

# WHS NOTE

## Class of 1963 Association

January 25, 2019

**YOUR EXCHANGE OF COMMENTS MAKE THE WEEKLY WHS NOTE A VIBRANT AND PLEASING CONNECTION TO THE PAST WE SHARED. PLEASE CONTINUE TO SHARE YOUR RECOLLECTIONS, EXPERIENCES AND THOUGHTS BY SENDING THEM DIRECTLY TO [WHSALUM63@AOL.COM](mailto:WHSALUM63@AOL.COM).**

**THE WEEQUAHIC HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, WHICH SOLELY MAILS THE NEWSLETTER, IS ALSO LISTING LINKS TO THE NEWLY FORMATTED WHS NOTE ON THEIR WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WEEQUAHICALUMNI.ORG/WHS-NOTE](http://weequahicalumni.org/whs-note).**

**Hi Presenters of Scapes-Picturequahic,**

### **Sad News**

Judith Lynn Rinsky (Irvington 59) reports that her husband of 55 years, Joel Rinsky. WHS Class of 1956 passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, January 9th, 2019. Click on the following link to access the [Joel Rinsky Obituary](#)

Fred Goldman (6/62)

Here is the link to the Star Ledger obituary for one of my Clinton Place Jr. HS teachers, Bernice Gotkin Poll (WHS 1944?), Back in Junior High, where she was a teacher, they had parents' night. My good friend Frank's (6/62) mother, Mrs. Argenziano, was told by Mrs. Poll that Frank was a good student and would even be better if he stayed away from that Fred Goldman kid. And, over 55 years latter we are still best of friends. Click on the following link to access the [Bernice Gotkin Poll Obituary](#). Fred

## **Alumindians in the Archives:**

4/8/2006

Lynda Cohen Sparrow (64)

As always, thanks for the memories. Meeker and Elizabeth seems to have been a crossroad for a lot of us from the Weequahic graduating classes of the 1960's once we left "The Beth". I know from our parents' generation, after the war it was very hard to find housing. I remember being told by my folks how lucky they had been to have gotten a one-bedroom apartment at 469 Elizabeth Avenue. I wonder if that was a newer developed area in the late 40s? It was such a great place for children and families, just across the street from the park. Toddlers played in the sandbox and on the swings, mothers strolled with baby filled carriages, seniors sat on the benches supplied by the city; what a place of life! And everyone could do sports, be it tennis, golf, ball playing or horse riding. And, this is truly amazing, it was all FREE. Please pinch me, I must be dreaming.

469 Elizabeth was next door to the modern apartment house that went up at the corner of Meeker and Elizabeth sometime in the late fifties. I remember the family who lived on that corner lot. They had two or three daughters and I would sometimes visit. Their house, from my recollection, was set back far from the street and their lot was huge. I assume the family sold the property to the developers who put up the corner building. It certainly stood out, if only because of its modern period architecture.

We were lucky to have grown up with bounty. Even though most of our folks didn't earn much more than \$10 or \$15K a year, we lived in a country that believed in a good quality of life for most of its population. Something not only considered not an expectation any longer, but for which you must be quite affluent to afford. For most kids today, unfortunately, they've missed the boat. Lynda

### **"Scout's Honor;" notice from David Sumka:**

My dad, Malvin Mal Sumka, is 93 years old and grew up in the Weequahic area. He met my mom, Myra Diener (now 86 years old) on a blind date under the clock at Bamberger's. Mal would have been in the Class of 1943 (he was a calendar year student, not Sep-May). When he turned 18, he enlisted in the Army and was sent to Europe to fight the Nazis in WWII.

Not long after returning to his family home on Goldsmith Avenue after the war, he was asked to be the Scout Master of Troup 96, the troop he was a member of growing up. He was the Scout Master from 1947-60.

During his time at WHS, my father lettered in two sports, football and basketball; he was the manager (water boy) on both teams (never played a game).

On Feb 12, 2019, Mal is going to be inducted in the Parsippany High School Hall of Fame. He is being recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Township and the students of Parsippany for 20+ years. Highlights and summary of my dad's career, community contributions and the event appear can be found at [Mal Sumka Attachment](#). For more information, please contact me at david@thesumkas.com.

