1953-1982) – An alien officer named Mar-Vell who gains superpowers on earth.
- Wonder Woman (1942-1986) – *“Beautiful as Aphrodite, wise as Athena, stronger than Hercules, and swifter than Mercury.”*
- Aquaman (1941-1971) – Aquaman could breathe under water and control fish.
- Hawkman (1940-1951) – Hawkman had large artificial wings and used archaic weaponry.
- Plastic Man (1941-1956) – Plastic Man could stretch his body into any imaginable form.
- Captain America (1941-1950) – Captain America was a patriotic super soldier.

We also read humorous comic books:

- Archie (1950-1987) – Archie was in a love triangle with Betty and Veronica. Others characters were Jughead and Reggie.
- Blondie and Dagwood (1947-1976) – Blondie was Dagwood Bumstead’s wife. He created the tall “Dagwood Sandwich”.
- Bugs Bunny (1941-1983) – With characters Elmer Fudd, Sylvester Pussycat, and Porky Pig.
- Donald Duck (1942-2017) – With characters Daisy Duck and Donald’s nephews Huey, Dewey, and Louie.
- Uncle Scrooge (1952-1984) – Donald’s rich uncle who sought more wealth through adventures.
- Denise the Menace (1953-1982) – The five year old Dennis and his Mitchell family lived next to the Wilsons.

Did you ever secretly read comics books at night using a flashlight under your bed covers? Did your mother throw out your comic books when you got older? Mine did, along with my baseball cards. Oh, Mom!

I asked earlier if you’d ever read comic books at the store so you wouldn’t have to buy them. If the store manager saw you sitting down to read, he’d run you off. I was doing this at my neighborhood store and trying to keep an eye out for the store manager, when I saw a woman push over a big stack of coke cases, start yelling, and then lay down on the floor. When the store manager came over, she said she was going to sue the store. I told him what I saw and she ran away. He told me I had a lifetime pass to read his comics books.

### COMMENTS:

**Paul Genho** said, “You forgot Dick Tracy ... read comic books at the barber shop. My brother would play the pinball machine. I thought the big pile of comics were more enticing.”

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NOTE: How did I overlook Dick Tracy? His two-way wrist radio inspired the invention of the mobile phone.

**Larry Dixon** said, “Wow! Yes indeed, all of those comic books that I could find or see in store. Did in secret because Mom believed comics were bad for me and being shy I was not sure it was a guy thing so did not want anyone to know. Very successful "sneak"... did some at home because my little brother was my look out until he wanted to get into comics himself ... we learned to look out for each other ... shhhhh ... if I send this email, my secret will be known. Have fun!!!

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, Great one Larry. I don't really remember buying them or trying to read in the drugstores. However, I loved Archie, Dennis the Menace, and Blondie. Always read the funnies in the newspaper. We had a screen and projector that Dad used to play for the younger kids cartoons of Donald Duck, Bugs Bunny, Popeye and many more, so got my fill of those.

Seems to me boys, back then, collected Comics like they did baseball cards. Don't remember any girls collecting items like that. That was fun reminiscing!

**Tom Miller** said, “All are DC comics, and I think I subscribed to them all. Superman, Batman, and then there were Action Comics and Adventure Comics. One of the latter two included Superboy and other super people like Aquaman and Green Arrow, I think, and not sure about the characters in the other — maybe Supergirl.

There was Capt. Marvel, Mary Marvel and Cast. Marvel Junior — not sure if all under the same title. Blackhawk, maybe my favorite, was another I subscribed to. This guy, an American, had a group of guys who fought evil — a Frenchman, a German, a Pole and maybe one or two other foreign team members. They all had jet fighters and other weapons of the mid-'50s.

My aunt gave a subscription to Disney Comics. Almost too tame for me.”

NOTE: I didn't know there were comic book subscriptions. Did you get them earlier than the newsstand issues or at a better price?

I probably got them earlier, but it was certainly more convenient. There was a World War 3 comic book. One issue's cover showed a jet bomber dropping a bomb on Moscow, another showed our troops coming down or hovering individually with a single rotor for each one. I read comic books mainly in the early to mid-'50s. Big concerns about war back then — remember the Red Menace cards? Kind of like baseball cards. Tarzan was another good comic book.

**Fran Nelson** said, “Yes! Comic books! I loved them! Weren't they 10 cents? I loved Archie and Little Nancy. Also, the Sunday funnies were a favorite.”

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NOTE: The Nancy comic strip was originally called Fritzi Ritz, but over several years, the focus changed from ditzzy Fritzi to her niece Nancy. Interestingly, it was a “Larry Whittington” that began *Fritzi Ritz* in 1922, and it was assumed by Ernie Bushmiller three years later. In 1933, Bushmiller introduced Fritzi's niece, Nancy. In 1949, he was quoted as saying that he originally intended Nancy “just as an incidental character and I planned to keep her for about a week and then dump her ... but the little dickens was soon stealing the show and Bushmiller, the ingrate, was taking all the bows.”

**Vangie Futch (Gault)** said, “Well, Larry, I officially deem you “Wonder Man” as I am continually amazed, and intrigued, by your posts, which might be called a blog ... Ponderings from Lee High Class of 1960. Thanks for collecting, then organizing, all these thoughts and memories, and mentioning classmates’ names that flash through my mind as they were back then: young and vibrant. Well done, Larry! Will look forward to more.”

**Warren Rachels** said, “Interesting about the first list of comic books – In 2006 (\$0.39) the Postal Service issued a pane of 20 stamps for DC Comics Superheroes – The Heroes and their covers were: Superman, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Batman, Plastic Man, Aquaman, and Hawkman – In 2007 (\$0.41) the Postal Service featured Marvel Comics Superheroes which included Captain America – Batman in 2014 (\$0.49) and Wonder Woman in 2016 (\$0.47) were featured individually by the Postal Service – Thought you might enjoy this bit of postal history.”

**Elaine Perry (Starling)** said, “Did anyone mention Mad Magazine? My favorite.”

**Louis Andre** said, “MAD magazine - We have 3 somewhere in our studio. One is perfect with the cover and 2 more with the covers that are off, but with the magazines. I think we could still find them. Lenora can probably find them because the studio is hers. They had to have been mine. So not sure if they were out when we were in school.”

**Al Lyons** said, “Love it. I think all of these emails are helping with my memory.”

**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry, my friends Carol Passmore, Vivian McCullough, and me used to sit under the trees in Carol's backyard and read Mary Jane and Sniffles ( I think Sniffles was a mouse if I remember correctly) comic books. She would recite a little rhyme and become as small as Sniffles. Of course we loved Archie and the gang comic books. My favorite comic strip was “ Brenda Starr” but I also loved Mary Worth, Mary Perkins, Snuffy Smith, Dagwood and Blondie, Orphan Annie and Dick Tracy and Mike Nomad. My brother and I would fight over who read the funny paper first. The loser always got to read the back of the cereal boxes and see the latest you could order from Battle Creek, Mich. ( like the submarine that was fueled by baking soda). Then we'd argue over whose turn it was to get the prize out of the cereal box.”

NOTE: When the Mary Jane and Sniffles series debuted, Mary Jane would sprinkle herself in magic dust and chant, “Magic sand, magic sand, make me small at my command!” At times, she'd vary her pleas to the powder, “Oh, magic sand upon me fall, and make me very, very small!”



After eight years in print, the magic sand was no longer necessary, and Mary Jane murmured, "First I shut my eyes real tight, then I wish with all my might! Magic words of poof, poof, piffles, make me just as small as Sniffles." And with a cross of her fingers, she'd become miniscule like Sniffles the mouse.

## Part-time Jobs

Hi, classmates. Some of us had part-time jobs on school days, on weekends, or over the summers. The minimum wage while we were at Lee High School was \$1.00 per hour. It seems most of my wages went for gasoline, movies, drive-in food, and corsages for my dates.

According to the 1960 census, 30% of high school age boys had part-time jobs, while 16% of girls that age had part-time jobs. However, the girls were underrepresented in the study because their babysitting jobs weren't included.

Lee had a Diversified Cooperative Training (DCT) program of mostly girls where the students would leave after lunch to work in primarily retail and office jobs.

My part-time jobs in 1957-1960 were:

- Kerosine delivery on the winter weekends
- City road paving crew during the summer
- Jacksonville main library during the summer

My first job was during elementary school. I distributed flyers for an auction house. The owner would drop me off in nearby neighborhoods and pick me up later. My parents thought I was off playing somewhere. I tried to get a job as a caddie at the Hyde Park Golf Course but was told I was too young.



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I also collected bottles along the roadside and returned them to stores for the 2 cents refund. I later mowed lawns to make money. Although I never delivered newspapers, George Wilke did talk me into helping him fold papers a few early mornings.

In talking with **Warren Rachels**, he said, “At 16 I was working for the City of Jacksonville Recreation Department as an umpire in the Over 55 Twilight Slow Pitch Methodist and Jewish leagues. Methodist league played Monday and Wednesday. Jewish league played Tuesday and Thursday. Games were limited to 55 minutes. Teams could only have three players under age 55. A double header was played every day. Umpires were allowed to work a max of two (2) days a week which amounted to four (4) games. The pay was \$10.00 per game per umpire. Each game had two (2) umpires. I usually worked the max of four (4) games per week. Was paid like other City employees, by check. During the Spring and Summer months, I was earning \$40.00 before deductions. As a side note, I umpired until my late 50’s up to and including college. I really enjoyed umpiring.”

We previously heard that **Ray Van Landingham**, **Dee Hargett**, and **Larry Kirkman** were soda jerks. **John McDaniel** had a job at Loy Lewis Men’s Furnishings in the Cedar Hills Shopping Center. **Jerry Hays** worked at Tad’s. **Louis Andre** worked at Joseppi’s and Pop Berrier’s. **Julia Beason (Day)** sold tickets at the Dixie Theater and **Linda Royal (Bradley)** worked the concession stand. Julia also sold tickets at the Murray Hill Theater and Linda worked the snack bar. **Jim McDaniel** was an usher at the Imperial Theatre.

*Did you have a part-time job during your school years?*

According to a study, teens today are less likely to work part-time. The study said the reason is that school is more demanding than in our time, along with more homework. However, it does seem that teenagers can find plenty of time for texting and social media.

### COMMENTS:

**Larry Kirkman** said, “Set pins at bowling alley in Avondale; had two paper routes, one in Avondale; dish washer at Joseppi’s Pizza; bag and stock boy at Setzer’s Grocery; and soda jerk at College Pharmacy. These jobs gave me an opportunity to buy my first car that Barbara and I dated in ... a 1950 Packard.”

**Patsy Avinger** said, “I was a lifeguard at Good Shepherd Pool on Stockton Street.”

**Brenda Harrington (Fields)** said, “I was one of the 16% of girls that had a part-time job during high school. I got my work permit at age 16 and could not wait to be earning my spending money. I worked in downtown Jacksonville at F. W. Woolworth 5 & 10 cent store in the toy department. I loved it, especially during Christmas. I had a great time being able to buy presents for my entire family with money I had earned and saved.

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I also filled in at the Dixie Theater a couple of times behind the concession stand. I don't remember getting paid, but just helping out one of my bff's, **Julia Beason** (Day). I do remember getting to see "Lil Abner" free 3 - 4 times. What memories! Work ethics were instilled early in our generation."

**Bob Cowles** said, "In my early years (Junior High), I sat pins at the bowling alley in Avondale until I was fired. There was no one in there so I was playing the pin ball machine. Someone came in and Mr. Mannasa told me to go set pins. I told him I had some games I won which I wanted to play. He told me to leave and that my time was up working with him. Early lesson!!

**Ray Van Landingham** and I worked cleaning the playgrounds for the City. Again, I got a bad break. I had to use the cutter and get all the weeds and he got to use the riding mower. Then in high school, we worked for the railroad one summer as a fireman. I got to sit up in the main engine once on a trip to Miami and back on the Silver Meteor.

Probably the most interesting job was when Ray and I went down to the Daytona Beach raceway after the Firecracker 500. It was our job to drive a couple of courtesy cars back to Jacksonville to a local dealer who provided them for use at the race track. When we got there Mr. Bill French, the first President of the racetrack, asked us if we wanted to ride up on the track with him. We accepted and it was a memory to remember."

**Rusty Russ** said, "Thank you again for your continued historical trips to the past to the days of Robert E. Lee. As far as employment back then, I began working at 15 years old at a Winn-Dixie Store at Venetia as a bagboy on the weekends, and a few nights during the week, where the beginning wage was \$.50 per hour, a year later raised to \$.75 and eventually \$1.00. I was also known to mow a few yards as well for a few dollars."

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, "My senior year I was in DCT. Worked at the State Bank in the Peninsula building downtown. I thought I was grown up. It was good experience and down the road in 1968 I went to work for Seaboard Coast Line, which became CSX. I retired after 34 years."

**John Frost** said, "I worked two summers for the Jacksonville Recreation department. Had to report to the Gator Bowl for work. One summer I took tolls on the Mathews Bridge and also worked at the Gates men clothing store downtown. My first job at about 12 years old was delivering groceries for a little store across from the Methodist Church on Blanding."

**Jim Terrell** said, "My first job was sweeping out trailers at a sales lot off Roosevelt Blvd. Prospective buyers would track sand in, and my job was to clean up after they left. You may remember that I later pumped gas at Wetherington 66. And, I had a paper route, which I threw from my bicycle.(I couldn't afford a scooter like Wilke).

A story that is funny now, but wasn't then, about my job at Wetherington 66. I was working on July 4<sup>th</sup>. **George Wilke** and **Paul Crook** came by headed for Strickland's Landing. They didn't

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have money for gas, and asked me to pump \$2 worth, and pay for it (with the promise to pay me back. ) I learned later they picked my girl friend up (**Pat Crawford**) and took her to the lake. Paul had a date with **Pat Waldron**. I was not happy.”

**George Wilke** said, in response to Jim Terrell, “That scooter was very, very inexpensive, plus I think they let me finance it for 30 years ... cause I had that paper route. Larry did help me fold papers. He was so good at it that I thought he’d do it for life, but he chose to work for IBM (probably got a job with them as a paper folder, which I trained him to do).

Now the story about the girl friend thing is not exactly the way I remember it. I had just made a scooter payment and was short of funds, plus Terrell asked me to take her to the lake and I had to get the car from Paul, who was the rich one at the time, so Terrell asked if he could pay for the gas because he knew about the scooter payment completely draining me. It was Crook’s idea to go to the lake cause he was getting swimming lessons from some guy he had met the year before while he was out mowing his lawn and the guy came by and mentioned how much he liked fat boys when they were out mowing. I think we were on the way to the service station when we passed Pat Crawford who was out hitchhiking for some reason and asked for a ride. So, that’s the way I remember the story. I notice Terrell forgot some of the important details. Crook was supposed to pay him back for the gas once he learned how to swim.”

**Ed Rukab** said, “I worked in my family-owned grocery store on Edison Avenue and another on Stockton Street across from John Gorrie. My starting salary was \$3.00 per week.”

**Jim Teston** said, “When I was 12, my Dad asked if I wanted an allowance. I said that I would rather he sign for me to buy a lawn mower. This started my first part-time job. That summer, I bought and paid for three lawn mowers, each one a little different for mowing different types of lawns. I ended that year with 20 customers.

When I was in high school, I worked part time at Pop Berrier’s Drive Inn for the minimum hourly wage of \$1.00. However, every Saturday night the same four people, two couples, came in, always somewhat tipsy, and I would wait on them. The great thing about them, they always gave me a \$20.00 tip. That was fantastic back then.”

**Bob Weldon** said, “Worked as a bag boy at Winn Dixie in Cedar Hills.”

**Mike Durden** said, “I did have some part-time jobs, grocery store clerk, bagger, to Sears downtown in our senior year, part of the DCT program. However, my best paying jobs were playing my drums with different bands around North Florida and South Georgia. I still have a drum set in my home office and still like to rock out! Thanks for keeping us challenged and entertained!”

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “Soda fountain and other areas at AB Williams Drug Store. Who remembers cherry cokes, vanilla cokes. and chocolate cokes?”

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**Ray Van Landingham** said, “Starting in grammar school, I helped fold and deliver newspapers and then got my own routes. First route was about 95 customers. Second 150. I threw the Jacksonville Journal in the afternoons Monday thru Saturday. On Saturday mornings I would collect 30 cents for a week, \$1.30 for month. Had a route book to keep track of who paid what and when. Folded the papers in an old barn at McDuff and Remington, near Lee. Made enough money to buy a Schwinn three speed racer with thin tires.

At sixth or seventh grade, I sold my route and bought a Toro gasoline powered push mower. Made more money and had flex time. At another time, I worked at the Friendly store at McDuff and Roosevelt. It was a small convenience store with a soda fountain. Also worked at Thigpens laundry on the corner of Willow Branch and Post on Saturdays and sometimes after school where I took care of customers at the drive through and even washed and dry folded clothes. They charged by the pound.

Like you Larry, I also helped deliver home heating oil as well as delivering auto parts. During one summer, **Bob Cowles** and I worked for 6 or 8 weeks with the city recreation department. We reported to the north end of the Gator Bowl. I drove a tractor from there to various city parks where we mowed and cleaned up. Bob road in a truck to the parks and raked or used a long handled sickle to cut weeds around trees or in areas we couldn’t mow. No power lawn tools in those days.

