



29th LXA “Roscoe” Reunion at Pocono Manor in Review

NOVEMBER 2008

2008 “ROSCOE” REUNION SUMMARY: A total turnout of 59 attended, twenty five couples and nine singles. While this was not a record, for the first time, representatives from the newer classes outnumbered the old timers, a sure sign that with the continuing support of the '56 to '62 classes, the traditions of the Roscoe Reunions will continue well into the future. This is a credit to all those that foresaw this as the means to keep the LXA spirit alive and well. Thank you brothers for your wisdom.

This is the wrap up letter where you will read comments from the Host, Co-Host, event volunteers, and personal notes from brothers. Once again we get to see group photos from the gathering, a generous and most welcome contribution from our resident movie director, Jim Sclafani and his professional team in Delray Beach FL. We hope to see Jim and Arlene back with us next year.

2008 ALFRED REUNION SUMMARY: Thought you'd like to know This year Alfred University hosted the 50th reunion for the class of 1958 which set an all time class record of 59 attending. The class of '58 brought back enthusiasm and some important traditions to the Alfred community including a St. Pat's Parade, complete with St. Pat, a float, class officers, Kings and Queens, vintage cars, and fire engines. The students, faculty and townsfolk looked on in amazement and were impressed. Networking within the former fraternities, sororities and the military, was responsible for the high turnout. Lambda Chi was strongly represented by ten brothers, with seven continuing on to join us at the Pocono Manor including first timers, Bill Clark and Bruce Boulton.

ACTIVITIES: In addition to the traditional Wednesday morning golf tournament, alternate activities were emphasized including walking, biking and socializing. The alternative activities stressed at this 29th reunion were well received including a “Fats-Thins” putting contest and the Texas Hold'em tournament, officiated by Ed Spirko and won by Barbara Pierce, a first time player. Next year we will focus on further improving the planning and preparation for these activities. For example, we understand that Marita is also a competitive dealer and we may expand the Texas Hold'em games to two tables next year.

The new early golf starting times at 8:00 AM to 8:40 AM made it possible for the golfers to get off the course early enough to participate in the putting contest as well as the alternate activities and to be on time for the Glee Club rehearsals.

SPECIAL NOTE: Returning for the second consecutive year were: Dick & Carol Best '57, Dave & Tinker Wilcox '58, W. Baxter & Barbara Pierce '58, Richard Gross '61, Walter & Linda Reed '62, Duke Stanton & Anne Marie Giamolli '62 and for the first time, Charles Ries '62, along with Bruce Boulton '58 and Bill Clark '58.

GLEE CLUB: Another stunning performance by the AU LXA Alumni Glee Club as its sixth concert inspired an aging audience... not remembering what songs were on the program last year, they would not have noticed if the performance of 2007 was repeated. However the newly added selection, “America the Beautiful” was well received with stand up, sing along participation.

GLEE CLUB continued: In an impromptu moment, Sam Warner broke into the lead on "You'll Never Walk Alone" a part he mastered in 1958 and performed at Stan and Camille's wedding in Alfred, 50 years ago. What a touching moment as the couple embraced, once again. The glee club was well directed again by our leader and organizer, Roger Eiss.

GOLF EVENT: Don Sanders, in his second year of running the golf tournament decided to award the low Gross Trophy to Don Sanders! What's wrong with this picture?

Here is Don's report High Gross (no one was even close) was earned for the second consecutive year by Dick Gross, but only because Al Richter failed to qualify being on injured reserve, unable to perform. The permanent Steilin-Messner trophy was unveiled this year with the winners names engraved for each year going back to 2003 when Bob and Paul won four years straight in their respective categories, Low/High Gross. Responding to some concerns about the course condition and related scoring, a new set of rules will be in place for the golf event for 2009. We will make an effort to move the tournament to the shorter, more mature East Course for 2009.

THE REUNION "NEW TIMERS" EXPERIENCE: CONTRIBUTION FROM KENT RIEGEL '61
"Betty and I have now attended our third "Roscoe" reunion and upon reflection, we find we are developing some delightful memories from them. First, we find that each year we attend, we grow closer to the participants. That is, when we attended our first event in 2006, we knew some of the brothers from the years I was on campus, but there were a number of brothers from earlier years that were new to me, and Betty, of course. However, as we continue to participate, we find that the shared experiences have made each year better than the last. And, even as to those brothers I knew from Alfred days, I find that our former sense of brotherhood returns with the increased time we spend together. So, the point of all of this is, for us, the joy of these events is enhanced by our repeated attendance. Also, because this is not a general reunion of the entire brotherhood, it remains a manageable size that enhances the opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones, whether it is a brother we never knew or a brother's wife that is new to us."

