



# Ken-Hi 1900-2000

*This book belongs to* \_\_\_\_\_

*Class of* \_\_\_\_\_





Dear Alumni of Ken Hi,

In the year 2000, Ken-Hi would have been 100 years old. In 1950, Dr. E. T. Chapman, who was superintendent of the New Kensington High School suggested an "Alumni Day" in the year 2000. The Alumni committee decided to honor his request, in memory of him and all the others that have passed before us - the teachers, and the students. We have endeavored to make this weekend, August 11, 12 and 13, an exciting time. Reliving old memories, seeing old friends and going to familiar places. We hope that you could join us at the welcome party in the Ken-Hi Memorial Field, or a trip to band camp, or at the class reunions all around the area, or at the banquet or at the picnic. ***This is our history in the making!***

You who have made Ken-Hi what it is - a memory to be proud of - deserve all the praise.

The Ken-Hi 2000 Reunion Committee



# KEN-HI, what is in a word?

The word provokes and invokes.

It invokes a happy carefree time in our lives,  
it invokes nostalgia for things that were,  
it invokes a certain sadness on leaving a 'comfort zone'.  
Maybe nothing will ever be that much fun again.  
We had to leave and grow up into ADULTS!

For some, it was a provoking word,  
one that was feared on the field of battle.  
(basketball, football, etc.)

And for others it is the view of an unhappy time,  
full of angst, or many miserable recollections.

The school building echoed these happy or sad remembrances,  
lingering in some trace memory, some vivid recollection, some buried deep,  
some forgotten forever, some cheering us up, and some never to be resurrected.

## **This is the story of a school.**

One that perished with the stroke of a pen, one that ended  
with a school consolidation, but one that was a cornerstone of our lives.

One day, when we are all dead and gone, our recollections will be gone and  
Ken-Hi will be no more, except in history.

Our feelings will not be taken into consideration,  
our glories will not be celebrated, our victories, our losses—all forgotten.

## **“BUT THE SPIRIT LIVES ON”**

so we begin, at the beginning, where it all started



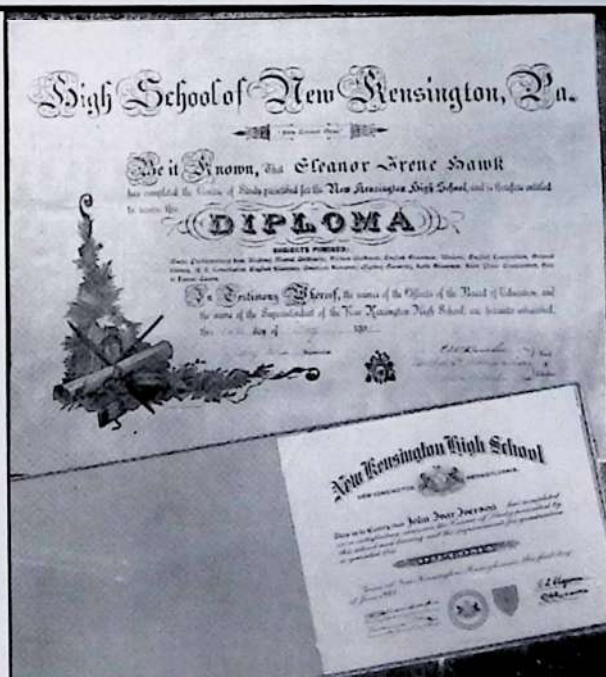
# The Graduates of KEN-HI

(year by year)

*A total of 14,792*

(these numbers were taken from the Taleoken records)