Bob and I also worked one summer for ManPower doing various odd day jobs like unloading freight cars. Bob and I also drove little imported foreign cars (Hillmans and another brand) from the Talleyrand docks to an auto storage yard on Stockton street. On one memorable trip, Bob and I drove brand new Oldsmobile convertibles to Daytona Speedway and met Bill France who gave us a slow ride around the speedway. The cars were to be used by GM officials and others for speed week.

The summer after my Freshman year in College, I went for a week of classes to train to sale Vita Craft cookware to young working girls for their hope chest. I didn’t last long as I didn’t like the high-pressure sales, but I learned a lot about sales and developed sales resistance. The next summer, Bob got us a job at the Seaboard Airline Railroad on north McDuff at Beaver. We worked on locomotives in the yard I was a fireman and Bob a switchman. We made a \$24.60 per day for an eight-hour shift.

Sorry for the long reply but you got me remembering all sorts of things. I learned a lot from some of these experiences, especially as a newspaper boy.”

**Millicent Carver (Spillars)** said, “Well, I was the lazy teenager. Never had a job until I was hired at Blue Cross-Blue Shield on Riverside Avenue after graduation in 1960 from Lee High School. I think my salary started at about a big \$44.00. However, that amount would buy a lot more back then than today.”

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**Vaden Bessent** said, “I worked as a carpenter apprentice, summer camp counselor, and as a clerk for the railroad.”

**George Martin** said, “My first serious summer job was with the City of Jacksonville. On Friday afternoons, I’d often get my \$40 paycheck cashed at the neighborhood drugstore, Ortega Pharmacy. And the check had “Sewer Department” in bold letters at the top. It was then the beloved pharmacist, Bill Carter, bestowed the moniker “Ed Norton” on me and it stuck. I last saw him during a visit at the time of our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion. He was into his 90s and still holding court at the soda fountain. When he looked up with the old familiar Ralph Kramden greeting, “Hey, Norton” ... it was 1958 and “deja vu all over again”. I look back on those summer jobs and experiences with gratitude and fond memories. And, I’m still pretty good with a shovel.”

**Jim Moore** said, “Larry, thanks for all you are doing for us to bring back great memories. I had several part-time jobs in high school. My first and the longest lasting one was cutting grass for 25 to 50 cents a yard. I delivered groceries for Padgett's and Pridgen's groceries stores on Edgewood Ave. Working for Edison Ave. Hardware Store for several years was great also. It was really a salvage store - never knew what they might have to sell from week to week. Got to drive a flat bed truck! Worked in A&P grocery store across from Penny's for a month. Got fired - deserved it. Great lesson.

Last, but certainly not least, I joined a United States Marine Corps Reserve helicopter squadron (H- 34's for you military geeks) between my junior and senior year. One morning during a "coming to Jesus" moment (we were falling out of the sky), I went from a cocky 19 year old Marine to a no-nonsense responsible adult Marine. Being a practicing Christian definitely comes in handy at times. My Marine Corps experiences led me to a US Navy Dental Corps career (oral surgeon). I know you didn't ask for all of this but just felt like it. Being a senior is great sometimes. You can say or do what you want. Keep your feet on the ground and your eyes on the cross.”

**Kaye Johnson (Williams)** said, “I had a summer job (1958-1960) working at Murray Hill Barnett Bank in the bookkeeping department. I filed checks and made copies of them before they were filed. In those days, we had to put the checks in alphabetic order by signature and then file them. I learned how to work the bookkeeping machines (it was like learning to drive a gear shift car) and would help with posting on the accounts. It was a great experience.

I did babysitting. My earliest "job" was when I was between the ages of 8 and 11 at my mother's ice cream parlor across from the Edgewood Theater. I would stand on a wooden Coca-Cola bottle box and wash silverware and other unbreakable utensils. I was paid in ice cream cones, what a job. One summer on weekends, Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer) and I would answer phones at the radio station WAPE when they were having contests on the radio. Thanks for bringing back all these memories.”

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**Bob Forster** said, "I worked at the San Marco library during our senior year until the week before college. Since I did not drive, it took two different bus rides to get there and two to get back home. There were three of us from different high schools."

**Jerry Hays** said, "I delivered papers in Cedar Hills. It paid for my first car, a 1953 Ford convertible. That was before I got a job at Tad's diner on Riverside."

**Joan Pugh (Avent)** said, "Yes! Of course, babysitting. I had a list of 6 sitters and would coordinate them to cover the many squadron parties from both the Naval Air station and Cecil Field! Then I worked at the hospital in the lab as a lab assistant on Friday evening and weekends!"

**Larry Dixon** said, "I worked summers during high school years in the printing department of the downtown Jacksonville Atlantic National Bank, setting type and printing books of checks for new customers ... fun but busy and at times hectic."

**Al Lyons** said, "I remember setting pins at a bowling alley. After about 5 games, I could afford a hot dog. Also, I cut grass for some neighbors. A few gave me \$1.50 !!! I was "rich" and could buy a model plane or a train car to put together."

**Louis Andre** said, "I had a large paper route off Camille Avenue and Cassatt Avenue for about three years. At 4:00 AM, I would go fold papers at the corner of San Juan and Blanding in an old service station. Also worked at Easterling's Drug Store, Joseppi's Pizza, and Pop Berrier's Drive Inn while in school."

**Russ Burns** said, "I worked at Khoury Brothers wholesale dry goods downtown as a stock boy."

### Doo Wop Quiz

Hi, classmates. Carl Cochran, Lee High School Class of 1958, sent me this Doo Wop Quiz. Can you pass? By the way, he said no cheating ... Ms. Durrance is watching.

#### The definition of 'Doo Wop' began in 1954 and ushered in rock and roll ...

1. When did "Little Suzie" finally wake up?
  - (a) The movie's over, it's 2 o'clock
  - (b) The movie's over, it's 3 o'clock
  - (c) The movie's over, it's 4 o'clock
2. "Rock Around the Clock" was used in what movie?
  - (a) Rebel Without A Cause
  - (b) Blackboard Jungle
  - (c) The Wild Ones

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3. What's missing from a Rock & Roll standpoint?

Earth \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Angel
- (b) Mother
- (c) Worm

4. "I found my thrill ..." Where?

- (a) Kansas City
- (b) Heartbreak Hotel
- (c) Blueberry Hill

5. "Please turn on your magic beam \_\_\_\_\_ bring me a dream,"

- (a) Mr. Sandman
- (b) Earth Angel
- (c) Dream Lover

6. For which label did Elvis Presley first record?

- (a) Atlantic
- (b) RCA
- (c) Sun

7. He asked, "Why's everybody always pickin' on me?" Who was he?

- (a) Bad, Bad Leroy Brown
- (b) Charlie Brown
- (c) Buster Brown

8. In Bobby Darin's "Mack The Knife," the one with the knife, was named:

- (a) Mac Heath
- (b) Mac Cloud
- (c) McNamara

9. Name the song with "A wop bop a loo bop a lop bam boom."

- (a) Good Golly, Miss Molly
- (b) Be-Bop-A-Lula
- (c) Tutti Frutti

10. Who is generally given credit for originating the term "Rock and Roll"?

- (a) Dick Clark
- (b) Wolfman Jack
- (c) Alan Freed

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11. In 1957, he left the music business to become a preacher:

- (a) Little Richard
- (b) Frankie Lymon
- (c) Tony Orlando

12. Paul Anka's "Puppy Love" is written to what star?

- (a) Brenda Lee
- (b) Connie Francis
- (c) Annette Funicello

13. The Everly Brothers were ...

- (a) Pete and Dick
- (b) Don and Phil
- (c) Bob and Bill

14. The Big Bopper's real name was:

- (a) Jiles P. Richardson
- (b) Roy Harold Scherer Jr.
- (c) Marion Michael Morrison

15. In 1959, Berry Gordy, Jr., started a small record company called...

- (a) Decca
- (b) Cameo
- (c) Motown

16. Edd Brynes had a hit with "Kookie, Kookie, Lend Me Your Comb". What TV show was he on?

- (a) 77 Sunset Strip
- (b) Hawaiian Eye
- (c) Surfside Six

17. In 1960 Bobby Darin married:

- (a) Carol Lynley
- (b) Sandra Dee
- (c) Natalie Wood

18. They were a one hit wonder with "Book of Love"

- (a) The Penguins
- (b) The Monotones
- (c) The Moonglows

19. The Everly Brothers sang a song called "Till I \_\_\_\_\_ You."

- (a) Loved
- (b) Kissed
- (c) Met



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20. Chuck Berry sang "Oh, \_\_\_\_\_, why can't you be true?"

- (a) Suzie Q
- (b) Peggy Sue
- (c) Maybelline

21. "Wooly \_\_\_\_\_"

- (a) Mammouth
- (b) Bully
- (c) Pully

22. "I'm like a one-eyed cat ..."

- (a) can't go into town no more
- (b) sleepin' on a cold hard floor
- (c) peepin' in a seafood store

23. "Sometimes I wonder what I'm gonna do ..."

- (a) cause there ain't no answer for a life without booze
- (b) cause there ain't no cure for the summertime blues
- (c) cause my car's gassed up and I'm ready to cruise

24. "They often call me Speedo, but my real name is ..."

- (a) Mr. Earl
- (b) Jackie Pearl
- (c) Milton Berle

25. "Be Bop A Lula ..."

- (a) she's got the rabies
- (b) she's my baby.
- (c) she loves me, maybe

26. "Fine Love, Fine Kissing ..."

- (a) right here
- (b) fifty cents
- (c) just for you

27. "He wore black denim trousers and ..."

- (a) a pink carnation
- (b) pink leotards
- (c) motorcycle boots

28. "I got a gal named ..."

- (a) Jenny Zamboni
- (b) Gerri Mahoney
- (c) Boney Maroney

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### Answers:

1. (c) The movie's over, it's 4 o'clock
2. (b) Blackboard Jungle
3. (a) Angel
4. (c) Blueberry Hill
5. (a) Mr. Sandman
6. (c) Sun
7. (b) Charlie Brown
8. (a) Mac Heath
9. (c) Tutti Frutti
10. (c) Alan Freed
11. (a) Little Richard
12. (c) Annette Funicello
13. (b) Don and Phil
14. (a) Jiles P. Richardson
15. (c) Motown
16. (a) 77 Sunset Strip
17. (b) Sandra Dee
18. (b) The Monotones
19. (b) Kissed
20. (c) Maybelline
21. (b) Bully
22. (c) peepin' in a seafood store
23. (b) cause there ain't no cure for the summertime blues
24. (a) Mr. Earl
25. (b) she's my baby
26. (a) right here
27. (c) motorcycle boots
28. (c) Boney Maroney

### COMMENTS:

**Bob Forster** said, "Larry, what a neat quiz. I missed a few answers though. Up until some years ago the oldies radio station would broadcast some of these tunes."

**Jack Chancellor** said, "Larry - Great nostalgia ... I only missed 3. Do not remember Alan Freed."

**Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels)** said, "This was fun ... didn't do too well."

NOTE: Beth Ann, you should have been listening to the radio more and studying less.

Beth Ann replied, "I think you are right. I didn't know I would be quizzed 60 years later."

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**Mack Crenshaw** said, “Here you go! That was the best!!! **Jim Terrell** and **Tony Schoder** could really wail on those songs!”

**Jim Terrell** said, “Only missed 5 ...”

**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said “I should have been sitting next to Jimmy Terrell like in school. I got 50%.”

**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “Lots of fun. Did it with my husband. Missed 2.”

**John McDaniel** said, “These are terrific. I got all but 3. My best Jeopardy score ever!”

**Anne Taylor (Williams)** said, “The memories just keep getting better. Thanks for brightening my day.”

**Joan Pugh (Avent)** said, “Darn! I missed 6 of them!!”

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, “I got 23 right.”

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “That was fun Larry. Thanks.”

**Margie Beatty** said, “Thanks Larry. This was really fun. I missed two. I guessed at the Big Bopper's name.”

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “Good ones! That was fun, Larry. I got 24 right.”

**Al Lyons** said, “Love it! Got about 95%.”

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, “Got quite a few correct, but I missed some I was sure were right. You always keep me entertained ... thanks so much.”

**Charlene Hoolehan (Fisher)** said, “I thoroughly enjoy all your posts! Thanks for many trips down Memory Lane. This quiz brought back memories of actual encounters with some of these folks. The Everly brothers ran right into me in Hawaii in 1969. They came flying out of a hotel door as I was preparing to go in it. They were very apologetic and said they were late. Dick Clark plowed into me and stepped on my foot in a crowded casino in Las Vegas in the 1970's. He shrugged and kept moving. We saw Little Richard at a holiday concert at Disney's Epcot 10 or 15 years ago. He could still belt out those old 50's and 60's hits. By the way, I just barely passed your Doo Wop Quiz. I reached back into the dusty corners of my brain to pull out some of those answers I hadn't thought about in years. Miss Durrance would definitely not be pleased with my 71%. I'm looking forward to your next posts.”

NOTE: Your comments reminded me of the time I collided with Wilt Chamberlain when I was rounding a corner at a Los Angeles restaurant. At 7'1", he was a few inches taller than me. Okay, 15 inches taller. So, my head bumped into his chest. We both laughed and continued on

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our way. Another time I was seated next to Roosevelt “Rosey” Grier on an airplane flight. He spent most of his time knitting, which was his hobby.

**Steve Hall** said, “Thanks Larry , that was fun.”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Oh so many memories. I love seeing all the comments.”

**Ruth Dyer (Milton)** said, “Enjoyed. Thank you.”

**Mike Durden** said, “That was fun. I missed 5, so I squeaked by.”

**Russ Burns** said, “ I should have done better, but I missed 5!”

**Nelson Hilty (Carter)** said, “Larry, this was fun and I am afraid I missed 4 ... it did bring back lots of good memories and I was singing right along with my answers.”

**Patty Paresi (DeCarli)** said, “I got them all but one. I missed the one hit wonder. I knew the Everly Brothers because my friend went to school with them in California and talked about them all the time.”

**Terry Ward** said, “I had fun with the Doo Wop Quiz. Missed 5.”

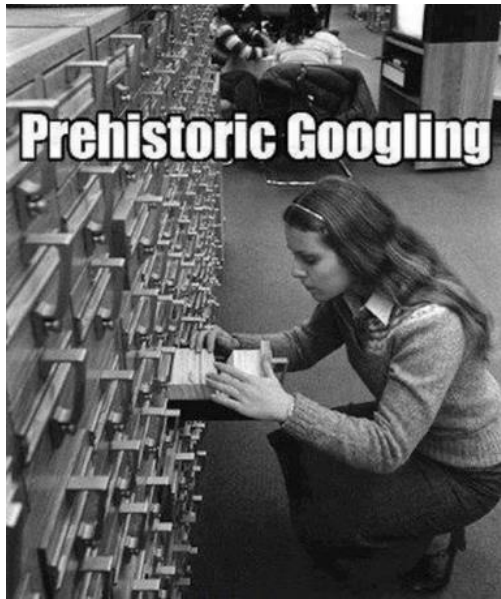
**Jerry Hays** said, “Lordy, lordy, lordy Miss Clawdy. I missed 4.”

### Rear View Mirror

Hi, classmates. **Bob Cowles** shared this montage of pictures looking back in time.









My curfew was lightning bugs. My parents didn't call my cell, they yelled my name. I played outside, not online. If I didn't eat what mom cooked, I didn't eat.

**MY PARENTS SPANKED ME AS A CHILD**  
AS A RESULT, I NOW SUFFER FROM A PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION KNOWN AS "RESPECT FOR OTHERS"





**Who remembers wearing...**



**...gym uniforms?**

**DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN  
ALL THE STORES WERE  
CLOSED ON SUNDAY?**









## Remember the days of eating lunch at the Woolworth's lunch counter?



Age test: If you know what this did, click "like" and "share"



Don't give away the answer; let 'em keep guessing!



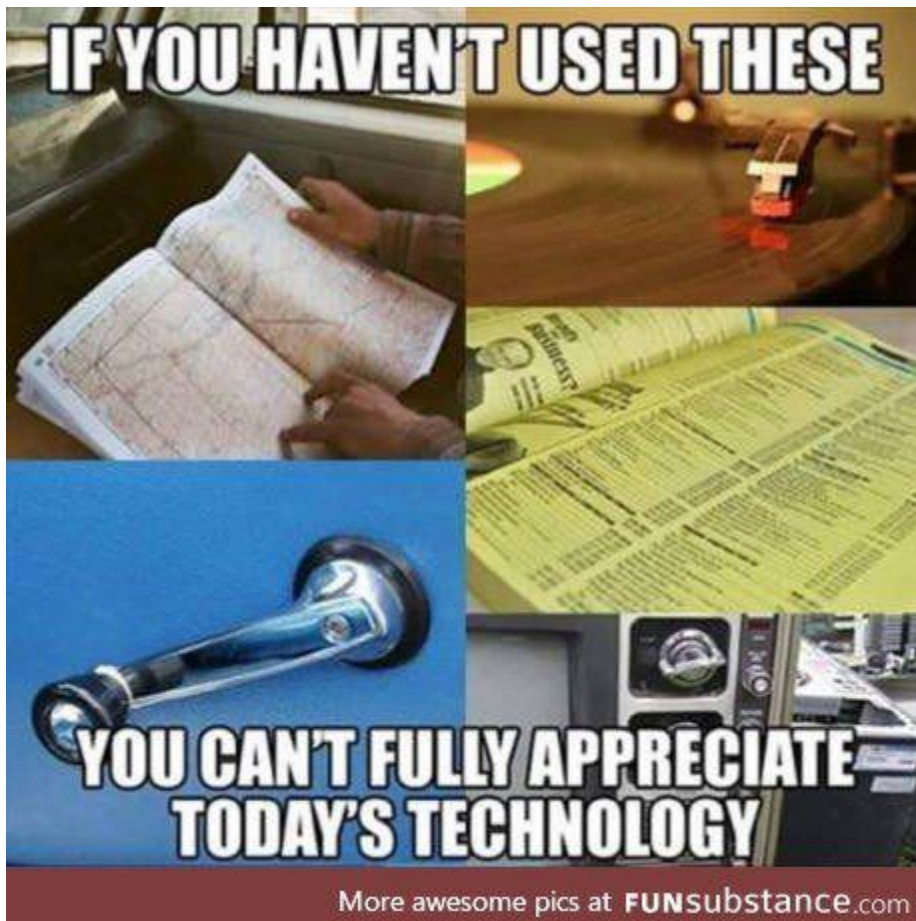
**DOES ANYBODY  
ELSE REMEMBER  
HEARING,  
"KEEP CRYING  
AND I'LL GIVE  
YOU SOMETHING  
TO CRY ABOUT."  
IN THEIR  
CHILDHOOD?**











COMMENTS:

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**Pat Lowrie** said, “Those items and pics from back when we were young were awesome. I met a man that made those small bottles with the juice in them! So terrific!!! Oh my gosh, I love all the work you are doing going down Memory Lane. Thank you, Bob and Larry. Great job!!!”