"Finally, there was a little event at this year's reunion that in a small way, seemed to capture the spirit of our days of living in the house. During the course of the cocktail hour before the banquet, we discovered that Don Sanders('61) and Bruce Bolton ("58) shared a common talent; i.e., tying a knot in a cherry stem with their tongue. Well, this evolved into a very public challenge that took place at the banquet and while Bruce won the event, we all won by virtue of the fact that the event itself demonstrated that the sense of fun and spontaneity that was so apparent in our LXA days on campus was still alive after some 40+years and, as a final postscript, as an endorsement to the group sense of humor, we announced that one of the serving the banquet waitresses was interested in going home with the winner. If you haven't attended a reunion, please make an attempt to do so, and for all of those who have attended, we look forward to seeing you in the future."

"The reunion experience gets better with each year of participation and the cherry stem incident is just a little reminder that our senses of humor and fun are still alive despite the passage of time and our increase in age."

ACCIDENT: In an unfortunate accident, Edna and Art Young were involved in a violent car crash on leaving the Pocono area and were attended to by Dean and "BJ" Elliot. After some time in testing and resting, we understand they were soon back home and recovering nicely.

OLD TIMERS VIEW: "The 29th Reunion was a huge success. Ann and I want to thank Joe, Erf and Dale and the support groups for three days of renewing and developing new friendships. It was great to enjoy the activities, food and shared memories in the relaxing atmosphere of the Poconos. The Glee Club of 18 under the direction of Roger Eiss continues to be the cultural highlight of the gathering."

"It's wonderful that the past two reunions have noted representatives from each of the classes from 1950 thru 1962. This assures new attendees that they will be able to share their memories with many who were at Alfred with them."

OLD TIMERS VIEW continued: “This group continues to maintain contact with all the members of the participating classes with the hope that you will join us. For those who cannot, we would appreciate hearing from you, so that Dale and Marge Smith can include you in the Reunion Memory Book that we can all enjoy.”

“We thank the brothers who are maintaining the Annual Reunions and may next year's 30th allow us to renew old and make new friendships, once again - The Good Lord Willing.”

Ann and Dan Olenchuk

OMEGA: The Roscoe Reunion spirit extends throughout each month of the year, well beyond the event itself at the Pocono Manor. Many of the brothers and wives maintain contact with each other based on class year, geographical region, or just new friends having spent time together at the reunions. Mini-reunions have been going on for years and new ones have developed. The e-mail via the internet is a big factor in encouraging more contact, having the effect of making it convenient to maintain communication.

We find that over the years there is genuine concern for the well being of our brothers and sisters. Nothing has brought this to our attention or served as a better reminder as the experience of losing one of our members and the outpouring of true concern, companionship and support the bond.

This year we lost one of our favorite boosters of the reunions, Jan Iorio, who passed away in August. A Memorial Service was held in honor of her life where we were reminded of her dedication to her family and strong will. Brothers and wives attending the service were Kent Riegel, Al and Susan Richter, Ed and Marita Spirko, Ron Theis, Bill Dick and Joe Stein. We were there to say goodbye to Jan and to support Sam in both his grieving and celebration of her life. It was a privilege to meet Sam and Jan's daughter Julie and son Chris and to share with the family some of the memories from our days at Alfred University and beyond to the present.

In September, Carl Peterson unexpectedly passed away. Many of you were aware that Carl broke his pelvis at the Pocono Reunion having fallen after Glee Club practice. He had recovered at his favorite facilities, the Lehigh Valley Medical Center and the Lutheran Home at Topton PA and survived weeks of therapy only to be overtaken at home by complications.

In his early days of recovery Carl was visited by Dale and Marge Smith, Erf Porter, and Pete Riker and others. Carl never complained and was looking forward to returning to the LXA Reunion in 2009. Following his death, we find out more about Carl and his impact on everyone he met at Alfred University, his family, work life and beyond as referenced by the following observations.

Following his funeral service attended by Pete Riker and Erf Porter, Carl's daughter Karen wrote: “I just wanted to thank you all for your thoughts about my father one more time and to tell you what a beautiful job Erf did delivering this message. The poster from Jim Sclafani made it and was proudly displayed. Dad would have appreciated all your efforts.” Thanks, Karen. **NOTE:** Jim sent a poster size photo of Carl from one of the recent reunions to the church of the Holy Spirit.

From Jim Sclafani ... “We were so fortunate, so blessed, to have known Carl. Over the entrance door to our company's lunch room, is a large wooden key with the copy “Attitude – the key to success” I should add ... written by Carl Peterson.”