1901 - 6	1923 - 59	1945 - 355
1902 - 4	1924 - 94	1946 - 329
1903 - 1	1925 - 81	1947 - 387
1904 - 6	1926 - 110	1948 - 375
1905 - 4	1927 - 127	1949 - 317
1906 - 7	1928 - 135	1950 - 339
1907 - 12	1929 - 134	1951 - 294
1908 - 6	1930 - 138	1952 - 285
1909 - 4	1931 - 172	1953 - 333
1910 - 10	1932 - 248	1954 - 344
1911 - 9	1933 - 334	1955 - 386
1912 - 15	1934 - 327	1956 - 333
1913 - 23	1935 - 373	1957 - 326
1914 - 19	1936 - 376	1958 - 342
1915 - 25	1937 - 323	1959 - 410
1916 - 29	1938 - 413	1960 - 437
1917 - 59	1939 - 426	1961 - 506
1918 - 53	1940 - 415	1962 - 373
1919 - 48	1941 - 405	1963 - 402
1920 - 41	1942 - 375	1964 - 551
1921 - 70	1943 - 371	1965 - 380
1922 - 74	1944 - 333	1966 - 356
		1967 - 338





# ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

*In the summer of 1990, when the New Kensington School District was created...*

The life expectancy in the United States was 47.

Only 14 percent of the home in the United States had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone, and a three minute call from Denver to New York cost \$11.00!

There were only 8,000 cars in the United States, and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 miles per hour.

Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most popular state in the union.

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.

The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year,  
a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year,  
a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births in the United States took place at home.

90 percent of all physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and the government as being "substandard".

Sugar cost 4 cents a pound. Eggs were 14 cents a dozen. Coffee cost 15 cents per pound.

Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoos.

Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason, either as travelers or as immigrants.

The five leading causes of death in the US were:

1. Pneumonia/Influenza 2. Tuberculosis 3. Diarrhea 4. Heart Disease 5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars because Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska had not been admitted to the Union yet.

Drive-by-shootings-(in which teenage boys galloped down the street on horses and randomly shot at houses, carriages, or anything else that caught their fancy)  
were an ongoing problem in Denver and other cities in the West.

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30. The remote desert community was inhabited by only a handful of ranchers and their families.

Plutonium, insulin, and antibiotics hadn't been discovered yet. Scotch tape, crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.

There was Mother's Day and Father's Day.

One in 10 adults couldn't read or write.

Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores.

According to one pharmacist, "heroin clears up the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is in fact, a perfect guardian of health".

Coca-Cola contained cocaine instead of caffeine.

Punch card data processing had recently been developed, and the early predecessors of the modern computer were used for the first time by the government to compile the 1900 census.

18 percent of households in the United States had at least one full-time servant or domestic.

There were only about 230 murders in the United States annually.

*Sent by Thelma Henderson*



# Education in New Kensington

(1891-1991)

*by Frank Oliver,*

Principal, New Kensington Senior High School, 1954 to 1970

Assistant Supervisor of Schools, Retired

The New Kensington School District was not organized until April 1893 after the first Board of Directors was elected in February of that year. Immediate construction of the First Ward School, then a four room structure, was planned. Rooms were rented from churches and the town hall until the Third Ward School was completed in 1897.

The elementary school program consisted of the usual reading, writing and arithmetic taught along with spelling, hygiene, algebra and geography. Eight grades of school were being offered up to 1899. Each teacher taught **all** of the subjects for the grades in her room.

In 1899, approximately twenty-five boys and girls completed the subjects prescribed for the last year's course of New Kensington Public Schools. This was the eighth grade of education being offered in the Walnut Street Building. The Board of Directors, believing that some provisions for additional schooling should be made for these boys and girls, recommended that a three-year high school be augmented. Later this was changed to a two-year course. When school opened in September of that year (1899), sixteen boys and girls reported to the Walnut Street building to begin their high school work. One small and inconvenient room was assigned to the group.