**Terry Ward** said, “Enjoyed these samples of simpler days. Thanks to Bob for sharing.”

**Al Lyons** said, “Brings back so many memories, all good ones. Glad we were able to grow up and enjoy the "simple" life.”

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, “What great memories!!! I love the cops and robbers or cowboys and indians clip.

**Helen Jones** said, “Love it! In 1961, if you made a long distance call you may have asked me or Rhonda Prim to make the connection and we would have notified you when your first three minutes were up.”

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “Wow! Remembering and missing.”

**Bob Forster** said, “Those pictures sure do bring back some happy memories.”

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “Oh, those gym uniforms. They were soooooo hot. Hated those things.”

**Jerry Hays** said, “Thanks. I remember every one of those items. Not all are missed.”

### Cost of Things in 1960

Hi, classmates. Wouldn't it great if in our retirement years we could still buy these items at their 1960 prices? Of course, when you adjust for inflation, some of today's prices are about the same.

Based on inflation, \$1.00 in 1960 would be worth \$8.80 in 2021. The average salary in 1960 was \$5,315; a new home cost \$12,700; a new car cost \$2,600.

- Gasoline (gallon) = 25 cents
- Milk (gallon) = 50 cents
- Bread (loaf) = 20 cents
- Eggs (dozen) = 55 cents
- Oven Ready Turkey = 39 cents per pound
- Movie (1 ticket) = \$1.00
- Stamp (first-class) = 4 cents
- Hamburger (Fast Food) = 20 cents
- Bacon = 65 cents per pound

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- Beer (six pack) = \$1.00
- Watermelon = 3 cents per pound
- Corn = Six for 25 cents
- Granulated Sugar = 89 cents for 10 pounds
- Candy Bar = 5 to 10 cents
- Coke (bottle) = 10 cents
- Record (45 single) = 65 cents

### 1960 McDonald's Menu



### COMMENTS:

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, "The first record I bought was OH DONNA. Lol. Of course, I did."

**Vaden Bessent** said, "Yes, it would be great (we could still buy these items at their 1960 prices)."

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, "Oh my goodness, YES."

**Audrey Jones (Williams)** said, "Yes, it would be nice"

**Ruth Dyer (Milton)** said, "Thank you. Have enjoyed your emails so much. Fun, interesting, caring, the list is long."

**Al Lyons** said, "I agree! I can remember a lot of these. When I went to Washington University in St. Louis in 1960, that was the menu sign!"

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**Jacque Tubbs (Lattie)** said, “Thanks Larry for all the nostalgia! Enjoying reading, where has the time gone?”

**Larry Dixon** said, “Whoohooooo! Cool ... never see those again ...”

**Jim Seaward** said, “Thanks Larry. I remember gas prices as we double dated and split the cost of gas.”

**Tom Miller** said, “Seems to me there was a Burger King on the right side of 17 past Huckins Yacht heading north that had a big 18¢ on the side of the building.

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, “Oh for those days!!!”

**Jerry Hays** said, “Burger King Whopper and Shake were 18 cents each.”

**Anne Taylor (Williams)** said, “Thank you again for bringing some fun memories into these dreary days.”

**Bill Williams** said, “Burgers were .14, Fries were .10, and shakes were .25 at the PennyBurger located at St. Johns and Herschel.”

NOTE: Bill’s parents owned Penny’s Drive-In at 4040 St. John’s Avenue, EV4-2641.

### Celebrity High School Pictures

Hi, classmates. **Bob Cowles** forwarded a slide show of celebrity high school pictures. The celebrity’s name appears a few seconds after the picture is shown, giving you a chance to guess the celebrity ... many are very recognizable.

#### COMMENTS:

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “Please thank Bob for this. So special. You have everyone going back to our memories of special times in our lives.”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “This was Amazing and the music was Great. Thanks Bob and Larry.”

**Nancy McMillan (Weddington)** said, “Thanks to Bob!! These were so much fun to try to guess — some were easy and some not-so-much!”

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “Wow. Those were very cool. Like you said, I remembered most, so like present day. However, some, no clue. Thanks to Bob.”

**Ruth Dyer (Milton)** said, “Thank you. That is a great presentation.”

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**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry and Bob, this was so much fun. I think I got all but two. It's amazing that some look exactly like they do now.”

**Al Lyons** said, “It is amazing how the faces stayed the same over the years, despite the hair.”

**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “That was great. Thank you.”

**Audrey Jones (Williams)** said, “That was fun. Most looked familiar, but the name helped. I’m old.”

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, “I enjoyed looking at these.

**Patty Paresi (DeCarli)** said, “That was fun!! Some were easy and some not. Never would have recognized Robert Redford.”

### Thoughts for the Day

Hi, classmates. Have you seen these “Thoughts for the Day” floating around the Internet?

- Having plans sounds like a good idea until you have to put on clothes and leave the house.
- It’s weird being the same age as old people.
- When I was a kid I wanted to be older ... this is not what I expected.
- Life is like a helicopter. I don’t know how to operate a helicopter.
- Chocolate is God’s way of telling us he likes us a little bit chubby.
- It’s probably my age that tricks people into thinking I’m an adult.
- Marriage Counselor: Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?  
Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.
- Never sing in the shower! Singing leads to dancing, dancing leads to slipping, and slipping leads to paramedics seeing you naked. So remember ... Don’t sing!
- My wife asked me to take her to one of those restaurants where they make the food right in front of you. So I took her to Subway and that’s how the fight started.
- I don’t think the therapist is supposed to say “Wow,” that many times in your first session, but here we are ...

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- If 2020 was a math word-problem: If you're going down a river at 2 MPH and your canoe loses a wheel, how much pancake mix would you need to re-shingle your roof?
- I see people about my age mountain climbing; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- We can all agree that in 2015 not a single person got the answer correct to, "Where do you see yourself 5 years from now?"
- So if a cow doesn't produce milk, is it a milk dud or an udder failure?
- If you can't think of a word say "I forgot the English word for it." That way people will think you're bilingual instead of an idiot.
- I'm at a place in my life where errands are starting to count as going out.
- Coronacoaster. *noun*: the ups and downs of a pandemic. One day you're loving your bubble, doing work outs, baking banana bread, and going for long walks, and the next you're crying, drinking gin for breakfast, and missing people you don't even like.
- I'm at that age where my mind still thinks I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, while my body mostly keeps asking if I'm sure I'm not dead yet.
- Don't be worried about your smartphone or TV spying on you. Your vacuum cleaner has been collecting dirt on you for years.
- I'm getting tired of being part of a major historical event.
- I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
- How many of us have looked around our family reunion and thought "Well, aren't we just two clowns short of a circus?"
- At what point can we just start using 2020 as profanity? As in, "That's a load of 2020." or "What in the 2020."
- You don't realize how old you are until you sit on the floor and then try to get back up.
- We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

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### COMMENTS:

**Jerry Hightower** said, “Hey Larry, I have been wondering how large is your editorial staff? With all this data you have been able to assemble and communicate in such a short period of time, is truly amazing. The math word-problem was my favorite. It reminded me of a time when I was “trying” to help my son with a math word-problem ... with very mixed results, many years ago. We laugh about it all the time. He became a Health Physicist ... who knew. Many thanks for all the thought-provoking data.”

**Helen Jones** said, “Thank you for the many laughs I had out Loud! Since I am alone and in my home no one will think I have lost it! Thank you for the time you use to provide us with positivity in these trying times.”

**Al Lyons** said, “These are great! Really good, and true ... especially the underwear one.”

**Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels)** said, “Love them all ... thanks. Most I had seen ... so much cleverness in the world.

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, “Thanks for my afternoon cheering up. Needed this today.”

**Harriett Brown (Strickland)** said, “Thanks for the laughs for the day ... I enjoyed them.”

**Pat Sullivan (Rice)** said, “Re using 2020 as profanity ... early on I dubbed it The Pandammit.”

**Madelaine Mackoul (Cosgrove)** said, “So much fun!”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “These are hilarious. Keep them coming.”

**Nancy McMillan (Weddington)** said, “We have seen these, but I think we laughed harder seeing them again.”

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “You are so dear, Larry. I loved and unfortunately related to each one. Got tickled at several. Great gift.”

**Barbara Jansen (Howay)** said, “Thanks for the great laughs Larry! Sorely needed laughs in these crazy days!”

**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “Lots of fun. You are making staying at home more fun.”

**Margie Beatty** said, “OK Larry, first of all it's not even healthy to laugh this hard at this time in the morning! This had tears running down my face. I would have been on the floor I was laughing so hard but then I would have had to crawl to a chair to get up. HA HA.”

**Pam Bray (Crawford)** said, “Thanks Larry ... these were fun.”



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**Jim Baskerville** said, “Thanks, we can all use a few more grins in our lives. Best always.”

**Jack Huddleston** said, “Really great, Larry.”

**Larry Dixon** said, “I agree ... this is much fun and educational as well. I love seeing so many people participating. Exciting to anticipate next edition and subject matter. Thanks, everyone!”

**Elaine Perry (Starling)** said, “Enjoyed these very much! Laughed out loud! Appreciate your sending these along.”

### Clothes and Shoes

Hi, classmates. What were your favorite clothes and shoes during junior and senior high?

As I recall, girls wore shirtwaist dresses, plaid pleated skirts, full skirts, and straight skirts, as well as, sweaters (often with circle pins) and collared blouses. The tight-fitting straight skirts must have made walking difficult. Boys wore jeans and slacks, as well as, knit polo shirts.

Do you remember these clothes? And, what were some of the popular brands?

- Dungarees – Work pants made of thick cotton twill, later known as denim. Dongri was the Hindu name for the cloth.
- Blue Jeans – Casual wear pants usually made with blue denim. Main brands were Levi and Wrangler.
- Crinoline Skirts – A petticoat designed to puff or hold out a girl’s skirt.
- Poodle Skirts – Seamless, circular felt skirts with appliqués of poodles, flowers, flamingoes, or hot rod cars.
- Bermuda Shorts – Trousers cut just above the knee. Named for their use in the Bermuda Islands.
- Capri Pants – Slim pants that ended above the ankles. Named after the Italian island of Capri.
- Peddle Pushers – Slim pants that ended mid-calf. Worn by cyclists to avoid their pants getting caught in the chain.
- Madras Shirts – Bright plaid fabric. Named after a town in India. Remember how the colors would run when washed?
- White Sport Coat – Jacket worn without matching trousers. “A White Sport Coat and a Pink Carnation” was a hit song for Marty Robbins in 1957.
- Cardigan Sweaters – Knitted garment that normally had an open front. Named after the Earl of Cardigan.
- Twin Sweaters – Matching set of a short-sleeve sweater and an open long-sleeve cardigan.

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### Shoes

When I was a little boy, I usually went barefoot outside. As a result, I often stumped my toes and stepped on sand spurs. My grandmother would wrap up my bloody toe with a strip of cloth and I'd be back outside playing again.

Do you remember these shoe styles from our childhood?

- Penny Loafers – Named for the slit in the leather strap across the shoe. Could insert a dime for calling home.
- Saddle Oxfords – Named for Oxford University. Had a black or brown saddle piece with eyelets for the laces.
- White Bucks – Another style of Oxford shoe made of buckskin. Made popular by singer Pat Boone.
- Blue Suede Shoes – Made famous by Elvis when he sang, *"Well you can do anything but, Lay off of my blue suede shoes."*
- Mary Janes – Closed, lowcut shoe with a strap across the instep.
- Keds Sneakers – Tennis shoes were called "sneakers" due to their quiet rubber soles compared to leather soles.
- Converse High-Tops – A sneaker with canvas uppers and a white rubber toe cap, also called "Chuck Taylor All Stars."
- Wedgies – Platform shoes that provided height, but were easier to walk in than skinny heels.
- Cleats – Athletic shoes with rubber or plastic cleats for football and metal cleats for baseball.

Remember how hard it was to keep the White Bucks clean? They came with a small packet of white powder to dust them.

Girls wore Bobby Socks with Saddle Oxfords. The socks were turned down several times to the ankle. They were shorter than the long socks often worn by girls. Bobby came from Bob, meaning short as in "bobbed" hair. Teenage girls became known as "Bobby-Soxers".

### Gloves

Do you remember girls wearing gloves? In 1955, Emily Post prescribed these rules of etiquette for women: *"Always wear gloves and a hat in church, as well as on a city street. Also, don gloves when you go to lunch, to a formal dinner, to a restaurant, to the theater, or to a dance. But always take them off when you eat."*

While we may have paid attention to fashion when we were young, not so much now. I remember seeing old guys in mismatched outfits and I now understand. Comfort has become more important than style.

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### COMMENTS:

**Walt Abstein** said, “Padded Madras Belts, Bass Weejuns, Gator T’s (Izod Golf Shirts), Khaki Pants, Pants with a Belt in the Back, and Gant Shirts (Had A Loop on the Back). Girls wore Villager Dresses.”

**Larry Dixon** said, “Oh yes. I can relate/remember ... and I agree, you had to wear certain outfits back then if your parents could afford them. And, I understand today about comfort in clothes but "mismatched", oh no, my wife would have no part of that!!! Hence, matched style and colors etc. required, as I am a firm believer, if Mama ain't happy, no body is, and woe is me!!! Lol”

NOTE: My wife will often say, “you’re not going out of the house dressed like that.” It is usually because the colors clash. Maybe I’m color blind or fashion blind.

Larry Dixon replied, “Wives all had the same trainer/teacher, as they all act alike, at least in this scenario!”

**Tom Miller** said, “I had no idea about important styles and brands in junior or senior high. However, I’ll bet Gant shirts (madras and blue oxford) and Bass Weejuns were popular brands back then. I learned they certainly were when I got to college.”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Remember them all.”

**Anne Taylor (Williams)** said, “I remember starting a trend at the University of Alabama - loafers with no socks. It was a Florida thing.”

**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry, I could say all of the above, but I suppose my favorite outfit in junior high would have been a full skirt with as many crinolines as I could get on and still see when I sat down on the bus, a boatneck blouse, saddle oxfords and bobby socks, and in senior high a tight skirt with matching pull over sweater with cardigan (held on with a sweater guard) with collar or scarf and flats or penny loafers with taps on the heels and bobby socks.

I wanted a pair of Capezio shoes so bad but never got them. I remember telling my mother that she never got enough starch in my crinolines and she said if she put more in she'd be putting in the whole box. I also remember all the ironing that went along with those outfits. I'd hate to have to do it now.”

**Jack Chancellor** said, “I do remember trying to keep my White Buck Shoes white with the powder ... but I also remember trying to be stylish with Gold Cup Socks albeit no one knew. What about the slacks that the guys wore with the little buckle in the back to indicate if you were going "steady" with someone ... fun times.”

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**Patsy Avinger** said, “I remember trying to destroy my saddle oxfords. I hated them so much. I wanted penny loafers. I remember gloves and hats and getting my mother to buy extra crinolines for under my skirts. I also remember not being able to wear sundresses to school, shoulders had to be covered and not with the matching jacket to the dress.”

**Jacque Tubbs (Lattie)** said, “Thanks, yes. I remember it all. Such nice memories.”

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, “Thanks so much for the post. Extremely interesting. I forgot a lot of the items you posted.”

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, “I am taxing my brain to remember. Seems I wore tennis shoes in gym classes. Penny loafers in class. And high heels to dances and proms. I loved the two sweaters with a cardigan on top and usually a slim skirt. Thanks for the memories.”

**Elaine Perry (Starling)** said, “I remember all of these. Loafers with no socks. Villager dressers, etc., etc. My feet will never be the same after wearing pointed toe "high heels" now referred to as "stilettos". I also remember wearing kid gloves, sometimes to the elbow, in the Carolina mountains and San Francisco! My husband, Pete, also wore Bass Weejuns and socks at Furman University. Those feet get cold in some climates!”

**Lenora Andre**, wife of **Louis Andre**, said, “Louis Andre wore the same sort of stuff in high school. He worked part-time jobs to do so. Surprisingly, the styles did not change much for those of us who married up (in age). Nine or ten years later. Pretty much the same dress code.