### **Anita Forgash (6/62) requests some sleuthing assist:**

A few years ago, I requested info on some distant cousins and readers here were very helpful. Now, I am embarrassed to admit, I have lost contact with two first cousins with Weequahic connections. With my parents, brother, aunts, and uncles long gone, I have now lost many cousins as well.

Geoffrey Green was either Class of 1960 or 1961 at Weequahic. He lived at 2 Keer Avenue in the apartment house until around 1957. Then they moved to the apartment house on Van Velsor Place off Chancellor. He had an older brother Jaison, Class of 1957. His mother Natalie owned a knitting store on Lyons between Aldine and Clinton Place in the early 60s. The store was then moved to Chancellor near Union Avenue across from the movie theater from 1964-1968. We lost track of Jeff and his brother in 1980 after their mother died and his brother had moved to the DC area. His brother Jaison died around 2004.

Judy Miller was an only child who lived in the apartment house on Wainwright and Chancellor and went to Chancellor Avenue School until about 1959. She would have been WHS Class of 1964 but they moved to the Ivy Hill Apartments. We think she went to the newly created Ivy Hill High School. I do not remember her coming to WHS while I was there. She went to Newark State Teachers College and graduated in 1968. Many Weequahic classmates went there. Judy became a teacher. We lost track of her after her father died in 1972. She married and had children and I do not remember her married name.

Does anyone have information relating to Judy Miller or Geoffrey Green? My email is Anita4gash@aol.com or Anita4gash@gmail.com. Thanks in advance. Anita.

### **Ellie Miller Greenberg (49) Responds to Marilyn Klein Anderson (64):**

As a sister WHS twirler/majorette and also a resident of Colorado for 65 years, I want to commend Marilyn for her leadership in creating multi-racial/cultural ads for Fashion Bar in Denver. When my mother moved to Denver, she worked for Fashion Bar and I, of course, shopped there. During the 1960s, Colorado was a leader in many innovative approaches to the Civil Rights Movement. My own contribution was to co-found the Littleton Council for Human Relations in a Denver suburb. Our main focus was integration in housing, but we were also active in education, government, employment and all aspects of the effort to support interracial understanding. The Council became a model for other suburbs to participate actively in the Movement of those years. I'm sorry I did not meet Marilyn in Denver before she moved to beautiful Hawaii. Thank you, Marilyn, for your contribution to our understanding of our diverse society. Ellie

(Ellie's comment is being published as a response to the accomplishment of another WHS graduate and not as any forum on diversity, the Civil Rights Movement in the 60's and human relations. The WHS Note will publish newsletter subscriber comments solely that are within the parameters of the long-held theme of our times at WHS, our ties to the Weequahic /Newark area and any personal lifetime impact moments in some way connected to the first two.)

### **Len Cohen (6/54) pitches a good memory:**

Great remembrances of our Weequahic baseball team under Coach Spike Schwartz; wool uniforms; real spikes; winning more than we lost. I recall that Coach Schwartz took a tough, hard-as-nails approach to his mentoring of the players. At one point when I was coaching 3rd base, he gave me a red plaid flag. The coach wanted me to use it when our left fielder, Arnie Taub was rounding 2nd base so that the runner would stop at 3rd. Arnie had a habit of running through "hand signals," so Coach Schwartz told me to wave the flag whenever Taub was hellbent on attempting to score!

Here is our 1953-54 lineup.

1st base - Artie Novum

2nd base - Harold Lipton

shortstop - Lou Laporta

3rd base - Joel Moskowitz

left field - Arnie Taub

centerfield - Jay Tabachnick

right field - Harvey Kaunitz

catcher - Sandy Dreskin

The pitchers were Monroe Krishnan, Paul Yogi Trachtenberg, Fred Gardner, Lenny Busch and Jerry Rudowsky. Len

### **Stewie Bitterman (1/61) adds a "Vette" comment:**

To Harriet Zucker Singer (6/51), please tell me what year your Corvette was. My family owned Bitterman Chevrolet in Montclair and I remember my father picking me up from Chancellor Avenue Grammar School in a white 1954 Corvette that he borrowed from the dealership. I thought I was the luckiest kid in the world! That was the first year for the Corvette. Then, when I started working there after college, my first Corvette was a '67 silver convertible with a four on the floor followed by two more. Still today, I just love those Vettes. Stewie

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