Mr. Piper, who had been elected to teach the high school subjects as well as to teach music to part of the grade school pupils, welcomed the sixteen boys and girls. Under his direction, New Kensington High School was launched. At the end of six weeks, Mr. Piper announced that he would be leaving soon due to the fact that he had been assigned to the pastorate of a nearby Methodist Church. Miss Mary Ashe was elected to succeed him and in very short time assumed the principalship of the New Kensington High School. She was greatly interested in the newly organized school and was instrumental in having it properly recognized by the State Department of Education in Harrisburg. The Board of Directors approved her efforts and before the close of the school year 1899-1900, New Kensington had a regularly organized and established high school with an academic course of two years. This two year course included as required subjects: History, Civics, Latin, Mathematics (Algebra and Plane Geometry), English (Grammar, Composition, English and American Literature). In addition, regular classes in music were held. Friday afternoon was set aside for special programs of debates, public speaking, and music. When the school opened in September, 1900, just three boys and three girls of the original group returned to continue their high school work. They were given a larger room but had to share it with the new freshmen. The two high school classes were still with the grade school in Walnut Street building. The seniors, as they were now known, were all planning to go to college.

As the end of the school year drew near, plans were made for Baccalaureate services and Commencement exercises. The former were held in the Methodist Church on Ridge Avenue, with the President of Mount Union College delivering the address. The Commencement exercises were held in the Trinity Evangelical and Reformed Church on Constitution Boulevard.



Special music had a place on the Commencement program and each of the six graduates delivered an oration upon some subject very important to himself.

In August, 1901, Miss Ashe resigned the position in New Kensington to accept one elsewhere. She was succeeded by Miss Marie Smiley, a graduate of Wilson College, who taught for the next two years. In 1904, the Board of directors voted that a three-year course of study be adopted. As a result, more students were attracted to the high school and more teachers were needed.

In 1905, due to increased enrollment, larger quarters than those offered at the Walnut Street building were necessary. Arrangements were made to rent rooms on the second floor of what was known as the Flynn Building on Ninth Street. This was a temporary arrangement, since the Board of Directors had purchased lots on 800 block of Fourth Avenue, where they planned to erect the first high school building. This building was dedicated in 1908. It later became the Fourth Avenue Junior High School building and also housed Penn State New Kensington Campus in later years.

In 1908, the high school began a four year course of study. This course had several electives. New names appeared on the faculty roster. Mr. Horton, the principal, resigned to accept a position in Wellsville, Ohio, and Mr. Crow, then served as high school principal. The students lost some of their conservatism and began to turn their attention to athletics, caps and gowns for graduation, alumni receptions, Junior-Senior proms and closing picnics at McLaughlin's Grove.

The high school moved in 1908 from the rooms on Ninth Street to the new building on Fourth Avenue. As the population of New Kensington increased due to the arrival of industries, the school enrollment also increased. The Board of Directors was soon preparing plans for a larger building on Ridge Avenue. By this time, New Kensington High School had advanced in several lines of activity. Under the supervision of the faculty, literary societies were organized and considerable rivalry existed.

With the completion of the building on Ridge Avenue in 1914, many opportunities for expansion were opened. There was room for seventh and eighth grade students, as well as for regular high students. Out of this grew a junior high school and a senior high school, each embracing three years' work. The Vocational School and the Home Economics Department were established in 1915. The commercial course was added and in connection with this course, the Student Savings Bank was opened.

The new building not only made possible an expanded curriculum, but also, with its new auditorium-gymnasium, opened the way to various forms of entertainment, such as minstrel shows, and musical extravaganzas. It also made possible the development of fine basketball teams, girls as well as boys.

Dismissal was at noon and the close of the afternoon session was very different from that of the present time. Instead of dashing out to get a bus, or meet one's pal at the drug store, all students returned to their section rooms and prepared to leave *at the same time!* The students lined up two abreast, and without talking, marched in orderly lines through the halls, down the steps, and out the front doors. All this time they were keeping step to the music played by the student orchestra which occupied the space at the one side of the steps leading to the third floor.



Mr. Daniels, Principal from 1912 to 1915, resigned and Mr. Berlin Empfield became high school principal. Mr. Empfield was elected Superintendent of Schools in 1918 and served in that capacity until 1924. Upon his resignation, Dr. E.T. Chapman was elected Superintendent of Schools in New Kensington and Mr. H. B. Weaver, Principal of the High School.