"Lady Bug" dresses with flowers all over. They were shirtwaist dresses with tucks on the front, round collars with a 'lady bug' stick pin, and matching belt. "If" we could come by one of the pins we did wear them, with pride. My mother also copied the dresses and she made 3 of them for me (yellow, blue, and lavender). We could not go bare-legged and I hated having to wear a garter belt, and you could not tell the difference. Crew socks were popular and would be worn by the younger classmates. One of the girls in the class, whose mother could not sew, bought the dresses with matching shoes and "John Romaine" purses, but they were very expensive. I think she had every color they made. She also had matching lingerie (with her boyfriend's initials embroidered on the slip). Good thing they went steady all through high school and got married (twice) afterward. I think she had one of every color. We would tease her about it all the time. Thankfully, my mother got me out of home economics classes. Told the teacher that she would or had taught me all the 'important' things like how to set a table for a big party. Instead, I got to take 'mechanical drawing' which was the only thing I could take that was 'arts-related' (until I was a Senior) and it had always been a class for boys. Loved it. The boys in the class said I was the "teacher's pet", I wasn't - just a perfectionist. Now everything is done by computers.

Penny Loafers and "Be-bops" (saddle oxfords). Those of us who were cheerleaders wore our letter sweaters and uniforms (on game days) or the letter jackets of our boyfriends. Boys wore bright-colored pants or khakis (no jeans allowed) unless they were in the FFA. Dresses and

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heels to church and (thankfully) I did not have to wear a hat. I still tease my middle sister because of the last time she wore one at Easter. We wore long and short evening dresses to dance after Homecoming and also for piano recitals. The dresses at other dances were 'school clothes' at the Legion Hall Lodge in the small town I grew up in. Straight 'pencil skirts; with white blouses tucked in at all times. The 'shorter' the better. I wore mine just brushing the knee cap. But some of the girls wore them 'thigh high'. Boys wore colored crew socks that matched one of the colors in the Madras shirts with loops at the top of the pleat on the back of their shirts. One boy started wearing a sweater (matching his socks) all the time. A girl in my class would pull the loops off any boy sitting in front of her or walking down the halls. Girls could not go outside to smoke at the 'smoke stack'. But they would go into the last stall in the restroom and try to get their boyfriends to come to the window. Girls smoked in the bathrooms until one of the teachers came in and then they would throw them in the toilets and wave their hands trying to get out of the stall. Like they would fool them.

Only boys were allowed to go play pool uptown and every day the boys would go there. The owner would block the door and never even let you look in or shout for anyone to come to the door or out. He and the coach were big buddies and if a player got in trouble at the school for any reason, he would not let them play pool for about a week or more. That depended on what they were being punished for (misbehaving or dropping grades). P.E. was a 'required' class with the ugly blue bloomers. I did not have to take it after falling in cheer practice and broke my tailbone. I was strapped to a chair with 5 boys holding me in a pickup truck. Then I had to ride in the 'hearse' of the funeral home since that was the only ambulance service in town. Then I was taken to the next city because they did not know the extent of my injuries. I still don't know why a hearse has a pad in it (for 'funerals') and an EMT bus has a hardboard.

Can't wait till your next reunion. I really enjoyed myself."

**Linda Clark (Creed)** said, "Well, Larry, now when I check my email, I find myself scrolling down the contents of my inbox checking to see if you've sent a new "memory entry" before I open anything else. Thanks for making the isolation of this pandemic a little more tolerable.

As for things we wore, I remember scarab bracelets and also the oversized "boyfriend" ID bracelets worn by many of the girls. I also remember khaki skirts (and pants for boys) with khaki tabs stitched on the back below the waist. A buckle held the tabs together. The trend was that the tabs would be left buckled when worn by those who were going steady, and they could be left unbuckled when worn by those who were available to date. Weren't we lucky to grow up when we did."

**Suzanne McCully (Wallman)** said, "That was such a happy trip down Memory Lane!"

**Gena Whitten (Wilhelm)** said, "Wow Clothes, I could write a book. This is close. Clothes were so important to us girls. Many of us made our own clothes, so we spent a lot of time thinking about this and trying to copy the "store bought" look that others had. Many of the girls had fun

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trips riding the bus to town to shop for clothes for school, proms, house parties, etc. Sometimes girls would swap clothes.

Dresses: Shirt waist dresses with rollup sleeves above our elbow and full skirts. Sun dresses and spaghetti strap dresses. Oh those prom dresses, with yards of net skirts and many crinolines under them. We shopped for days for the perfect dress.

Crinolines: I remember one of my crinoline slips was stolen in gym class dressing room. My mom was so mad because it cost \$7. I think she even called the school to report the theft.

Blouses: We wore short puff sleeves with Peter Pan round colors. Many blouses had rollup sleeves. Many of the shirts or blouses were plaid and had button down Ivy League collars. If you sewed it yourself, you had to make sure that the plaid matched. Boys and girls who were going steady had matching shirts. I made a set of matching shirts for me and one boyfriend.

Bermuda Shorts were the big deal. We even wore them in winter when it was "cold" to the dismay of our parents.

Pants were not allowed for girls in school, church or anywhere except beach, casual, or home wear.

Coats: A cashmere coat in camel or beige was the coat of choice in the winter. It was very full to accommodate those crinolines and had a shawl collar. A shorter coat which we wore to school or for casual was called a car coat.

Shoes: Tennis shoes, only for gym for girls. We wore black or brown loafers or saddle shoes to school, sometimes ballet flats. We wore our bobby socks up. The all important high heels for dances and church: OMG, the heels were 7" spikes and so hard to walk in worn with hose (no panty hose in those days). These torturous shoes had foot deforming pointed toes and so difficult to walk or dance in. My feet still suffer deformities from these shoes! Purses had to match the shoes in color.

Ivy League was the style: Shirts had button down collars or collars were worn up to be cool. Skirts and pants (khaki preferred) had a useless but decorative buckle on the back. The buckle was buckled if you were going steady and open if you were not.

Sweaters: The Letter Sweaters were quite the status symbol, ask the boys. Girls proudly wore their boyfriend's sweater. Of course, girls cherished their own collection of sweaters which were worn with tight skirts and loafers.

Hats and Gloves and Stockings: Girls completed their dress up ensembles with fashionable hats for church and other formal events. Gloves were often expected, usually cloth, sometimes kid leather. We wore stockings for dress up occasions. There were still stockings with seams which had to be straight and panty hose was not existent.

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**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “Gena Whitten was definitely a “fashionista”. Goodness she remembers everything. Those crinolines were so darn HOT in the summer. Does anyone remember the hoop under our gowns? You had to be careful not to get too close to anyone and careful when you sat down, but much cooler. Thanks again, Larry. This was fun to sit back and reflect on our special times. Way sharper looking than today.”

**Sid Linton** said, “I still wear Bass Weejuns.”

**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, “Mostly same as all others. I definitely remember 2 or 3 starched crinolines to hold skirt out and one time had so many heavily starched crinolines on that it was difficult to get into my desk at school. I also was adamant about wearing leather moccasins because it allowed me to slide better when doing the "Beach Bop" on the Jax pier. I was teased about wearing them with comments like "You think you are an Indian or what tribe do you come from? I even had one person behind me while changing classes at Lake Shore who yelled out an Indian yell. I didn't turn around because I knew who it was for ...”

### License Plates

Hi, classmates. A conversation with **Jack Huddleston** got me thinking about our old Duval County license plates. They began with the prefix 2, followed by the remaining digits:



1949 was the first year that “Sunshine State” appeared on Florida license plates.

Florida’s first license plate, made of leather, was issued in 1906. A total of 176 automobiles were registered that year. In 1910, the leather plates were replaced with metal plates. In 1912, Florida changed to a porcelain license plate.

Tin replaced the porcelain license plates in 1918, and for the next four years, license plates were issued in pairs for both the front and back of the motor vehicle. In 1927, the Florida State Prison in Raiford introduced a license plate plant.

NOTE: When we lived in Georgia, I was a member of the Atlanta Gator Club that supported creation of a Florida Gators specialty plate. A state legislator said on the House floor that *“requiring Georgia’s inmates to produce a Gator tag would be cruel and unusual punishment and should not be approved.”* We proudly placed the Gator license plate on our car when it became available.

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Between 1938 and 1975, the state assigned each of the 67 counties a number based on its population rank in the state's 1935 census. Over the years, counties fluctuated in size, but the numbers stayed unchanged over the tenure of the program.

You may remember some of these prefix numbers for the big counties:

1. Dade (now Miami-Dade)
2. Duval (Jacksonville)
3. Hillsborough (Tampa)
4. Pinellas (St. Petersburg)
5. Polk (Lakeland)
6. Palm Beach
7. Orange (Orlando)
8. Volusia (Daytona Beach)
9. Escambia (Pensacola)
10. Broward (Fort Lauderdale)

Some more: Alachua (Gators) was 11. Leon (Seminoles) was 13. Adjacent Manatee and Sarasota were 15 and 16, respectively. St. Johns, one of the first two counties historically, was 20. Monroe (the Keys) was 38. Tiny Liberty, in the Panhandle, was 67.

A prefix of 90 was a duplicate, meaning the owner had gotten a duplicate tag to replace a lost or stolen one. A 68 meant you got your tag at the state agency in Tallahassee (by mail or in person) instead of in a particular county.

I was told that some guys in college would try to surprise a young lady by spotting the county number on her car and pretending to know her from her home county. I wonder how often this deceptive scheme resulted in a date.

### COMMENTS:

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, "I knew nothing about that. SO very informative. You are giving us history lessons. So thoughtful of you! Glad GA let you have a Gator tag. I got an Emory tag. Now it seems you can have just about anything if you are willing to pay for it. Thanks again. Always look forward to your emails. You are our glue."

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, "How interesting!! I really like the last paragraph."

**Bob Forster** said, "My son is a UF grad. He lives in the Atlanta area and was able to get an early numbered Gator plate when they first became available."

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, "Such great information."



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Lenora Andre, wife of **Louis Andre**, said “In Georgia, I lived in Forsyth (Monroe County) growing up, and our tags began with 94 out of 159 counties. The next county beside us was Macon (Bibb County) and their number was 5.

I think now we have about 15 specialty tags in GA. I proudly have a 'breast cancer' tag with a pink ribbon. I would have gotten one for the GA Bulldogs as my 2nd favorite. We have a plate on the front of our car with a Bulldog on it. The regular plates either come with a scene of Georgia and a peach on them. The person who designed the plates was from around where I grew up. With "The Peach State" on it, the other has a peach right in the middle of them. You can either get a strip for a tag of your county's name (at the bottom) or "God Bless America" at the top.

Best peaches are grown around where I grew up, too - Dickies' Peach Packing in Musella (Crawford County) GA with the greatest peaches - great peach ice cream as well. They ship peaches all over the state and then some. There are about 3 (maybe 4 or 5) counties that grow peaches around Middle Georgia. Much better than you find in vegetable stands along the I-75 Interstate. My Daddy did not think twice about bringing a bushel of peaches to us to peel. A day before our 2nd son was born, he brought some to our house. Nana (Louis's Mother), 2 of our neighbors, and I sat out in the front yard to peel them. The best peaches, in my opinion, are late-season peaches: Alberta's (cling-free). During the peach season, he had a peach pie or cobbler daily and we could sit down and eat most of it.

The same practice of making someone stop by knowing where they came from was something that the boys in town did. But the Macon boys did it a lot as well. Another pick-up joint was a BBQ drive-in on Spring Street in Macon. The carhops would take your order with nothing written down. He could remember who (exactly) had placed an order. Could not even trick them by crawling over and changing places. He'd hold it up and look at the person who had ordered it. I don't know how much we tipped them, but they were so good you just could not drive away without doing so. We'd walk to Pop Berrier's for a chocolate shake when we came back to Jacksonville for a visit with our parents.”

## Downtown Stores

Hi, classmates. Do you remember shopping at these downtown stores?

### **Cohen's**, 117 Duval Street



The first Cohen Brothers store opened in 1867 as a log cabin between Main Street and Ocean Streets. They opened a new 4-story, 300,000 square foot building on Duval Street in 1912. The department store in the St. James building faced Hemming Park. It was known as the “Big Store” since it covered an entire city block. It became May-Cohens in 1959 and closed in 1987. The building is now the Jacksonville City Hall.

### **Furchgott's**, 130 Adams

The first Furchgott's store opened in 1869, but burned down in the Great Fire of 1901. They rebuilt afterwards with a 4-story building on Main Street between Bay Street and Forsyth Street. Their new 5-story, 60,000 square foot store opened in 1941 at the intersection of Adams Street and Hogan Street. It was the first store in Jacksonville with elevators. It closed in 1984.

### **Levy's**, Adams and Hogan

The first Levy's store opened in 1912 at Bay and Hogan. Their four-story building at Bay and Adams opened 1927. It was renamed Levy-Wolf in 1969 and closed in 1984.

### **Rosenblum's**, 204 Adams Street

After the Great Fire of 1901, Rosenblum's opened at Duval and Main Streets. It relocated in 1937 to the intersection of Adams and Hogan, near Furchgott's and Levy's. It closed in 1981.

### **Sears Roebuck**, 200 Bay Street

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In 1959, Sears Roebuck moved from 532 Forsyth Street to a new 5-story, 260,000 square foot store at 200 Bay Street. It closed in 1981. Remember the huge Sears catalog we received in the mail?

### **J. C. Penney**, 320 Hogan Street

They opened in 1933 at the intersection of Bay Street and Main Street. A new 3-story, 90,000 square foot store opened in 1955 on Hogan Street facing Hemming Park. It closed in 1984. Like Sears, Penney's also mailed a large catalog.

### **Finkelstein's**, 633 Bay Street

This store sold sporting goods. It was my favorite place to shop for baseballs, gloves, bats, footballs, basketballs, and white athletic socks (with blue trim at the top).

Did you know that Jacksonville's first three shopping malls were:

- 1960 – Philips Plaza
- 1961 – Roosevelt Square
- 1967 – Regency Square

### **COMMENTS:**

**Pat Sullivan (Rice)** said, "I moved away from Jax in 1961 and rarely returned. So I'm curious ... what replaced all those huge buildings; did the stores relocate? Do the perimeter malls rule the shopping world now? What today is considered 'downtown'? Ha, just realized the answer is probably Amazon! Thanks for all the history."

NOTE: The old Cohen's building is now the City Hall. The old Furchgott's building has been used by multiple tenants and was for sale the last I heard. The top three floors of the old Levy-Wolf building is currently occupied by a law firm. Rosenblum's closed its downtown store in 1981, but still has two locations, Jacksonville Beach and San Jose. The big Sears store was torn down shortly after it closed in 1981. Penney's store was demolished in 1984 to make way for a federal courthouse.

**Suzanne McCully (Wallman)** said, "I really enjoyed thinking back to these familiar stores! That was fun!! You come up with great stuff."

**Tom Miller** said, "Yep, went to every one of them, and there was WT Grant right next to JCP at Hemming Park. Because of the big Sears parking lot on Bay, I interviewed for a job there and eventually went to Chicago with them. Don't forget Ivey's. Kind of sorry about the end of an era."

NOTE: Ivey's opened in Jacksonville in 1962. It was a six story, 180,000 square foot department store that featured a restaurant and free parking garage. Ivey's closed their doors in downtown for good in 1985.

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**Bob Forster** said, “The Ivey’s and the former Charter Mortgage tower with the revolving restaurant (Embers) is now the Jacksonville Electric Authority. Ivey’s serves as the customer service center and training facility. The restaurant no longer revolves and is used for larger meetings. All the restaurant equipment is still housed on floor below.

The only other building that I have direct knowledge of is the former Morocco Shrine building. After the Shriners relocated, the building was remodeled under a preservation grant for Cecil W Powell Insurance Co. in the late 1980’s. The city leased space on two floors from 1989 to 1993. Under the terms of the grant ,much of the original interior exterior had to be preserved. My office was on the stage. All artwork and mosaics were protected by Lexan glass coverings. There were a lot of old pictures of early Shriners from the 20’s, 30’s and of downtown from the 40’s in the break room.”

**Jim Cain** said, “Thanks for the recollections. I can still recall the smell of Finkelstein’s, i.e., oiled baseball gloves and the Chuck Taylor All Stars (glue and rubber). Funny how they rise to the surface even after 60 years.”

**Patty Paresi (DeCarli)** said, “I used to shop at so many of those stores. Guess they all closed after I left Jacksonville. Got married in California in 1966 and only lived back in Jacksonville for a 6 month period while my husband transitioned to a new plane at Cecil Field Naval Air Station. After that, I only visited my family in Orange Park for brief periods of time. I loved Roosevelt Mall and going there when I was visiting from overseas.”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Been to every one.”

**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, “Absolutely! Riding the bus to town with my late sister, Gail, going to the Florida Theatre and shopping at May Cohens were the highlight of many Saturdays (especially when Elvis Presley was at the Florida Theatre).”

**Vaden Bessent** said, “Remember most of them. Great memories.”

**Cookie James (Carroll)** said, “My mother worked at May-Cohen’s for many years. She worked in the lamp department on the mezzanine. She later worked in the post office that was also located on the mezzanine. I used to ride the bus from Lake Shore to visit her and shop at several of the stores you mentioned. I liked the fruit juice store. I don't remember the name. Also Keys chili.”

NOTE: I think you are referring to Hawthorne’s Fresh Fruit Juices on Forsyth Street. The small shop opened in 1924 and later moved to Laura and Adams, where it closed in 1995. You could get juice drinks made from oranges, grapefruits, pineapples, or coconuts. And, yes ... Key’s Chili Parlor. T. M. Key opened it on Forsyth Street in 1910 with a menu that didn’t include chili. Then Key hired a Mexican cook who had been stranded in Jacksonville and who begged Key to try his specialty chili and tamales. They were so good that Key penciled them onto the menu.

