

# WHS NOTE

## Class of 1963 Association

DECEMBER 21, 2018

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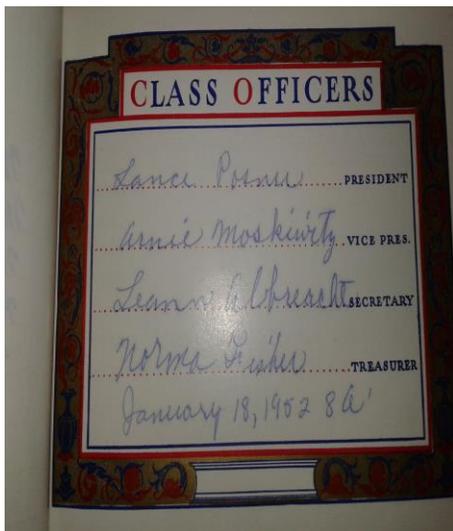
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Hi Voyagers on the Unsinkable “WHS Weequahic,”

What photo gems found in the closet!

Leonard Clarke (WHS/Arts 56) found a memento of the officers of his Bragaw Class of 1952 Sharon Feinsod (66) shares photos of the eighth-grade graduation pin from Chancellor Avenue School (1962) and a lavalier representing WHS.



### Jac Toporek (6/63) invites comments/memories of these WHS teachers:

From past teachers Specials and commentary, there is no doubt that at the top of the Fine and Practical Arts Department at WHS was marching band and orchestra leader Frank Scocozza. Herman Holzman also received many an honorable mention. So, putting Alumindians to the test, please share comments about the following 1960s era (or pre-years) F&PA teachers Matthew Brady, Sheldon Glassner, Maria Lonergan, James Lynch, William Mayer (Printing?), Audrey Melkowitz, Esther Schechter, Seymour Weiss (Woodshop?) and Marion Wohlfarth.

PS: For those who took the printing class, what did Mr. Mayer call it when a student dropped the box of print letters spilling them all onto the floor? And, besides myself, were any of you a culprit in this misdeed? Jac

### Synagogue Synergies:

Noah Chivian (6/52)

A correction about B'nai Abraham's affiliation. When Rabbi Joachim Prinz came to Newark from Berlin, with a short stay in New York City, the congregation was neither Conservative nor Reform and it has remained so. The following quote is from B'nai Abraham's website. "We are a congregation that is more than 165 years old that works together to define our own independent path. We strive daily to be faithful to the teachings of the Torah, dedicated to the acquisition of Jewish knowledge, and committed to the well-being of the Jewish people in America, Israel and around the world." Noah

Clark Lissner (6/63)

One of the recent newsletters mentioned the *Custer Shul* (synagogue), which I attended for 5 years, and from which I was Bar-Mitzvahed in 1958. When the rabbi asked my wonderful, but not religious, dad Murray what his Jewish name was (to be used in the ceremony), my father innocently replied, "Sorry, I don't play ball!" The rabbi simply responded, "We'll call you *Moishe* today." Clark

Jack Lippman (50)

B'nai Jeshurun was on High Street, not on Clinton Avenue, but a block or so away. I still recognize its green dome when I fly into or out of Newark Airport, just beyond the Divine Hotel Riviera. And Rabbi Myron Fenster, Rabbi Prinz' assistant at B'nai Abraham, eventually became our rabbi at Shelter Rock Jewish Center in Roslyn, NY, where our kids became bar and bat mitzvah. Small world. Jack

Arnie Kohn (56)

B'nai Abraham cannot be classified as a Conservative congregation. They never were members of *United Synagogue*, which is the central governing agency for all conservative congregations. Today, they probably can be better classified as a Reconstructionist organization. Arnie

Michael Kessler (1/65)

The *shul* on Custer and Peshine Avenues was *Agudish Yisroel*. My dad and his father attended. Michael

Rita Kirsch Morris (64)

The *Talmud Torah* on Osborne Terrace was right across the street from where our family had a lovely house. I attended that Hebrew school for a number of years, as did my sister Ann. It was right next to the Orthodox synagogue our family attended for the holidays. I have beautiful memories of praying ever since I was a very small girl while sitting next to my father. Thanks for helping me bring back such wonderful memories. Rita

Abe Himelstein (South Side 1/55)

To Mel Rubin (56), the shul on Bergen Street near Watson Avenue was *Knesset Israel*. The rabbi was Phillip S. Greenstein. My twin brother Nathan and I were Bar-Mitzvahed there in 1950. Abe

### Responding to Lenny Sherman (1/61):

Jerry Lieberman (6/61)

I just wanted to congratulate Lenny Sherman on a superb piece of nostalgia. Enjoyed it thoroughly. I am a third generation Weequahicite. My brother Ernie (of blessed memory) was in the Class of 1948 and my sister Myra was a 1954 graduate (both are estimates). As I made my way through my four years at WHS, many of the faculty would say, "Your Ernie's or Myra's kid brother." From their stories to my experiences Weequahic was such a unique experience not many could share.

Of course, I married a Weequahic girl, Lana Greenberg. We were in the same graduating year but never dated in high school. We met two years later at a snack bar on the fourth floor of Bamberger's between our day work/school and our part time night jobs. But that is a story for another time. Oh, how lucky we all were! Jerry

Sondra Green Weissman (52)

Lenny Sherman's (1/61) reflections capture so beautifully the world we grew up in. Thank you for both your feelings and expressions. Sondra

Lenny Wolkstein (59)

To Lenny Sherman, yes, there was a difference between Ludens and Smith Brothers cough drops. Ludens were gummy. Smith Brothers were hard. Lenny

Fran Solomon Finkel (67)

To Lenny Sherman, you are so right on with your memories. This is coming from a person who now lives in the deep south. I thank you. Fran

Sandy Sward (1/61)

Lenny, thanks for sharing those great recollections. I am sure there are many more that can be shared, and a few that CANNOT! Sandy

Stewie Bitterman (1/61)

So, Lenny lived at 266 Schley Street in a two-family house. I, coming from a much wealthier parents, lived in the penthouse of 299 Schley just a mere stone's throw from Lenny. We had a fire escape outside my bedroom window and in the heat of July I would bring my pillow and blanket and sleep out there.

We had a dumb waiter in the apartment. One day we were playing in the basement and my friends put me in the dumb waiter and pulled me up to the third floor. I knocked on the door and my mother could not imagine where the knocking came from until she opened the dumb waiter door and I popped out. If that didn't give her a heart attack nothing would.

I remember Lenny's father bought him a transistor radio and I wanted one so bad. One day my father bought me one and the two of us spent nights on Lenny's porch listening to the ball games. I was a Yankee and I believe Lenny was a Dodger. What memories.

Lenny and I were best of friends then and today, years later, are still in touch. Still love you Lenny!  
Stewie

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