By the early 1920's, the student body had grown to such a size that it was necessary to add a wing to the Ridge Avenue School Building. A number of new classrooms were located in this new wing. Here also was a new gymnasium, center of much of the athletic and social life of the next 25 years, such as basketball tournaments, musicals, proms and assembly programs.

Under the direction of Dr. E. T. Chapman and H.B.Weaver, the New Kensington Public Schools grew with the community. No longer were courses or subjects planned primarily for those going to college, but also for those students who went directly from high school into some gainful occupation (preparation for that occupation.) The educational aim, to be all-comprehensive, began to take form: classical course for the college-bound, general courses for other students, vocational courses for the boys mechanically inclined, home economics for girls, commercial courses for those wanting to go into business, distributive education for those going into retailing, driving education and other elective courses in music, art, and foreign languages (Latin, Spanish, French, German).

Under the direction and guidance of Mr. Weaver, summer school was organized and offered in 1935 for students who wanted to make up credits or enrich their education. Summer school is still being offered today. Also under Mr. Weaver's guidance, New Kensington High school became a member of the Middle States Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. To remain a member, the school has to be evaluated every ten years by the Association. In February, 1943, New Kensington High School was evaluated again by a committee of teachers and administration from other schools.

The Fall of 1931 witnessed the union of New Kensington Borough and Parnassus Borough. The two educational systems, with a history of rivalry in the same community for a third of a century, were brought together. The Parnassus High School had been founded in 1897, a few years before the New Kensington High School. Mr. Wilmer G. Dugan was the first principal, serving from 1897 to 1910, when he became Assistant Superintendent of the Westmoreland County Schools. During the years from 1897 to 1931, thirty classes, (a total of more than 640 students) graduated from Parnassus High School. Prior to consolidation of the two districts, the Parnassus High School was under the direction of O.W. Johnson, who became the Supervisor of Elementary Education in the New Kensington School District. Although classroom instruction is very important, activities outside the classroom became an important part of education. Extra-curricular activities had become full and varied as the curricula expanded to meet the needs of the times. Some of these activities were the Dramatic Club, Leaders Club, Hi-Y, Key Club, and the Home Economics Club. In fact, the extra-curricular became so extensive that Mr. Weaver suggested that a board be set up to control the extra-curricular activities. Mr. J. A. Miller, the Vocational Director and Assistant High School Principal, was named president. He remained in office until the vocational department was moved to the Fourth Avenue building. Mr. W. L. Vorlage was appointed to succeed him.



## Education

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The School District expanded quickly in 1930-1931 with the annexation of a section of Lower Burrell Township and the consolidation of Parnassus. These additions created one of the largest third-class school districts in Pennsylvania.

In 1934 the yearbook was instituted again, but with a new name, "**Taleoken**", selected through a contest. In 1941, the "Taleoken" (Tales of Ken-Hi) was so outstanding a volume that it had the distinction of an all-American rating. The third publication in 1945 was an outstanding publication which is (a great service to all students.)

After the Second World War, New Kensington entered into a phase of dramatic new construction and renovation of its school buildings. New elementary schools, Edgewood, Greenwald and the Terrace, were constructed. A new High School building, costing more than three million dollars, was completed in 1957.

In July, 1965, the New Kensington School District and the Arnold School District consolidated with a student population of 5900. The name of the high school was changed to Valley High School, and the school district is now called the New Kensington-Arnold School District.

**From *CELEBRATING A CENTURY*  
*A Commemorative Documentary*  
*New Kensington Centennial Booklet*  
*Chamber of Commerce 1991***



# The Groundbreaking of the New Kensington High School



This photo of the groundbreaking was taken in 1913. Pictured are the Board of School Directors along with their children who would soon be Ken-Hi students.