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Before long, they were a star attraction, and the restaurant adopted a Mexican image. It shuttered its doors in 1981.

**Pat Tate (Smith)** said, Yes! Loved shopping downtown! Malls were fun too!”

**Sharon Knowles (Robichaux)** said, “I especially remember Cohen Brothers. They had the most exciting Christmas window displays that delighted the heart of every child. My parents took me every year. Then as a teen, my greatest delight was when my Mom would take me into the restaurant there as part of my birthday celebration. Later, I shopped Sears and Roebuck for family Christmas gifts and still later for my children's clothes.”

**Al Lyons** said, “Most of my shopping (limited) was at the Cedar Hills Shopping Center. Mostly, because I only had my bike!!”

**Alan Witte** said, “I'm really enjoying these e-mails. Actually, Rosenblum's still exists here in a scaled down version. One store in Lakewood and one in Jax Beach.”

**Rusty Russ** said, “Don't forget Underwood Jeweler's (purchased my first ID bracket there) and around the corner was Morrison's Cafeteria for lunch.”

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, “How interesting. I didn't realize that for Furchgott's and Cohen's were built in the late 1800s. Yes, I have many memories of shopping downtown.”

**John McDaniel** said, “I remember the beautiful striped tab-collared shirts under the glass cases at Cohen's. My Dad took me to Cohen's to buy my first work suit when I graduated from Florida and went to Pittsburgh - a brown Harris Tweed suit - way too heavy for Florida, but perfect for Pittsburgh. And, I remember buying long sleeve button down oxford Gant shirts from Rosenblum's - \$5.50 for white and \$6.00 for blue.”

**Jack Huddleston** said, “Great remembrances, Larry. I have fond memories of most of these places, especially the Rosenblum's store, selling white Gant shirts for \$5.50 and fancier ones for \$6.50. I bought a bunch of them, mainly promoted by John McDaniel.

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, “No mention of Grants? Myra Tyner(Kremer) and I worked there our Senior year. That's where I met my husband and asked him out AND paid for the date ... he was a Sailor and CUTE. Went home and told Mom that I met the man I was going to marry. Her response was “Oh, you're going to marry everyone. What's his name”. I said Bill and she said Bill what; I said I don't know. The marriage lasted 60 years, produced three children, eight Grands and 31 Greats so far. Lost him Nov. 29, 2019. He sure is missed by all. Thanks for all your interesting posts.”

NOTE: W. T. Grant's was a discount merchandise store chain and opened its new Jacksonville building on the site of the former Andrew Jackson Hotel. Grant's sold a large collection of items

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and was comparable to stores like Walmart or Kmart. The chain went out of business after going bankrupt in 1976. The former Grant's building has since been demolished.

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, "Interesting! I remember most of these, even though we moved from Jax in 1957."

**Margaret Fenters (Dowless)** said, "I worked after school and weekends with my Dad, he was the pharmacist at Cohens. It was right by the restaurant. Pat Boone hid in the back with my Dad once when he was in town to get away from the fans."

**John Runton** said, "You would not believe how many people our age that grew up in Jacksonville do not believe there was a Penney's store at Main and Bay streets. Maybe they will believe me when I show them this."

**Jo Ann Parker (Dobbert)** said, "You keep bringing back lovely memories of my childhood. My father was a Jacksonville Fireman and was stationed at number one station downtown, so my Mom would take us downtown to do our shopping and of course, stopping by the station to see my Dad. We shopped a lot at Furchgotts and Cohens. I got my first job working over Christmas break at J. C. Penny's. Such wonderful memories."

**Elvin Farris** said, "Enjoyed reading about all the businesses. I don't think anyone has mentioned "Stand and Snack." Also, a New Orleans fast food place downtown that had the best roast beef sandwich I have ever tasted. I remember Krystal too."

**Jacque Tubbs (Lattie)** said, "So many sweet memories of great times. Ride the city bus downtown, movie, go in Cohen's, Furchgott's, never forget smell of all that perfume! It was divine! Not a care in the world. My mother worked at Penney's, so that's where I had to get my clothes! And, she thought Avon had the best smells, so that's what I got! Rode the bus to see Elvis at the Florida Theater August 1956! Thrill of my life! Still have my ticket stub. Thanks for all the memories."

**Jack Chancellor** said, : Wow ... I remember shopping or being taken to all of these stores as a kid. My mother would drag me to sales at the women's fashion store Mangel's just across from Hemming Park. I have a Rotary friend in Fort Myers whose family owned Rosenblum's and Finkelstein's. Rosenblum's later moved from downtown to Southside on Hendricks Avenue, but not sure it is still there."

NOTE: Mangel's was a national chain of women's apparel shops based in New York City. Its downtown Jacksonville location opened in the 1930s at the corner of Laura and Forsyth streets. The Jacksonville location closed in the 1950s, while the chain itself survived until going bankrupt in the 1970s. Its original building has since been demolished.

NOTE: Rosenblum's closed its downtown store in 1981, but still has two locations, Jacksonville Beach and San Jose.

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**Ray Van Landingham** said, “I do remember these. Cohens Brothers had a large candy counter as did F. W. Woolworth, which was adjacent to Penny’s. I remember buying candy, especially at Christmas and Easter and chocolate covered strawberries in the spring.

I can visualize the insides of all these stores. In the men’s department were big racks or shelves filled with felt hats in the winter and straw in summer. Amazing how much retail space was used for hats. Cohen’s also had a nice restaurant on the first floor back in the corner.

Another department store was Ivey’s at corner of Church and Laura. They had their own parking garage underneath the plaza and a multi-story garage across the street. I think these structures were all part of the Wolfson complex with the Embers, a revolving restaurant on the top floor.

A few doors down from Rosenblum’s, on Adams Street, was Wolf Brothers, another fine clothing store which later moved to corner of Adams and Laura when the new Florida National bank was built. Also on Adams near Rosenblum’s and Wolf Bros was a Jewish deli, Lebs.

There was a large Towers hardware on Bay and many docks and piers before the waterfront was redeveloped. A fire boat was housed there and I remember going to Keys Chile Parlor on Bay for take out. Chile, spaghetti and Two ( tamales).

Other stores I recall were The Young Men’s Shop, Harry’s, Vogue, French Novelty, Jacobs (with the Big clock on the corner), Lester’s Soda Shop, Underwood’s, Kay Jewelers (It’s OK to owe Kay, till payday), Bernie's, the man in green, etc. The many hotels, Hawthorne’s Juice shop. I could go on and on, as I remember the streets like yesterday, perhaps because I worked at Levy’s and Wolf Brothers in 1962 and 1963.

### Video Jukebox

Hi, classmates. I sent you an email on 1/03/21 that provided a link to a digital jukebox called “The Nostalgia Machine”: <http://thenostalgiamachine.com/>

**Alan Witte** of our class sent me a link to a Video Jukebox. It has songs grouped by the 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. Scroll down the page to view songs organized by artists and the #1 hits by year: <https://www.1959bhsmustangs.com/VideoJukebox.htm>

The Video Jukebox also includes old TV commercials, TV theme songs, and clips from old TV shows at this link: <https://www.1959bhsmustangs.com/OldTVShowsandVideos4.htm>

I’m sure you’ll enjoy prowling around the content of the Video Jukebox. By the way, it is part of the Bladensburg, Maryland High School Class of 1959 website.

**COMMENTS:**

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Oh, this is great. Thanks. Brings back such good memories. Can remember seeing Elvis on The Ed Sullivan Show when they wouldn’t show him below the waist.”

## Hair Styles

Hi, classmates. How did you wear your hair in high school?

### **Boy Haircuts**

A regular haircut was usually side-parted and had a tapered back and sides. It was considered a clean-cut fashion and was probably preferred by most parents and school authorities.

The Crew Cut was popular with many of boys and derived from the military haircuts given to millions of draftees. The Flattop was a variant of the Crew Cut. Butch wax and a brush was used to make the hair stand up.

Some boys preferred the longer Pompadour or Greaser hair style, where the hair was combed back and above the forehead. It was made popular by Elvis Pressley, James Dean, and other celebrities. The back could be combed into Duck Tail, or DA.

If we conducted a hair survey now, we’d have to include bald, beard, and goatee entries.

### **Girl Hair Styles**

I remember that girls wore their hair either long or short. Some wore their long hair in a ponytail. Remember the 1959 song, “What is Love” by the Playmates? Its lyrics included, “*The cutest ponytail that sways with a wiggle when she walks.*” You can listen to it at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XK9wad536tw>

Some of the girls went with a Pixie Cut, which was usually short on the back and sides of the head. It was slightly longer on the top and with very short bangs. Another hairstyle of the era was the Poodle Cut, where the hair was permed into tight curls, similar to a poodle's curly hair.

The Bouffant hairstyle had teased hair raised high on the head and covering the ears or hanging down on the sides. The French Twist brought the hair together in the back and was held by barrettes, hair clips, or combs. It was usually worn for special occasions.

Ladies, did I describe the hair styles correctly? Did I miss any?

**COMMENTS:**

**Jim Seaward** said, “Hair, what is that?”



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**Gena Whitten (Wilhelm)** said, “Described the French twist and bouffant styles well, but need to mention that it required lots of hairspray. Today many girls and women wash their hair daily. In those days, we mostly washed and styled our hair and maintained it for a week. Doing your hair required a few hours. We had funny plastic bonnet style hair dryers. We slept with brush rollers and wrapped our hair in toilet paper to maintain the set for the week.”

Lee Arthur (Gallo) said, “There was also the duck's a\_\_\_. For women: very short, wavy, brushed back on the sides, and overlapping, like a duck, in back. Gena, I still go to all that trouble and pain (to sleep with curlers) -- you don't? But these days, it's twice a week.”

**Mary Kay Cowart (Montford)** said, “What memories this brings back.”

**Jim Terrell** said, “Larry, you didn't have a hair style in high school because you didn't have any hair ... and now, neither do I.”

NOTE: Jim, have you seen the study that says some men are bald because their intense brain power destroyed their hair roots?

**Margie Beatty** said, “The page boy was popular with long hair combed under. The Flip with hair teased on top and curled upward by the use of excruciating big pink plastic curlers with gobs of DIPPITY-DO hair gel.”

**Larry Dixon** said, “That was fun as all these memories return ... Junior High I was flattop hair style, but in High School regular style, parted on my left side and rather short ... never had "long hair"!”

**Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels)** said, “I think you just about covered them all. Thanks once again for the nostalgia.”

**Suzanne McCully (Wallman)** said, “Larry, you did a fine job of describing hairstyles!”

**Sharon Knowles (Robichaux)** said, “Love it! Oh yeah. I was a shoulder length girl until the end of my senior year when I had it cut in a Queen Elizabeth style.”

**Linda Burch (Hall)** said, “You covered most. Don't believe some of us wore any of these identified. I just liked mine and I don't believe any actually covered it. Was just a pin curled style! Thanks for keeping us in the loop.”

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “You nailed it as you always do.”

**Jo Ann Parker (Dobbert)** said, “Looks like you did a pretty good job describing most of our haircuts; then there were the unfortunate girls like me that had naturally curly hair who had little or no control over their hair long or short.”

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**Patty Paresi (DeCarli)** said, “Unfortunately, I had long, black wavy hair (natural) which I did not like. I always wanted very straight hair. As you can see by the attached recent picture, I am now a blond with straight hair.

NOTE: I added Patty’s yearbook picture so you could see the hair difference.



**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, “Good job. I wore my hair long half way down my back with the top part held by a barrette on the side (like a side pony tail). One day I got a wild whim, got some of my babysitting money, walked down to the Lake Shore Beauty shop and had my hair cut to a pixie. My mother almost had a stroke when she got home from work and several people in school almost didn't recognize me. I got a lot of "You've gotta be kidding me, what did you do to your hair" comments. This was one of my bravest but scariest actions I can remember.”

**Stan Cooper** said, “In high school and during my four years active duty tour in the Air Force, I had a crew cut. After returning to civilian life in the late sixties and early seventies, I went full Jim Morrison.”

NOTE: I added Stan’s yearbook picture so you could see the hair difference.



## Favorite Teachers

Hi, classmates. Do any teachers stand out from your school years? Are they memorable because they were your favorite teachers, noteworthy because of their quirks, or unforgettable because they were mean or difficult.

### Elementary School

My favorite grade schoolteachers were at Hyde Park Elementary: Miss Lomax (4<sup>th</sup> Grade) and Miss Bryan (5<sup>th</sup> Grade). Both were young and pretty. I used to carry Miss Bryan's cafeteria tray to the table for her and then get back in line for my lunch. One day, her boyfriend ate lunch with her and carried her tray. She was on her own after that.

### Junior High

My favorite teachers at Lake Shore Junior High were Ms. Boutwell (Civics) and Ms. Perry (Math). Ms. Boutwell convinced me to run for ninth grade office and then had to tell me I had a misspelling on my campaign poster: Chaplain, not Chaplin. I quickly replaced the signs. Ms. Perry was a big Yankees fan and I was a big Dodgers fan. During the 1956 World Series, Ms. Perry came running into Ms. Boutwell's class to tell me that Don Larson had pitched a perfect game against my Dodgers. I wrote her years later when I heard she was in a nursing home. I understand that my letter was read at her funeral.

### Senior High

My favorite teachers at Lee were Ms. Lyon, for Home Room and Geometry, and Mr. Bowman, for College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Solid Geometry. I never had Ms. Durrance for English, but everyone knew of her because of her small stature and her reputation for sending students to summer school.



**FRANCES LYON**  
A.B. Degree  
Genetown College, Ky.;  
U. of Fla., Gainesville.  
PLANE GEOMETRY,  
ALGEBRA  
Spensor of N.H.S.



**LUTHER J. BOWMAN**  
A.B., M.A.E. Degrees  
Indiana U., Bloomington;  
U. of Fla., Gainesville;  
MATHEMATICS  
(Head of Dept.)  
Spensor Senior Class

Later in life, I encountered Ms. Cone, Lee's Dean of Girls. When I had cancer surgery and treatment in 2004, I received emails from a lot of friends, including a Virgie Cone. She

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mentioned Lee in her email, and her name sounded familiar, but I could find her in the student section of the yearbook.

I replied to her email by saying my mind was still groggy from the medications and that I couldn't place her. She responded that she had been the Dean of Girls and didn't know me either, but that was a good thing ... she only remembered boys that got her girls in trouble. We continued to correspond until she died in 2008 at 100. Whoever added me to her prayer list, thank you.



I remembered many of my teachers, but I'll admit I had to look at my old report cards to fill in a few blanks.

Ruth N. Upson Principal: Ms. Ruth N. Upson (herself)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Ms. Stinson

Ruth N. Upson Principal: Ms. Hanft

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Ms. Miller (part year)

Lake Shore Principal: Mr. Rowell

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Ms. Fairweather (part year)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Ms. Hawes

Hyde Park Principal: Ms. Garrard

- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Lomax
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Bryan
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Carlton

Lake Shore Principal: Mr. Rowell

- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Gibson, Home Room
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Mr. Evans, Home Room
- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Perry, Home Room

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Lee Principal: Mr. Gilbert

- 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Lyon, Home Room
- 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Hardin; Ms. Parker, Home Room
- 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Ms. Lyon, Home Room

The only class picture I have from elementary school is one that **John Frost** sent me of our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. If you were in any of my other grade school classes, and have a class picture, I'd very much appreciate receiving a scanned copy of it by email. Thanks!

### COMMENTS:

**Larry Dixon** said, "My favorite teachers at Ruth N. Upson Elementary were Mrs. Crews in 1st grade and Mrs. Beauchamp in 6th grade. And at Lee High School ... Mr. Bowman for math classes."

**Al Lyons** said, "I remember Mr. Bowman, for College Algebra, Trigonometry, and Solid Geometry. He had a giant slide rule above the blackboard. Can't remember her name, but I remember a woman teacher who had a new 57 Olds, with a 6-pack - 3 2-barrel carbs. She would race anybody!! Also remember my 8th grade English teacher (Lake Shore) - she had to use a pencil with a ball on the end, but she still had beautiful handwriting.

I also remember a Spanish teacher on crutches (probably polio). I also took physics during the summer of 59 (?) from Ms. White, in preparation for a special class they were going to have in my senior year. (was all films). But I decided not to take that class. So, I had time to work in the counselor's office. Boy was she surprised when I made the NHS. From there, I went to Washington University in St. Louis. Finished up at the College of Charleston. Then Uncle Sam sent me "THE" letter, so I quickly joined the Air Force. Brings back old memories."

NOTE: Al, you are remembering Mr. Winton who taught Spanish. He was also the sponsor of the Junior Boys Club when we were in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Charlene Hoolehan (Fisher)** said, "Thanks for generating loads of great memories! My favorite high school teacher was Mr. Holt. He taught me biology in 10th grade and chemistry in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. As a teacher, he was way ahead of his time. Our final exam in biology consisted of one problem. He listed a complete meal (steak, baked potato, green beans, etc.) and we had to trace it through the body from the time it entered the mouth until it left the body. We not only had to name the organs it passed through, but also what processes acted on each thing in each organ. That was so different from the usual short answer or multiple choice questions we were used to.

Mr. Holt also taught my chemistry class in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. It was a special class funded by some sort of science grant. There were two classes of it, with about 12 of us in each class. It was taught out of a college text with an accompanying lab manual. Half the days were spent in the classroom, and half the days were spent in the lab. Our final exam was interesting. He gave each of us a vial of an unknown substance. We had to analyze the substance to find out what it

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was. Mine was distilled water. Of course, I had to run every test there was to eliminate everything else before I could be sure it was distilled water. He had a great sense of humor!