Ding Beaudoin writes ... “One of the many things I admired about Carl over the years (as well as his ability to enjoy a good beer) was his positive attitude on life. Carl's positive attitude and spirit during the last few difficult months of his life was obvious. If Carl could speak during his memorial service, he would pass along the words of Charles Swindoll, on ATTITUDE.” (Check it out)

Duke Stanton wanted us to be aware of the passing of Fran Stanton, class of '59, a month before the Reunion. Other deaths reported during the year: Phil Bailey '57, and Frank Bullis '59.

FOR THE RECORD: We have been at the Pocono Manor for seven years now and invite each of you to offer any comments or suggestions on the facilities and/or the program your volunteer staff sets up for these reunions. **Enclosed find a survey form you can use to send us your feedback** via e-mail or fax to Joe Stein 724 625 8152 or mail to: JL Stein, 903 Appleridge Ct. Gibsonia PA 15044.

Reminder: Reunion 2009 will mark our 30th year of getting together since the early days at the Huff House in Roscoe.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THE 2009 ROSCOE REUNION: Mark the dates on your calendar. Next year, immediately following the AU 50th reunion for the class of 1959, the LXA Reunion will be held again at the Pocono Manor. To make it more convenient for the class of '59 attending their 50th at AU, and any others attending the Alfred Reunion to travel to the Poconos and not lose a day

the Roscoe Reunion will be moved up to Monday/Tuesday June 15th and 16th.
Those wishing to stay another day may sign up for Wednesday night.

Enclosed: Find the group photo prepared by Jim Sclafani for your viewing pleasure

Watch your mail for the invitation letter early in 2009 from your Hosts, Joe Stein and Kent Riegel.

Special Note: Glee Club members, class of '59, and those planning to attend the AU reunion, or early birds to the Poconos, you can expect to hear from us about a pre-Pocono pre-reunion gathering at Roscoe NY on Sunday following the AU reunion, where a group plans to meet for an early practice of the new songs selected for a glee club performance for 2009. All are welcome.

2008

Erf

Erf Porter–Host,

Sam

Sam Iorio–Co Host,

Dale

Dale Smith–Host Emeritus

2009

Joe

Joe Stein–Host & General Chairman

Kent

Kent Riegel–Co–Host



FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION 29TH ROSCOE REUNION
Pocono Manor Resort and Inn June 17-19, 2008

Please help us plan for the 30th Reunion.

Please complete and return this form to Joe Stein via e-mail, steinjl@nauticom.net,
fax to 724 625 8152 or mail to JL Stein 903 Appleridge Ct Gibsonia PA 15044

FACILITIES, FOOD, AND SERVICE

On a 1 (terrible) – 10 (great) scale, please evaluate the Pocono Manor's Facilities and Food **by circling the number that best represents your assessment.**

- FACILITIES (ROOM) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- FACILITIES (ACTIVITIES) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- HOSPITALITY ROOM (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- COCKTAIL RECEPTION (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- FOOD (BREAKFAST) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- FOOD (LUNCH) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- FOOD (DINNER) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- SERVICE (STAFF OVERALL) (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

OVERALL VALUE (COST) AND CONVENIENCE

- (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS (STAY WHERE WE ARE, DEVELOP OTHER OPTIONS, ETC.)

ACTIVITIES

- Hospitality Suite (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- Golf (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- Fats – Thins Putting Contest (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- Formal Dinner (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- Glee Club (terrible) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (great)
- Other (biking, rafting, Texas Hold ems. Tennis, shopping, Bushkill Falls, Mt Airy Casino)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS (OTHER ACTIVITIES? MORE OF ONE, LESS OF ONE)

THANKS

Your reunion volunteer staff

Lambda Chi Alpha Reunion 2008



Gordon Shippy, Ardell Shippy, Dan Olenchuk, Ann Olenchuk, Bob Mangels, Jean Riker, Pete Riker, Charlie Bryant, Joan Mangels, Phyllis Chambers, Marylou Magdelinskas, Bud Helmer, Vito Magdelinskas, Vilda Helmer

Lambda Chi Alpha Reunion 2008



Erf Porter, Dick Best, Carol Best, John Storer-Folt, Ed Spirko, Marita Spirko, Edna Young, Art Young, Joyce Roncone, Carol Elliott, Pat Roncone, Dean Elliott, Marge Smith, Dale Smith

Lambda Chi Alpha Reunion 2008



Sam Warner, Helen Warner, W. Baxter Pierce, Barbara Pierce, Roger Eiss, Camille Harris, Stan Harris, Dave Wilcox, Claire (Tinker) Wilcox, Bill Clark, Carole Stein, Joe Stein, Bruce Boulton

Lambda Chi Alpha Reunion 2008