*Front Row:* Tom Best, Winton Seybold ('23)

*Second Row:* Eva Seybold ('21), Anna Belle Kaufmann, Elsa Kruger ('22), Helen Kelly, Helen Kaufmann, Dorothy Bloser, Helen Best, Dorothy Denise ('19), Robert Clowes, Goodwin Clowes ('22), Elizabeth Wareham, Mildred Wareham

*Third Row:* C. M Best, A.W. Kelly, Dr. A. R. Kaufmann, Frank Bloser, S.R. Seybold, D.E. Beegle, A. W. Smith, J. McCartney Kennedy, George Hogg, C. J. Reiger, architect.



## The 1913 School Board Members were:

D. E. Beegle, President  
A.W. Smith, Vice President  
C. M. Best, Secretary  
J. Frank Bloser  
S. R. Seybold  
A. W. Kelly  
Dr. A. S. Kaufmann



## The First Graduation Class of Ken-Hi



*Pictured: Lois McElwain, William Vaughan, Irene Hawk, Joseph Smith, Katherine Emmer, Hilbert Hicks, (Mary Ashe, Principal)*

Graduates of Ken-Hi, who now number more that 14,800 over 67 years, were led by this pioneer class of six, pictured above, who graduated in 1901. Each had taken the two year academic course and almost the same subjects. Whereas, the Fiftieth class, after four years of study, took five courses, each including required and elective subjects.





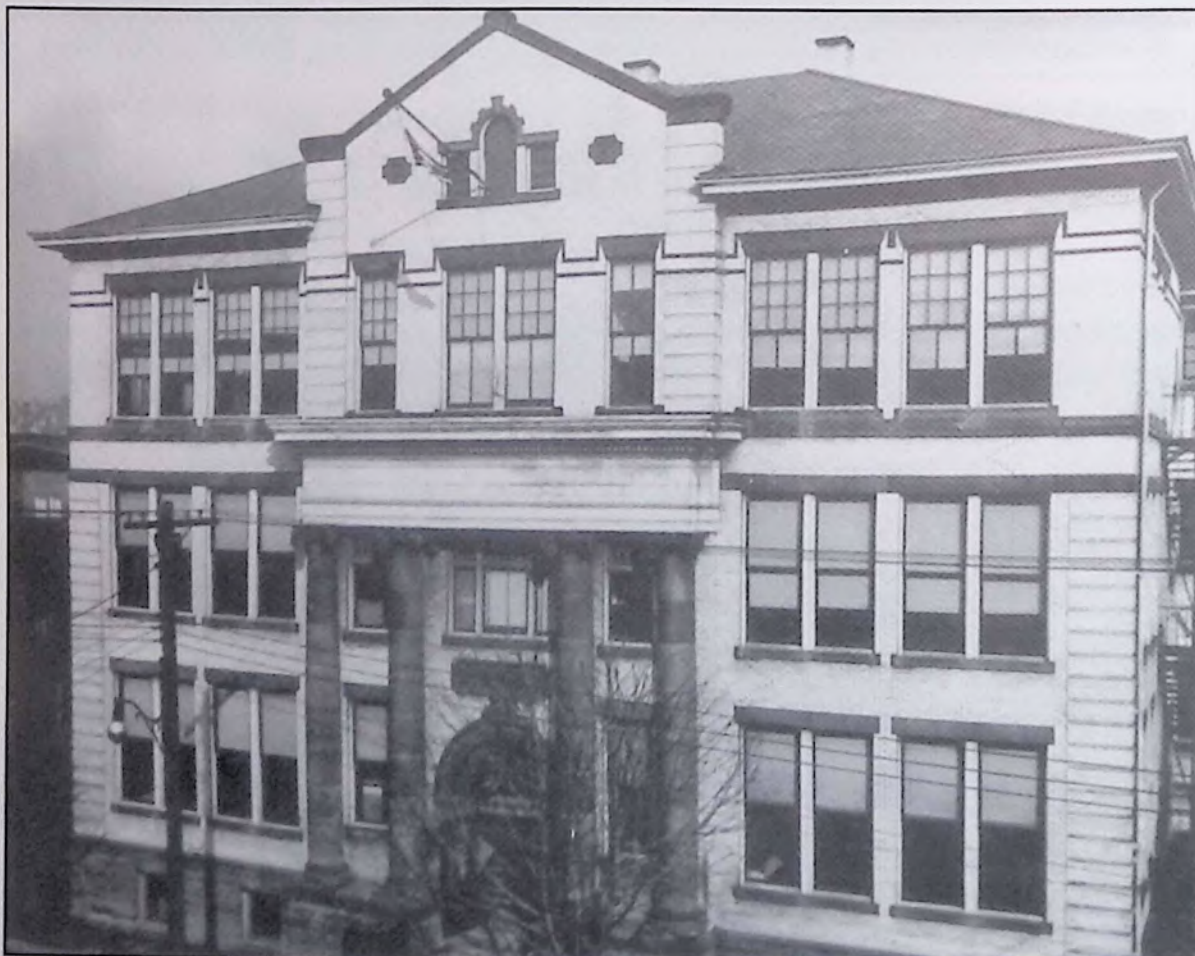
I believe in honest work,  
in generous comradeship,  
in the courage of high convictions.  
I believe in the inspiration that comes  
from contact with all that is truest and best,  
in books, in people, in life.  
I believe in loyalty to our high school,  
the fostering mother of these ideals,  
and I pledge her my allegiance in all her undertakings;  
in all that will make her a stronger and better school.