My favorite teacher in junior high was Mrs. Rentz. She taught my 8<sup>th</sup> grade math class, and then taught me first year Latin. She told us some of the history of the Romans and showed us pictures of Pompeii and the restoration going on there. Many years later, when my husband was stationed in Europe, we were fortunate enough to take a bus tour which included Pompeii. Thanks to Mrs. Rentz, I was prepared for what we would see and was even able to look for things she had told us about. I would love to have shared that with her, but unfortunately she had died by that time.”

NOTE: Charlene, speaking of Mr. Holt’s sense of humor, I recall a pop quiz that said to look through the entire exam before beginning it. The questions were like how many window panes were visible in the classroom, how many holes were in a typical ceiling tile, etc. If you followed the instructions, you saw at the end that it said to skip the questions and turn in your quiz. As I was putting my paper on his desk, you saw people counting the window panes and wondering how I finished so quickly.

Charlene replied, “Oh, my goodness! I had forgotten that little pop quiz escapade he pulled. Thanks for the laugh! Mr. Holt was quite a character and a great teacher. As a retired elementary teacher myself, I can now appreciate, even more, how really innovative he was for the time.

By the way, I did have Miss Durrance. That was an interesting year! She made us write in pen on unlined paper with no mistakes. If we made a mistake, we started all over again. That certainly taught us discipline and focus. We also had to memorize 10 to 15 lines of Macbeth every night for what seemed like weeks. That was excellent preparation for college, though I certainly didn’t realize it at the time. Do you remember the day our principal, Mr. Gilbert, didn’t realize the intercom in his office was on and he let out a few swear words? I was in Miss Durrance’s class right across the hall from his office. Without a word to us, she marched out of the classroom and over to his office. She could be heard saying something like, “Mr. Gilbert, turn off your intercom!” Our class was laughing hysterically until we heard her coming back and then we were silent.

Thanks for all these wonderful trips down Memory Lane, Larry. We all need this break from Covid, Covid, and more Covid! It’s also fun to see posts from folks we haven’t seen or heard from in years.”

**Terry Ward** said, “My favorite teacher at Lee was Lucy Cole who taught English Literature. Had her for either tenth or eleventh grade. She made poetry and short stories come alive with her wonderful energy and dramatic flair. Before then, I didn’t care much for poetry. Will always remember the twinkle in her eye when she read humorous poetry or prose. In my retirement, I have written short stories and some haiku. I’m sure that she was a major influence for me. Also at Lee, I had Frances Lyon for Homeroom and Algebra. Excellent teacher. Firm but with a sense

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of caring. I had Luther Bowman for math and found him to be a fine teacher as well. Thanks for gathering all of these comments and for all the other coverage of growing up in Jacksonville.”

**Kingsley McCallum** said, “Does anybody remember “Big Dot” Thomas? She was one of my favorites.”

**Suzanne McCully (Wallman)** said, “I've been trying to remember the name of my favorite teacher at Lee High. It finally came to me. Mrs. Goethe; English Literature. I ran into her 20 years ago walking her dogs on the beach. Was so glad I got to thank her. Thanks, Larry, for getting our minds on something so positive.”

**Sonja Vinzant (Harpe)** said, “I remember Miss Durrance, but I never had her as a teacher. My husband, Dixon Harpe, had her for English during his senior year. She was going to fail him for the year, which would mean he would not pass his senior year. We were secretly married at that time. He talked to Miss Durrance and told her that he had to pass since he was married. She told him that he was dummier than she thought, but she gave him a D and he passed. So, Miss Durrance did have a heart!! It helped us have a good start on a marriage that lasted 57 years.”

**Patty Paresi (DeCarli)** said, “One of my favorite teachers was Mr. Italia. I had him last period for biology. I think I had straight A's or maybe a B up until his class. I had failed to do some project we had and I deserved a D in his class. He knew that would keep me out of the National Honor Society. So ... after he marked it as a D, he went back and changed it to a C and wrote "low" next to it. My parents thought I had changed my grade because it was smudged where he changed it. I was always grateful that he did not keep me out of the NHS.”

**M. C. Elmore (Harrell)** said, “Since no one seems to have mentioned her, I will chime in with my favorite at Lee - Mrs. Vinson for English. She was a wonderful teacher. My least favorite at Lee was Ms. Crater who was crazy! At Gorrie, Mrs. Chalker (English) and Mrs. McCalla (Latin). Mrs. Chalker really did look like George Washington. At West Riverside, Mrs. Young (5th grade). We were fortunate to have some very good teachers who were probably being paid next to nothing. Thanks again, Larry, for all you are doing.”

**Ray Van Landingham** said, “The first person that popped in my mind from Lee was John Prom, coach and dean of boys, who I greatly admired. He was tough and demanding but fair ... he could swing a paddle too. Every time I here the song Old Man River, I think of him. He sung it in one of the performances or talent shows in the school auditorium.

Then there was “Big Dot” Thomas, physics and hall monitor. She didn't like boys touching girls and would yell out if she saw such. Mrs. Durrance sent Doug Brooks to the office because his Levi's were too tight. Mrs. Horne, speech teacher and Thespians sponsor and of course, Nelly Vinal.

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At Gorrie, Mrs. Chalker, an 9th grade English teacher who reminded you of George Washington because of her white hairdo and facial features. Mitch Hazouri will have to tell us what made her plant wilt. Sarah “Factor” Slack, Algebra. Mimi McCalla, a Latin teacher who was a neighbor of Patsy Johnson and Murray Anne Winney. Coach Fromheart.

At West Riverside, the Krause sisters. Two old maids whose classrooms were across the hall from each other at the main entrance to the school. Maybe third grade? Mrs. Young, a fifth grade teacher who collected shells. A stout sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Cohen, who had the honor of a boy throwing up on her and her desk. He went to her desk to ask permission to be excused. She yelled at him to take his hand off his mouth and speak up. He did as he told.”

**Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels)** said, “I remember all of my teachers at West Riverside and most from John Gorrie and Lee. My favorite at WR was Mrs. Young, 5th grade. I, too, had the Krause sisters, and remember them standing outside their rooms which were across the hall from each other as we entered in the morning making sure we were well behaved. At Lee, one of my favorites was Ms. Mitseyouto, who made French 1 so much fun. She taught us the French national anthem and we learned how to recite The Fox and the Crow in French. I was so impressed with her because she was so young and could speak 7 languages fluently and she was from Greece and teaching in the American schools.”

**Kaye Johnson (Williams)** said, “My favorite places were any place that had water- river, lake, or beach. My mother was a member of The Ladies Red Cross Life Guards on Jacksonville Beach. This was in the 1920's and 30's. She was also a Red Cross water instructor. I was swimming at the age of 2 (probably the dog paddle) and took lessons at the public pools - Lackawanna and Hendricks (Southside). Good Shepherd Church had an indoor pool (during cold months the Lee's girl swim team practiced there). I was fortunate to have an Uncle and Aunt who lived in Jacksonville Beach on the ocean and spent a lot of time with them. My parents had friends who had a place on Lake Geneva in Keystone Heights where I spent a lot of time. Also, had relatives on Lake Santa Fe (there was a big Santa Fe and a little Santa Fe). I may be wrong about the name, but it was something like Santa Fe. I went to Camp Immokalee on Lake Brooklyn for several years as they had a session for girls even though it was run by the YMCA.

It was at Camp Immokalee where I met Nancy Pike. She went to Ortega Elementary and I was at West Riverside. Several years later we lived two doors from each other in Venetia. Small World!!! No wonder I like swimming, I got my Red Cross Water Instructors license when I was in college. I also swam a lot at Ponte Vedra Surf Club and Timuquana CC ( I also learned to play golf there at age 11 and still play 2 to 3 times a week now). Nancy and I canoed on Black Creek when the weather permitted. There was a place that rented canoes, but don't remember the name. Moving on to food. My family ate a lot of seafood - fish, lobster, shrimp, etc. My parents loved to fish and they would take me down at dark early to fish on the St. Johns near Palatka. With fish we usually had cheese or Nassau grits. However, strange as may seem I love chicken livers and calves' liver with onions. My mother was a true Southern cook, everything was fried. I have her black iron skillet but I don't fry anything in it. We also ate all the other food you had listed.



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Thanks again for all the time you spend doing this. It is fun to reminiscence about our past years. Just one thing I'm curious about. We listed all the schools we attended, but I was wondering about kindergarten. Most public schools did not have kindergarten in those days. I went to Mrs. Archibalds's kindergarten on Hollywood Ave. (In Avondale) and wondered if any body else in our class went to a kindergarten.

**Audrey Jones (Williams)** said, "Great memories. I got to pour water from a perfume bottle on the remains of the barf on Miss Cohen's desk after a kid threw up."

**Nancy Nelson (Spencer)** said, "Yes, "Big Dot " Thomas. She was indeed formidable, but mostly bark not bite. She and my family had to endure my soap making exit project! I think she got a few good laughs over that. Mrs. Cowles took me under her wing as I was a new kid starting April of our junior year. She taught me how to write, and I loved her class.

Mr. Jenkins had to put up with me when I arrived at Lee with no proper language requirement (only 3.5 years of Latin that transferred). He managed to get my credit! And I went out with a knowledge of basic French. He did tell us his stories about parachuting behind the French lines. Class was very quiet on the days he reminisced.

Larry - I would like to add my thanks to you for giving all of us this opportunity to relive the good old days. All of your research has given us stories to share with our grands and great grands! Have a grand zoom party celebration. 60 years ! Just wow!!"

**Vesta Hammond (Udall)** said, "Enjoying reading your school memories. Would you know that you and I were together in Mrs. Miller's second grade class?"

**Bob Forster** said, "Larry, does anyone remember one of Mr. Holt's final tests as:

1. What is the name of your textbook?
2. Who is the author?
3. What Is the date and publisher?
4. What is my middle name?
5. How fast did I run the 100 yard dash?

There were others like this as well.

Did you get the smell treatment in Mr. Holt's class. I had his class late in the day. He had this stand fan in the front of the class. While he was lecturing, a bottle would appear on the counter in front of the fan. Then a few moments later, the stopper would be off. Oh, the odors. He would do a little sadistic laugh while we were recovering from the smell."

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, "Larry, how in the world can you remember names that far back. Goodness that's amazing. I'm not that gifted, probably because I attended so many schools. Military life wasn't the greatest experience as a teenager. My very favorite teacher in a six year

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period was Mrs. McCubbin, 6th grade, Hyde Park Elementary. She was amazing. Definitely brought out the best in me. She would use her pitch pipe to get me to help teach a song to the class. I have been singing since I was a toddler. She really tried to encourage me to try out for the play Little Women. I just didn't have the confidence in myself. At Lake Shore, Mr. King for Civics and Mrs. Mayo for English. Being a majorette at Lake Shore Jr. High, I had to play an instrument, so sweet Mr. Marcellus will always be in my memories. Then to four moves before graduating. Those teachers just came through my life too fast, but all were very nice."

**Ed Brand** said, "My Dad graduated from Lee "Senior High School" in 1936. He said Miss Durrance was teaching then. Fortunately, I did not have her for English, but she had a ferocious reputation. By the way, J. W. Gilbert signed my Dad's diploma."

**Gena Whitten (Wilhelm)** said, "Wow, Larry. How do you remember all of those teachers. Your notes jogged my memories of some of them. My favorite at Lake Shore was a Miss Currey also Math. I remember her as a very pretty, young with short dark hair. Is that the same one?"

At Lee: I definitely remember Miss Lyon for Homeroom and Geometry. I loved geometry and I remember sharing my homework with several of the girls who needed help. Miss Lyon looks so young in the picture, funny how our perspective changes with age. What I remember most about her was in Homeroom. Alice Whittle, Judy Wiggins, and I sat very close together and we are usually talking when we should not have been. Miss Lyon often shouted, "Whitten, Whittle, and Wiggins, stop talking!"

I also remember going to Miss Cone for college counseling. She told me I should learn to type and only go to college a couple of years in order to get a job. I told her I wanted to major in math because that was my favorite subject and I had scored quite high in math on college boards. She told me I could not major in math because I was a girl and if I did I could only be a teacher! This was the expectation for girls in the 1960's not unlike the women in the movie "Hidden Figures". I was quite shy in those days and did not have much ambition. Young women of today have no comprehension of this. I met Ms. Cone in the 90's when she was in Life Care Center with my Mom on Roosevelt Blvd. She was very sweet, but I delighted in telling her that I earned a Master's Degree in Architecture from the University of Washington and was working as an architect. This after overcoming several obstacles getting into architectural school as one of only 3 women, but that is another story.

I remember Ms. Richter for Biology and Mr. ?? (big guy) for Chemistry. Also a Home Economics Teacher(name?) who taught sewing. I majored in Home Ec because of her in undergrad as that is what girls were expected to do. I remember the gym classes in which I was very inept; never made and of the teams. There was a Ms. Lazenbee."

NOTE: Gena, you are referring to Mr. Thomas Holt, he was a heavy-set Chemistry teacher at Lee. Yes, there was a young, cute teacher named Nancy Currey with short curly hair in our 1956 Lake Shore yearbook. Great recall!

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**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, “Mr. Rowell used to swing me by the arms in Elementary school if he saw me in the halls. That was fun and so was he. Later in the 7th grade, Mr. Barnett, Science teacher, was my favorite. He gave me a job in his camera shop on Saturdays (corner of Blanding and San Juan) when I was 13 because he knew I was having a hard time at home with my parents having split up and taught me photography. I eventually ran the portrait studio and was hired for commercial photography such as weddings, photos of semi-trucks for their use in advertisement, etc.

I continued to work for him and eventually became a partner. Later, my husband and I, and Mr. Barnett's oldest son, all became partners until my late husband joined the Jax Police Department. Much later we sold the Jax business to Sue (Chamblin) Frederick (many may remember her and her twin brother who owns the bookstore called Chamblin Book Store) I think it is still on Herschel St?) and her sister Kay, who eventually sold it to Kay's son. The business moved over to the empty Winn-Dixie store across the street on Blanding and still exists today. All of Mr. Barnett's family, and all of my family, moved to Marshall, NC, where we opened another business in Asheville named Merrimon Galleries (this time it was Art and Custom Framing). "Uncle Bill" died and we eventually sold the business and retired.”

NOTE: Principal J. T. Rowell was also a favorite of mine. At recess in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, a boy in our class found an old metal beer can, filled it with sand, and ran around shaking sand in everyone's faces. When he came to me, I pushed him away. He fell on the can and broke a rib. I was later sent to the Mr. Rowell's office. The boy's parents were there saying I was a bully and needed to be punished. Mr. Rowell said he would handle it and took me into his office. He talked with me (but nothing about the can incident), made sure the parents were gone, and sent me back to class.

Yes, the Chamblin Bookmine, established 1976, is still at its 4551 Roosevelt address.

**Brenda Harrington (Fields)** said, “The High School teacher I remember most was Mary Gensert. I was on the Business track and she was my shorthand and typing teacher. She taught me much about how to be successful in the business world. In addition to the basics of shorthand and typing, she taught me to 1) Don't chew gum in public. 2) Keep your hair clean and short. 3) Your appearance when meeting the public was very important. Over the years in working in health insurance, legal work as a Secretary, and private non-profit Christian School and Children's Home as an Administrative Assistant, I have held these truths to be self-evident. These lessons learned have stayed with me through the years and I will be eternally grateful for having Mary Gensert as a teacher.”

**Jerry Hightower** said, “Sister Helen Thomas, St. Matthews 4<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>. She was a task master! She did not put up with any shenanigans and I love her for how she squared me away...so did my mom and dad. Mrs. Edith Cowles, senior English: I actually learned a lot in her class but I generally blew it my senior year. I was to receive a failing grade in her class for a poor senior thesis and that meant summer school. Mrs. Cowles and I had a sat down to discuss the

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“numerical” averaging process for my final grade ... suffice it to say, I passed. Whew, good times.”

**John McDaniel** said, “Thanks for more thought provoking communications! My favorite teacher was Mr. Bowman for Algebra and Trigonometry. He was a great teacher and a nice man. The teacher that I most feared was Ms. Thomas for Physics. She was a good teacher. I never had any problem with Ms. Thomas and liked her a lot, but she was scary! The teacher I missed having was Ms. Durrance for English. Her reputation was stellar and I have always felt that was a missed opportunity. The worst teacher I had was a Coach who taught American History - not because he was a bad guy, but because was not a skilled teacher and missed the opportunity to make history interesting.

Thinking about these teachers makes me realize how they influenced my life and the role mentoring plays in all our lives and the opportunity we have to mentor others. I am really impressed that you remember all your home room teachers. That would be an impossible task for a military kid who went to 11 different schools in 8 different cities in 12 years! The only teachers I remember from my entire life are a few from the two years I spent at Lee, which is why I think they had such a disproportionate influence on me. Again, thanks for all you do keeping memories alive! I appreciate you!”

**Elvin Farris** said, “My favorite high school teacher was Mr. Luther J. Bowman. I remember him as a quiet teacher that (in my memory) controlled the class. While it took a while the first six week grading period for me to "catch on" to the algebra classwork, I was able to grasp things with his help. I went from a "D" to an "A" in one six week period and remained there. I noticed an improvement in other courses. I believe I kept it at all A's the rest of my time at Lee. I believe Luther Bowman and other teachers definitely helped me stay motivated to learn.

Other teachers I remember:

Edith Cowles, Senior English - I enjoyed my year in English class. I remember the term paper I had to write. Glad I took teenage typing at Massey Business college downtown the summer between Junior and Senior year. I must have been a good student in class. While walking home from school one day, Edith stopped her car and offered me a ride. I accepted the ride home in her convertible.

Roland Jenkins, French - My French teacher, Roland Jenkins, learned French the hard way. While serving in U.S. Army / Air Force in World War II, the B-17 bomber that he was in was shot down over France. Roland told us he learned (conversational) French trying to stay away from the German Army. After I graduated from Lee, I tried to get a summer job before my freshman year at Stetson University. I was at bus stop downtown, waiting for a transfer to another bus, when I ran into Roland. I told him I was looking for a summer job. Roland told me about the business where he worked during the summer. I applied and was able to work there two summers to help defray college costs.

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Margaret McLucas, American History - Since I have always liked history, things started out okay in Mrs. McLucas's class. I remember getting all A's every six-week grading period, including an A+ one time. After I retired in 1996, I began a much more interesting history, my own family's. Work on it every day.

Karl F. Kautz, Physical Education - I remember having Coach Kautz as a Physical Education teacher. Don't remember much about him in high school, but years later I ran into Captain Karl F. Kautz, a U.S. Army officer trying to get some construction supplies for his company at Dong Tam, Republic of South Vietnam. I was Construction Officer for a Construction Engineering company that built roads, air fields, upgraded bridges, and built buildings for 2nd Brigade of 9th Infantry Division in Delta. Karl got what he needed."

NOTE: Coach Kautz died in 2015. He was only 29 years old during our 1959 Lee football season. He played tackle at Texas Tech and was drafted in 1954 by the San Francisco 49ers as a 6'2", 225 pound tackle. His obituary is below. September 6, 1930 - August 29, 2015.



Karl Fredrik Kautz Jr., LTC, U.S. Army Retired, passed away on August 29th, 8 days shy of his 85th birthday. He was born in Orlando, Florida on September 6, 1930 to Karl Fredrik Kautz Sr and Mary Edna Kautz. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Anne; sons Karl (Cindy) and Charlie (Amy); daughters Erika Anderson (Scott) and Flossie Heptig (Pat), and five grandchildren; Katie, Brooke, Evan, Drake and Quinn.

Karl was a Texas Tech graduate, professional athlete, a Marine, a proud soldier, an Alzafar Shriner, and a Korean and Vietnam wars Veteran. He was a member of Windcrest United Methodist Church. He and Anne enjoyed living at the Army Residence Community.

**Helen Jones** said, "Thanks for the posting of obit on Coach Kautz. I remember when he married my English teacher Anne Cooksey. In my sophomore yearbook she signed with her maiden name, in my senior yearbook she signed Anne Kautz.

I also had Miss Eura Lee Durrance for English my senior year. We had to memorize lots of things that had to be recited at her desk! I can still recite the GETTYSBURG ADDRESS! Then there was the Canterbury Tales!"

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**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Remember so many of these teachers and had many of them from West Riverside, Gorrie, and Lee.”

**Pat Tate (Smith)** said, “I enjoyed Biology with Ms. Strain, English with Miss Edith Cowles, and of course three years of Art with Mr. J. B. Krobalski. Mr. K. inspired me become an art teacher by encouraging me to attend summer art camp at F.S.U., work at the Jacksonville Children's Museum, and paint sets for the school musicals. On Saturdays I studied art at the Jacksonville Art Museum where Ms. Ann Williams was a wonderful instructor.”

NOTE: Pat, thanks for sharing. I didn't realize that Lee offered three years of Art. Was it different course work each year, or was it individually paced?

Pat replied, “I also had 7th and 9th grade art at John Gorrie with Mrs. Andrews and Ms. Mabury. Mr. K. assigned projects, but all art students were together and not separated by developmental levels. Mr. K. came to my house to check on the portrait of Robert E. Lee that I was painting for our Graduation Ceremony. When I started teaching at DuPont Jr. and Sr. High and at Terry Parker Sr. High, I taught levels. In Virginia, there was even a portfolio class for students who wanted to major in art. Now many high schools are offering A.P. Art studio and art history. Mr. K.'s art class served me well as I continued my studies at F.S.U. and N.Y.U.

**Tom Miller** said, “There are two teachers who stick out in my mind. Edith Cowles, who was very precise. I liked her. If I recall correctly, she made it a point to tell us about three words that were commonly mispronounced. Clique should be cleek, precedence s/be pre SEE dense, and forte s/be fort. The other was a young Spanish teacher, Nina Mitseliotou who had recently immigrated from Greece. I found it odd to be taught Spanish by a Greek. She was very nice as were almost all my teachers at Lee.”

**Millicent Carver (Spillars)** said, “You mentioned Mrs. Hawes in third grade at Lake Shore. I liked her. I believe we were in her class together, and if I remember, wasn't she in an annex building behind the school? At Lee, I had Ms. Coxwell for History and she was a NUT JOB! Crazy as could be! I liked Mrs. Coale for English and Mrs. Hall for typing.

**Lee Arthur (Gallo)** said, “My favorite was Mr. Claude O. Hulick, Band Director. My dad was a chief in the navy when I was in Lee High School; & I had a brother just 16 months younger than I. This brother was no scholar; however, given that only one of us was ever to make it to college on my father's salary -- any girl from that period could tell you that I, the female, was not to be the one. Mr. Hulick saw to it that I made it to college despite my circumstances. He introduced me to the people responsible for my music scholarship -- he even drove me several hours to my audition.

At 17, I never felt I had much promise at all; and certainly would never have dreamed that one day I might even finish a Ph.D. But Mr. Hulick imagined some potential in me and his vision ultimately changed my life. I realize now how profoundly indebted I am to him. Thank you, high school teachers. Don't ever underestimate your insight, your power ... your magic.

## River, Lake, or Beach

Hi, classmates. Were you primarily a River, Lake, or Beach person during your childhood days?

### Rivers and Creeks

- Cedar River: I lived near Cedar Creek in Lake Shore. Later, it became know as Cedar River. It flows into the Ortega River.
  - Williamson Creek: Flows into Cedar River near Cedar Hills Estates.
  - Butcher Creek: Flows into Cedar River near the Ortega River at Confederate Point.
- Ortega River: Flows into the St. Johns River. Do you remember how often the low bridge opened to let sailboats through?
  - Fishing Creek: Flows into the Ortega River between Confederate Point and Ortega Farms.
  - McGirts Creek: Flows into the Ortega River. McGirts Creek has been renamed to Ortega River on maps.
- Little and Big Fishweir Creeks: Both enter between Fairfax and Avondale into the St Johns River just north of the Ortega River.
- Black Creek: Flows into the St. Johns River south of Fleming Island. I rode my bike there once on Blanding Blvd. from Lake Shore to fish with friends ... we never did that again ... way too far.
- Willow Branch Creek: A tidal creek near Willow Branch Park that widens into a canal and flows into the St. Johns River.
- St. Johns River: Flows north for 310 miles and drops less than 30 feet in elevation, making it a “lazy” river.

### Lakes

- Doctor’s Lake: Not a true lake. It is actually an inlet of the St. Johns River.
- Kingsley Lake: Between Penny Farms and Starke. Strickland’s Landing had an enclosed swimming area.
- Gold Head Branch State Park: Swimming in Lake Johnson and hiking the Ravine Trail.
- Camp Immokalee: YMCA camp located on Lake Brooklyn in Keystone Heights.
- Keystone Heights: Many lakes nearby, e.g., Brooklyn, Bedford, Crystal, and Geneva.

Did you ever float in an inner tube? You had to remember to point the valve down to keep it from poking you in the side. Did you water ski on a river or lake?

You might think by posing with **Mary Ann Thurmond** and skis in this 9<sup>th</sup> grade picture, that I was an accomplished skier. That was not the case. I could move off the boat wake and back on without falling, but that was the extent of my ability.



Mary Ann Thurmond and Larry Whittington

I tried skiing on a river, but I had to watch out for buoys and pilings, which with my poor eyesight was a challenge. So, I needed to wear my glasses. I rigged up corks on my glasses so that if I took a plunge, the glasses would float until I could retrieve them.

### Beaches

- Jacksonville Beach: Remember the pier, the boardwalk, and driving on the beach?
- Neptune Beach: North of Jacksonville Beach
- Atlantic Beach: North of Neptune Beach
- Ponte Vedra Beach: South of Jacksonville Beach. Nearby sand dunes were the site of Hi-Y hayrides.

**Ed Rukab** sent me this picture of Jacksonville Beach from the 1950s.





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Remember body surfing on the waves? Did you ever tangle with the barnacles of a pier piling? Do you recall the old beach boardwalk? And, all the sailors flirting with “our” girls?

Did any of you ever put a few drops of Iodine in a bottle of baby oil and mix it up for a home-made suntan lotion?

### COMMENTS:

**Vangie Futch (Gault)** said, “Larry, Larry, each and every email from you is a sweet savoring of “what use to be”, and will never be that way again, but perhaps the most delightful aspect of all, is discovering what a treasure you are to our high school class! And now that you’ve revealed your inclination for detailed thoroughness, I should not have been surprised by the cork “rigging” for your glasses! Especially thank you for the Lee teachers: the memories of those faces, their words, their demeanor. Thanks for all your efforts this past year as you have truly been the “light” just when we needed it most.”

NOTE: Vangie, thanks for the very kind compliment. Many of you have expressed similar words, and I appreciate all your comments. I’ve enjoyed reminiscing and researching these topics, and trying to lift the spirits of our classmates. I’m especially pleased when I hear about classmates that have reconnected as a result of these discussions.

**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry, it was definitely Jacksonville Beach for me then and years after. I lived down there for a while after we graduated. I got my love of the beach from my Dad who was a lifeguard at Jacksonville Beach when he was young. We used something called Tanya which was cocoa butter and something else. I got fried more than once using it. I just never learned . Never did tan ... always burned.”

**Ruth Dyer (Milton)** said, “Another trip down memory lane. Thank you. Oh to be that young again. Thank you.”

**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “All three. We shared a lake house with my aunt, uncle, and cousins every other weekend at Keystone Heights — loved those times. Some girl friends and I used to go to the Ponte Vedra Country Club after school to soak up some sun. You could get there in about a half hour back then. Always loved the boardwalk at Jacksonville beach. Remember lots of dates. As for the river, loved water skiing.”

**Dona Meserve (Hice)** said, “You are just too busy with memories Fella. I love to be near or in water. I’m definitely a water baby. I did ski in Cedar River. Now, I wouldn’t put my toe in it. Also skied in Doctor’s Lake. Was so surprised how shallow it was. Did not know it really wasn’t a lake. Did you know the St. John’s River has a huge fault line right down the center. I learned that years ago helping my grandson with his homework. I even tried a little surfing at Jacksonville Beach. Didn’t like getting caught in the wrong wave. SCARY. My parents had a summer lake home in Keystone Heights on Halfmoon Lake. That’s was always fun. Doesn’t exist anymore. Thanks again Mr. Historian. You do such a good job.”

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**Bob Forster** said, “Our family home faced across the road from Cedar Creek/River. For awhile, I had a very old Cyprus wooden rowboat that drifted up I believe from the little marina at San Juan bridge. One day, one of the sides came off. It was fun while it lasted. Our family would go to Kingsley Lake. I collected the empty soft drink bottles and returned them to various stores to collect their deposit. 2 to 3 dollars sometimes. I tried to water ski. Key word tried.”

**Beverly Binkley (Simpson)** said, “I water skied from Cedar Creek with my sister, Gail, and the boat owner George Cross. Skiing with us was Nathan Trevasis, who was a champion skier with Cypress Gardens. When we would ski from Cedar Creek, he would gather up the ski rope in several loops and yell "Hit It", throw the rope out in front of him and take off from the grassy bank and jump into the water on one ski. I could slalom also, but had to be pulled up from the water but did learn to jump the wake. It was a great time in my life. What a great photo of you and Mary Ann.”

**Ed Rukab** said, “I drove to Black Creek with a buddy of mine. We jumped in and swam. Then my buddy had severe pain in his abdomen. He wanted to be taken to emergency all the way to 8th Street instead of Riverside which was closer. As we travelled on what was then two lane Blanding Blvd, I ran out of gas. I had to run about a mile to buy gas in a borrowed can. After arriving at the hospital and I'm in the waiting room, the doctor comes to inform me of his findings. I asked was it appendicitis? No, he said. What then? His answer: He just needs to have a healthy bowel movement! Boy, was I mad! I told the doctor, "no problem. When I see him I'm going to kick it right out of him.”

NOTE: Ed, I had a similar story in college. I took some buddies in my car to Fort White, Florida to go tubing down the Ichetucknee, a spring-fed river. Part of the way on the floating trip, one of the guys went berserk and kept slipping off his tube. We paddled him as quickly as we could to the exit point where my car was parked. As I drove him back to Gainesville to the hospital, he was thrashing around in the back seat and ripped the overhead liner of my car. After the 45-minute drive, he was admitted to the emergency room with what we thought was appendicitis. It turns out he's had too much beer and the cold water stopped him from urinating. Even when he was out of the water, he couldn't relieve himself, so they had to put in a catheter to drain him. The doctor said the volume was a new hospital record.

**Helen Jones** said, “Thanks for all of the “good old days” memories. I guess I was more of a lake person. I grew up in Hyde Park Baptist Church and at the close of VBS we celebrated with a picnic day at Lake Strickland. As a young child, my family lived in Melrose which is on Lake Santa Fe and Lake Brooklyn. I have many happy memories of learning to swim and fish on those lakes. Thanks for all of your research and sharing.”

**Madelaine Mackoul (Cosgrove)** said, “BEACH! And still am.”

**Rusty Russ** said. “I can remember well spending untold hours on the Ortega river, Cedar Creek, and on Doctor's Inlet water skiing. Any time we could get \$.50 or a dollar for gas, we were on the water. Only had a 14' aluminum boat with a 40 hp Mercury motor, but it was great for

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pulling skiers. Spent many hours flying over the ski jumps on Cedar Creek at the Blanding Bridge as well as at Doctor's Inlet Marina at the 17 bridge. A some of my friends and I also took our cars to South Ponte Vedra Beach and tied ski ropes to the back of our cars and skied up and down the beach in the surf, which was easily done in those days because there was NO traffic on the beach ... it only hurt when you fell in the shells!"

**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, "Loved the beach. And on Sunday after church, we would go to Strickland's Landing."

**Jack Chancellor** said, "When I was in elementary school at Ruth N Upson, I would spend two weeks at Jacksonville Beach with my grandmother staying at the Oceanic Hotel in early August ... a three-story structure located just South of the old Boardwalk area. The hotel was owned by the J. T. McCormick family who ran the hotel during the summer months. J. T. ultimately became Mayor of Jacksonville Beach. In the Spring, we visited Gold Head State Park where I learned to waterski. We now have a lake house on Lake Placid where our grandsons learned to wake surf and wake board. Great fun. Cannot live in Florida and not be water oriented."

**Nancy Jenkins (Kinser)** said, "I certainly remember water skiing in the St John's with no ski belt or life preserver- I guess we were tougher back then. I remember The Lobster House and when the Creature was filmed - it seemed so scary at the time! Thanks for all of the fun, good memories."

**Louis Andre** (through Lenora) said, "Louis said that he'd go to Jacksonville Beach, Kingsley Lake, and the St. John's River. We lived in Jacksonville for two years after we got married. But with our trips back to see his parents, we'd go to one or other of these places and enjoyed it as well. Louis' Mom was a Nannie to several families in Jacksonville and we'd go sit on their docks and watch the fireworks (was it the Prudential building?). She'd also take us to the Ponte Vedra Clubhouse as guests. Louis says that a family friend had a house off the St. John's - I want to say it was Doctor's Inlet.

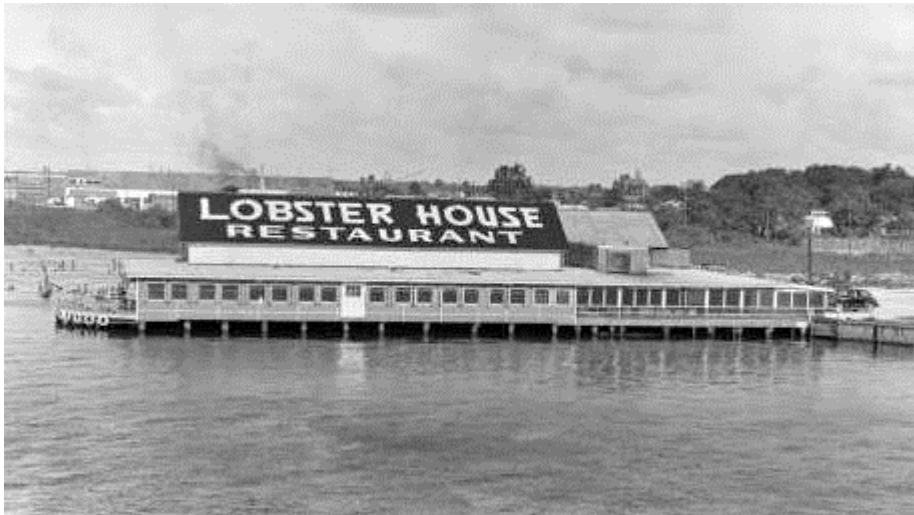
His paternal grandparents had a house on the lake at Keystone Heights. They retired from the Sugar Refinery in Savannah (Pt. Wentworth). That's a whole 'nother story. When I was small, we'd come to Jacksonville Beach every year for two weeks and visit with an uncle and aunt who lived in the area. Going to the Green Frog Restaurant/Bufferet and eating so much we thought we'd explode (I think that was at the end of Atlantic Blvd in Atlantic Beach). We'd ski on the St. Johns River when younger. Remembered skiing double with my cousin and we were going so fast and he hit a submerged lock and flipped end-over-end. He was okay; but did not ski much anymore after that."