**First High School classes were held in Walnut Street building in 1899.**



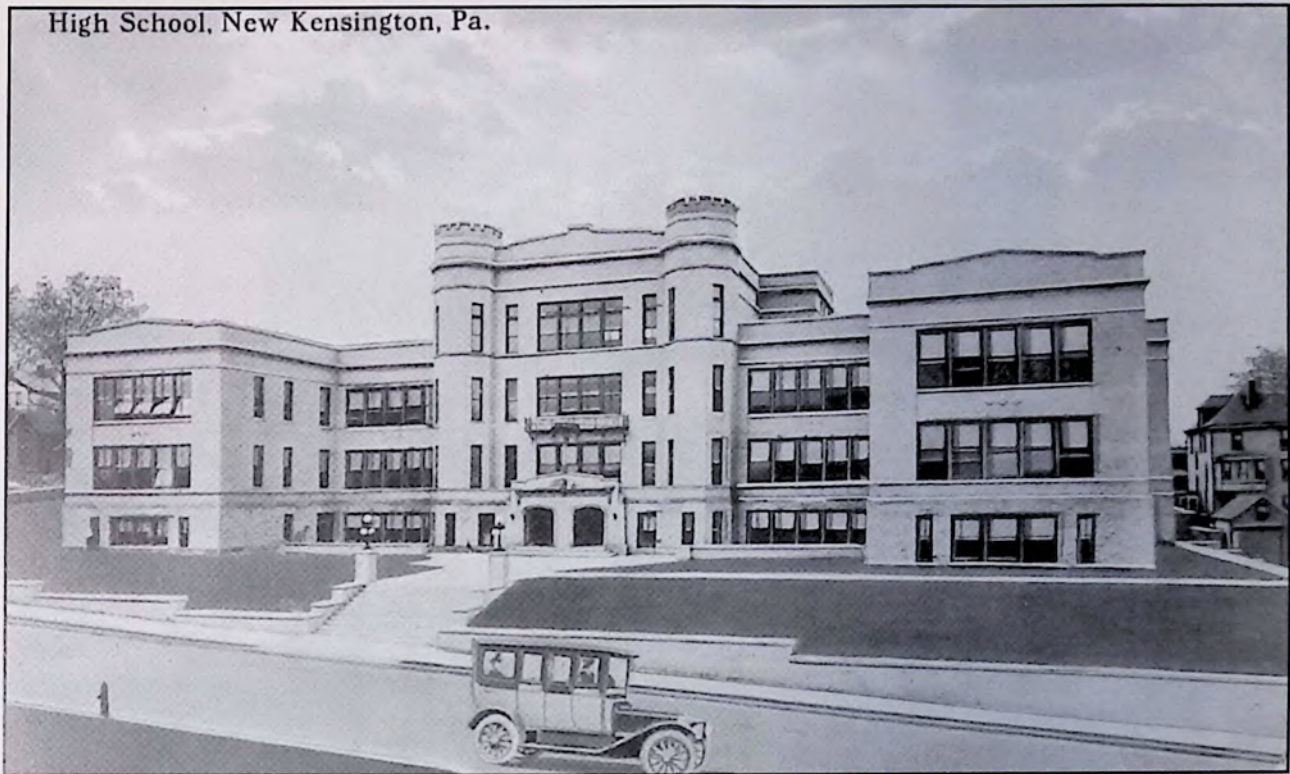
**First High School Building (Fourth Avenue) dedicated in 1908**



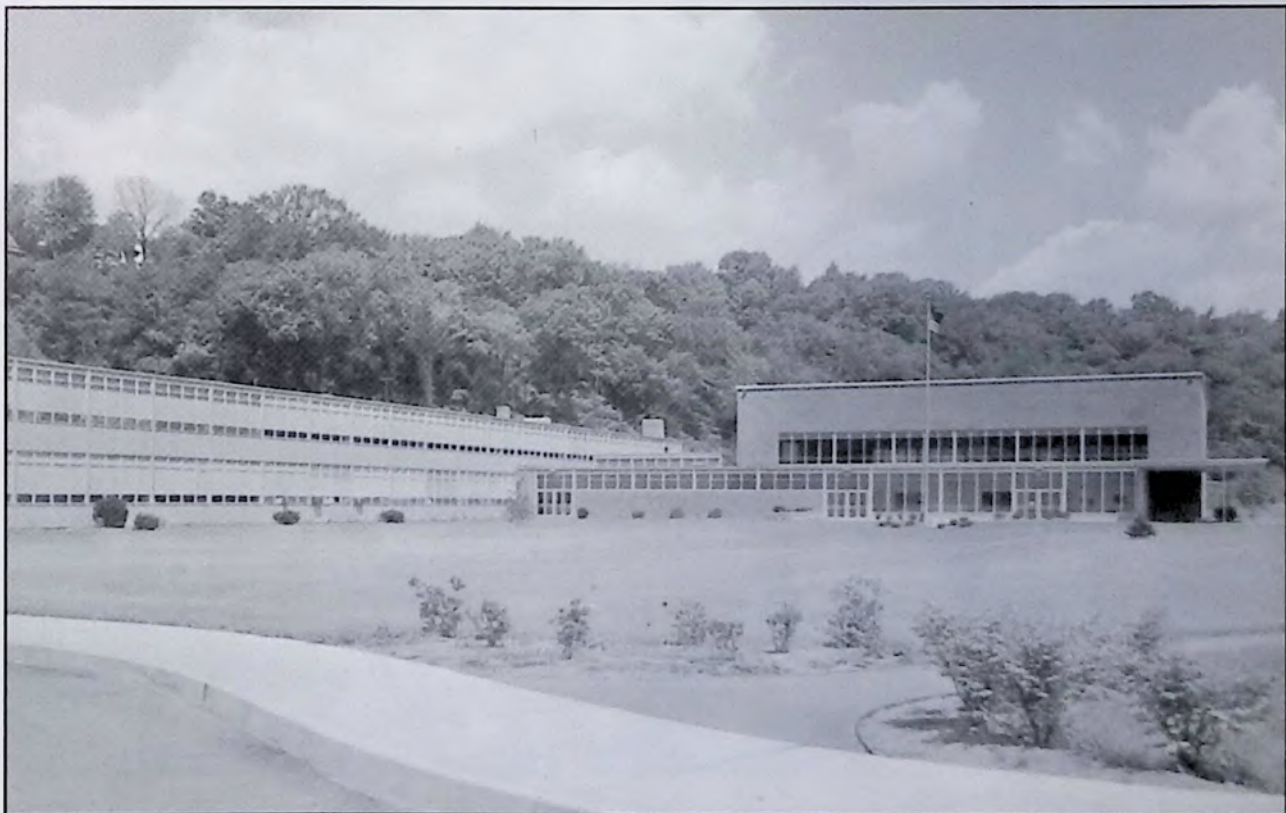


**High School on Ridge Avenue in 1915.**

High School, New Kensington, Pa.