**Sandy Sammons (Sutter)** said, "I lived in Ortega Forest, one street from the St. John's River. We boated a lot on it. Yes, I skied from Jacksonville to St Augustine on the St. Johns. We often went to the pier where Creature from The Black Lagoon was filmed in part. Never can remember the name, but great food and lots of help docking and gas. I miss that. Monett and I went almost

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every weekend to the Ponte Vedra Country Club to get sun. Probably why I have so many spots as my grands say.”

NOTE: The Lobster House opened in 1944 and was destroyed in a fire in 1962. It was featured prominently in scenes from *Revenge of the Creature*, the 1955 follow-up to the hit film *Creature from the Black Lagoon*. Scenes were shot depicting the creature attacking diners at The Lobster House, using local extras hired from the nearby Prudential building.



## Family Foods

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Hi, classmates. In an earlier email, we reminisced about our favorite restaurants. However, we probably ate most of our meals at home. What were the typical foods you had for dinner?

NOTE: For many of our parents or grandparents, *dinner* was the big meal of the day when they took a mid-day break from their farming activities. A light *supper* was the last meal of the day. When they started working in towns, and it was not possible to travel home in the middle of the day, the big meal of the day, dinner, became an evening meal. So, there was confusion for a while. Country folks still thought dinner was mid-day and supper was in the evening. When my father moved to Jacksonville, he was invited for Saturday dinner and showed up at Noon.

Listed below are the foods typically served for my dinner when I was a child. Yes, very fatty, salty, and fried. Probably why I've had two heart surgeries. I'm the only male Whittington in the family to live past 65. I'm setting a new record every day!

Are your foods listed, or did you eat different foods?

### Meats

- BBQ Ribs, BBQ Chicken, Chicken and Dumplings, Chicken-Fried Steak, Chicken Pot Pie
- Country Ham, Fried Chicken, Fried Shrimp, Fried Pork Chops, Fried Catfish, Meatloaf

Did you every pull apart the “wishbone” of the chicken or turkey with a family member? The person holding the larger piece after the break was declared the winner and was granted their wish.



The trick to winning was to hold the bone as high up as possible to where the bones joined. Some families had rules to hold the bone at the flat tips of the end to prevent cheating. Of course, if the wishbone was still warm from cooking, it would bend and not break.

### Sides

- Black-eyed Peas, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Collard Greens, Corn Chowder,
- Corn on the Cob, Creamed Corn, Deviled Eggs, Fried Okra, Grits, Mashed Potatoes
- Potato Salad, Turnip Greens, Steamed Cabbage, Squash Casserole

We seasoned our vegetables with fatback, salt pork, lard, or bacon grease, and with lots of salt and pepper. Did you ever have “pot liquor”? It was the tasty broth saved from cooking greens. It was usually served in a cup with crumbled cornbread.

### Breads

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- Fried Cornbread, Homemade Biscuits, Hush Puppies

### Drinks

- Sweet Tea, Lemonade, Water

### Desserts

- Banana Pudding, Custard Pie, Peach Cobbler, Pecan Pie,
- Pound Cake, Sweet Potato Pie

Okay, I'm officially hungry after thinking about these foods. Unfortunately, many of them are not on Neva's approved diet for me.

**Ed Rukab** sent me this Facebook posting about "Eating in the Fifties":

- Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.
- Curry was a surname.
- A take-away was a mathematical problem.
- Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.
- Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.
- All chips were plain.
- Oil was for lubricating. Fat was for cooking.
- Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.
- Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.
- Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.
- None of us had ever heard of yogurt.
- Healthy food consisted of anything edible.
- Cooking outside was camping.
- Seaweed was not a recognized food.
- Kebab was not even a word, never mind a food.
- Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.
- Prunes were medicinal.
- Surprisingly, muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.
- Pineapples came in chunks in a tin. We had only ever seen a picture of a real one.
- Water came out of a tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than gasoline for it, they would have become a laughing stock.
- The one thing that we never, ever had on our tables in the fifties ... was elbows, hats, and cell phones

### **COMMENTS:**

**Paul Genho** said, "In my parent's house, dinner was at noon. Supper was the evening meal. Lot of one pot suppers; spaghetti, beef stew, chicken and rice, chili, etc. My father was a commercial fisherman, so we had fish and shrimp frequently. I can recall my sister complaining

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“do we have to have shrimp again?” Ground beef was 3 pounds for a dollar, so lots of hamburgers and meatloaf and hamburger-potato soup. And of course liver and onions. Jell-O was a dessert, not a salad like today. The only thing I remember detesting was rutabagas.”

NOTE: Paul, I love shrimp. When I was in grade school, my family went on vacation and I ate shrimp for lunch and dinner every day. On our last day, I wanted shrimp for breakfast, and over my mother’s objections, my father convinced the restaurant to serve me shrimp. When eating at home, if I complained about eating anything on my plate, I received a second helping. I learned quickly to just eat whatever I was served. As a result, I like most all foods ... but shrimp remains my favorite.

**George Martin** said, “Larry, your lists of favorite foods evokes allot of good memories. And it’s interesting that one’s taste and favorites become firmly established before growing up and leaving home. The only thing I see missing from my list would be chicken pirleau ... a chicken and rice dish seasoned with sausage and maybe peas or other vegetables. I’d never heard it called anything but pirleau until coming to SC. Here, it’s known commonly as “bog” and sometimes prepared in cast iron washpots for large, not necessarily sober, groups.

But there’s one glaring omission from your dessert list! A good friend when nearing the end of life said he expected there to be a big room in Heaven that serves nothing but strawberry shortcake 24/7 ... and all you want. I hope that’s what he’s found and is saving me a seat. And once again, my appreciation for all you’re doing with this project. I’m now finding myself each day scanning my inbox for your latest.”

NOTE: How could I have overlooked Chicken Perleau (also spelled Pilau or Perlo). My father was a fireman and they often cooked it at the station since it warmed up well if they had take a call during dinner. It was the only dish he cooked at home. And yes, strawberry shortcake. I preferred the strawberries over a slice of poundcake rather than in the store-bought little shortcake cups.

**Margie Beatty** said, “Larry, that was interesting why we say dinner or supper but it makes sense. I think you and I must have been given the same home menu to pick from. In addition to the foods you mentioned we had cubed steak with rice and gravy and usually the old standby black eyed peas. There always seemed to be homemade biscuits on the table and lots of "extra " butter in case the pat on top it was baked with wasn't enough. In the winter we always had beef stew ( not Dinty Moore) on rice. Who really cared if the potatoes in the stew and rice made two starches. Who the heck cared. My favorite fried fish was Bream since I'm not a fish person (that might be a little too healthy). I call them Brim. Don't forget the red eye gravy with the fried ham. I used to spoon mine on a piece of bread. I don't remember anyone calling iced tea sweet tea back then. The "sweet" part was just a given since sugar was our best friend. Banana Pudding ... I still can never get enough of that.

Tell Ed Rukab that was really funny especially the "pizza" one and the "healthy foods being anything edible" You could eat anything as long as you finished all of it. Because of the starving

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children who lived in a far away place that would be glad to have whatever it was. Keep sending more of the same Larry. We never tire of them.

**Mary Jane Parramore (Kramer)** said, “You crack me up, Larry ... as usual. Lots of memories came back with your suggestions. Most of the foods you mentioned were served by my “Gram” on Sunday, where we went regularly. One of her special dishes was sweet potatoes with marshmallows baked on top. Have to admit I didn’t love the sweet potatoes, but I was sure to gobble up the marshmallows!!

My mother was a big fan of Aspics - tomato, shrimp in a Mayo based aspic, pineapple. Aspic has kind of disappeared. I wonder if anyone makes that anymore? Just want to let you know how much we appreciate your efforts to ease the “stress level.”

NOTE: Mary Jane, my mother also put marshmallows on her sweet potato casserole, but my wife tops it instead with brown sugar and pecans ... a great dessert. I remember Jell-O salads, but we never had aspic. I read that it has been around for more than 1000 years. The thickened meat broth turned to gelatin when it cooled and protected the meat from spoiling.

During our school days, people used a commercial gelatin to speed up the process. I guess cooks could be quite creative with the ingredients, such as pieces of meat, seafood, or eggs. A restaurant in Orlando serves an aspic with smoked duck breast, whiskey soaked prunes, pistachio, and porter.

Mary Jane replied, “Really interesting and I think I would love your wife’s recipe ... it does sound like dessert. Thinking I’d give the duck aspic a pass though. Stay well, friend!! Oh, I just remembered how we use to go down to the farmers market on Beaver Street and Mom would buy BUSHELs of veggies that she would freeze or can for the winter. Most of all, I remember all of the family sitting in front of the TV peeling open Lima beans and other items until my thumb was red and raw!!”

NOTE: Yes, I remember going to the Farmers’ Market. Fortunately, I didn’t have to shell peas, snap beans, or husk corn. I just ate them.

**Alice Whittle (Rzepka-Hammett)** said, “Hit all bases except meat. I wasn’t much of a meat eater. My mother did make chicken and dumplings, but I ate only the dumplings. I was a big vegetarian even back then, but always with fatback. We ate a lot of seafood. My parents loved to fish. One of my favs was my mother’s spaghetti. Loved seeing all the differences from back then to now.”

NOTE: Alice, my father loved vegetables. He told my mother it was okay to have no meat at dinner as long as we had three vegetables.”

Alice replied, “Interesting. My grandfather loved vegetables—he even loved to cook, but wouldn’t drive.”



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**Norma Tate (Rowland)** said, “Ate it all. Everything fried was with Crisco lard. Bacon every morning, but I’m still kicking.”

**John Runton** said, “We ate dinner about 6 o'clock. Dad was off on Tuesday and Friday evenings. So, he was able to eat with us. We would have country steak or beef stew (occasionally), spaghetti with meat sauce, goulash, or fried chicken. When dad was working, we'd have goulash, vegetable soup, grill cheese with tomato soup, and sometimes we'd have breakfast for dinner. We didn't have a lot, but we never went hungry.”

**Kaye Johnson (Williams)** said, “My family ate a lot of seafood - fish, lobster, shrimp, etc. My parents loved to fish and they would take me down at dark early to fish on the St. Johns near Palatka. With fish we usually had cheese or Nassau grits. However, strange as it may seem, I love chicken livers and calves' liver with onions. My mother was a true Southern cook, everything was fried. I have her black iron skillet but I don't fry anything in it. We also ate all the other foods you had listed.”

**Patty Paresi DeCarli** said, “My family was from New York and we mainly ate meat (roasted) vegetables and salad. The first time I was invited to a friend’s house for dinner, I could not believe they just had greens and rice and gravy. We always had meat, except on Friday, when we had fish.”

**Patsy Avinger** said, “At least once a week, my father had to have roast beef, rice, and black eye peas, usually on Saturday.”

**Anne Taylor (Williams)** said, “My Mom owned the Chicken Shanty Restaurant on Phillips Highway. She would bring home left over chicken each night. For years I took a chicken sandwich for lunch. It is still my favorite meal along with potato salad.

Thanks for sharing all these wonderful memories. I have lived in Maryland since leaving the University of Alabama and marrying a young man from Western Maryland. They don’t cook the same way here nor do they eat a lot of those wonderful southern dishes. I love visiting my sister in Florida because she will serve all those wonderful dishes.”

**Vaden Bessent** said, “Larry, Sounds like Mom’s menu. Boy, do I wish we could visit those days again. Thanks.”

**Helen Jones** said, “Hi and thanks for the list of foods because we had all of those in my household. On Friday nights in the summer, we had spaghetti or fried shrimp on the table when dad got home. We rushed thru dinner to get to the Normandy Drive-in before dark so we could ride the train or donkeys. Well, not me, but my younger brothers. My two sisters and I were allow to sit upstairs in the concession stand.

Sunday dinner was usually at my grandparent's home after church. Grandmother's fried chicken was the best (fried in lard). We had sweet ice tea at every meal except breakfast. We didn't

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always have dessert, maybe on Sunday. On our birthday, mom made a cake of our choice and our flavor of ice cream.

Just remember that these days will be called the good old days by today's younger generation. Scripture tells us to be thankful in all circumstances. I am thankful for your willingness to help us walk down memory lane. It's fun !”

**Jim Baskerville** said, “Larry, I'm still smiling at the 'definitions' that Ed sent you ... very funny and very true.”

**Ruth Dyer (Milton)** said, “Sounds good to me. Enjoyed. Will have to think back now. My Mom could cook but during the week she worked at her 8 to 5 job. So my grandmother who lived with us was the one who did the cooking and we ate when Mom got home. Thank you again.”

**Pat Sullivan (Rice)** said, “When I was a kid (actually to this day) I loved black-eyed peas and rice. My mother always kept those peas on hand in case I was coming to visit. She often teased me that I ate so much of them that I'd turn into them some day. Well, was she ever surprised when I pointed out to her a few years ago that my initials used to be PEA, and now my last name is RICE! True story. Many thanks again for all the fun history!”

**Beth Ann LeGate (Pickels)** said, “I remember Mother making spaghetti by Chef Boyardee in a box. We always had seafood on Friday nights, even though we weren't Catholic, and steak on Saturday nights. We often had rice and gravy and small young peas. I often took my lunch to school, especially in elementary, and most of the time it was PB&J or Kraft pimento cheese spread. I was taught that the differentiation between dinner and supper was dinner was more formal and you usually dressed up because there were guests ... both were at 6. The noon meal was lunch.

I remember the horrible smell at West Riverside when they had hot dogs with sauerkraut ... the smell took over the whole school and I would be so happy that I had taken my lunch that day. I also remember that John Gorrie served chocolate milk and I was so excited since West Riverside only had white milk. Guess what? they discontinued chocolate milk that year and the same happened when I went to Lee. I was not a big white milk drinker so very disappointed. Thanks again for the nostalgia.”

**Louis Andre** (and Lenora) said,

### “Meats

- Beef tips, Fried chicken, Fish, Shrimp - Fried or boiled, Oysters - on the 1/2 shell or fried
- Meatloaf, Seafood Gumbo, Chicken & Sausage Gumbo, Chicken & Dumplings
- Sausage, Bacon
- Fried country ham and "Red-Eye" gravy (pour coffee into the drippings and stirring it until it is 'red')
- Spaghetti, Meat & noodles, Eggs - cooked any way

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- Cheese - Cheddar (most of the time) cooked in dishes
- Baked Macaroni & Cheese - either as a meal or a side dish
- Cheeseburgers w/everything - was told it had everything on a pyramid food chart (meat, dairy, bread, and vegetables)
- Turkey (on holidays or other special occasions or @ funerals)
- Vienna Sausages, S.P.A.M. - UGH I hate it (Lenora)

### Sides

- Rice - at all meals (next day if any leftover added it to scrambled eggs to make them spread further)
- Grits - plain or w/cheese, Oatmeal
- Cornbread (left-overs were crumbled up and put in milk)
- Navy Beans, Black-eyed peas, Field peas - (Lady Finger Peas)
- Green Beans - All beans and peas were still shucked by parents/grandparents - wore aprons and that is where they put them, spent shells in a 10-gallon bucket
- Baked Beans - Lenora's mother asked a lady for her recipe and she did not tell her everything that went in it. She made up her own recipe.
- Fruits, Biscuits, Squash, Carrots, Mashed potatoes, Tomatoes
- Carrots, Tossed Salad
- Okra - Fried or stirred in a pan until it was no longer stringy
- Greens (such as turnip greens and collards)

### Desserts

- Pies (occasionally)
- Peach Cobbler - Lenora's Dad would get a couple or so bushels at the Peach-packing place in Musella, GA (near Ft. Valley, GA) - he'd freeze them so he could have cobbler every day
- 9-layer cake with coconut, nuts, & rum (special occasions but definitely at Thanksgiving or Christmas)
- Sour cream pound cake (Chocolate and ice cream)
- Divinity @ Mimi's @ Christmas, Pralines @ Mimi's @ Christmas
- Fruitcake cookies (coconut, nuts, Thick condensed milk (in a can) and fruitcake - cherries and other dried fruitcake (without Cintron pieces)
- Sugar Cookies
- Peanut Butter cookies the ones that you made a cross with by using a fork at a 90° angle

### Beverages

- Coffee - Louis's Dad made it very strong drip coffee in a drip pot (enamel) and was way too strong for us, especially when he 'reheated' it. He put a whole lot of sugar in it.
- Sugar Coffee
- Milk (Lenora won't drink it unless it is 'ice' cold when younger she'd put ice in it to make it cold)

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- Sweet Tea, Water from the faucet and spigot, Chocolate Milk or Ovaltine
- An occasional coke, Yahoo's

Both of us were told we had to 'clean our plates' ... whatever they or 'we' put on our plates. When we could, we'd feed 'stuff' to our pets 'under the table' (hopefully without being caught). BIG meals [spread outs] were on holidays (Christmas and Thanksgiving), family reunions, and/or funerals.

We ate pretty well so we eat just about anything but liver, Louis will eat 'Chicken Livers'. We both grew up when our parents said, 'try it, you might like it, but they did not press the issue. I enjoy all the emails you send and it makes us talk about how life was when we grew up. You don't really think about it otherwise.”

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