**New Kensington High School on Stevenson Boulevard**



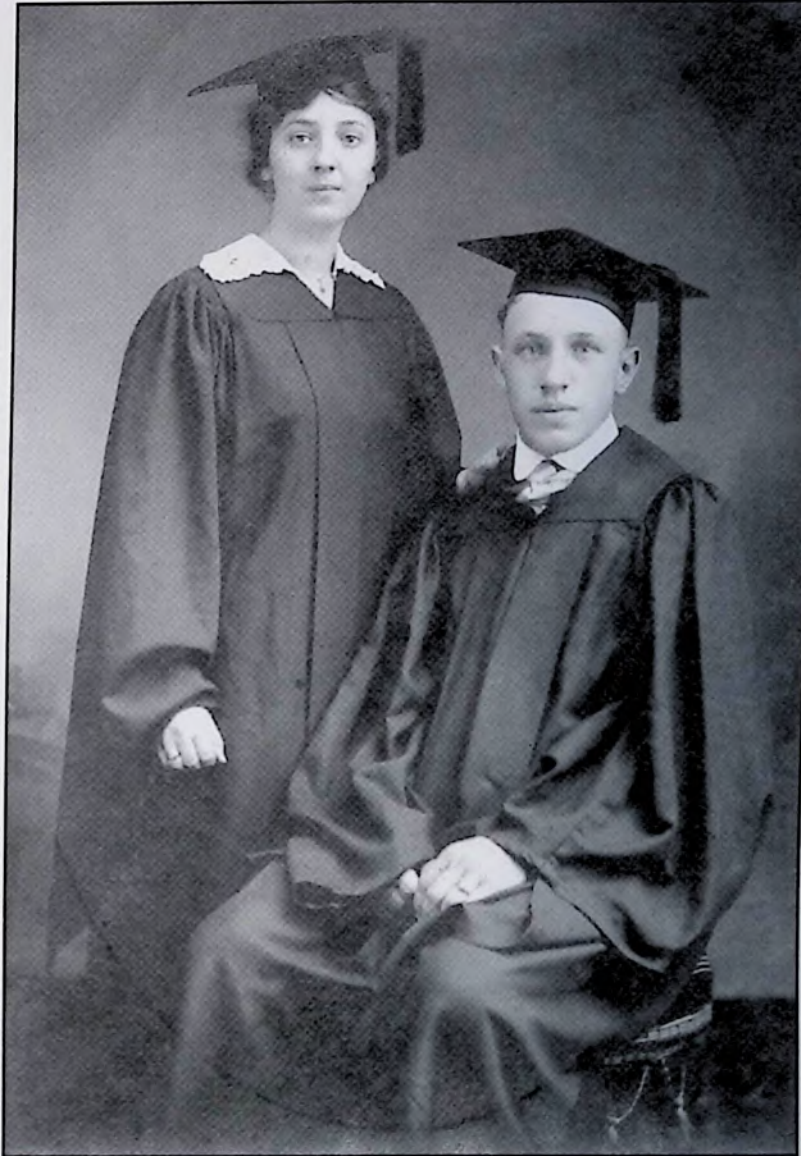


# Class Memories





## Class of 1916



**Photo of Frank Heigley, Vice President, Class of 1916  
and his sister, Ruth Heigley, who was a teacher at Ken-Hi for 42 years!**

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A note with the photo said:

*“Frank Heigley, of the class of 1916 was on the football field during practice one day. The coach, who was Berlin Empfield at the time, and also the high school principal, was demonstrating how to tackle. Mr. Empfield told Frank to tackle him and he did, but broke the coach’s leg in the process!”*

*photo given by Beverly Heigley Tipton*



## Class of 1908

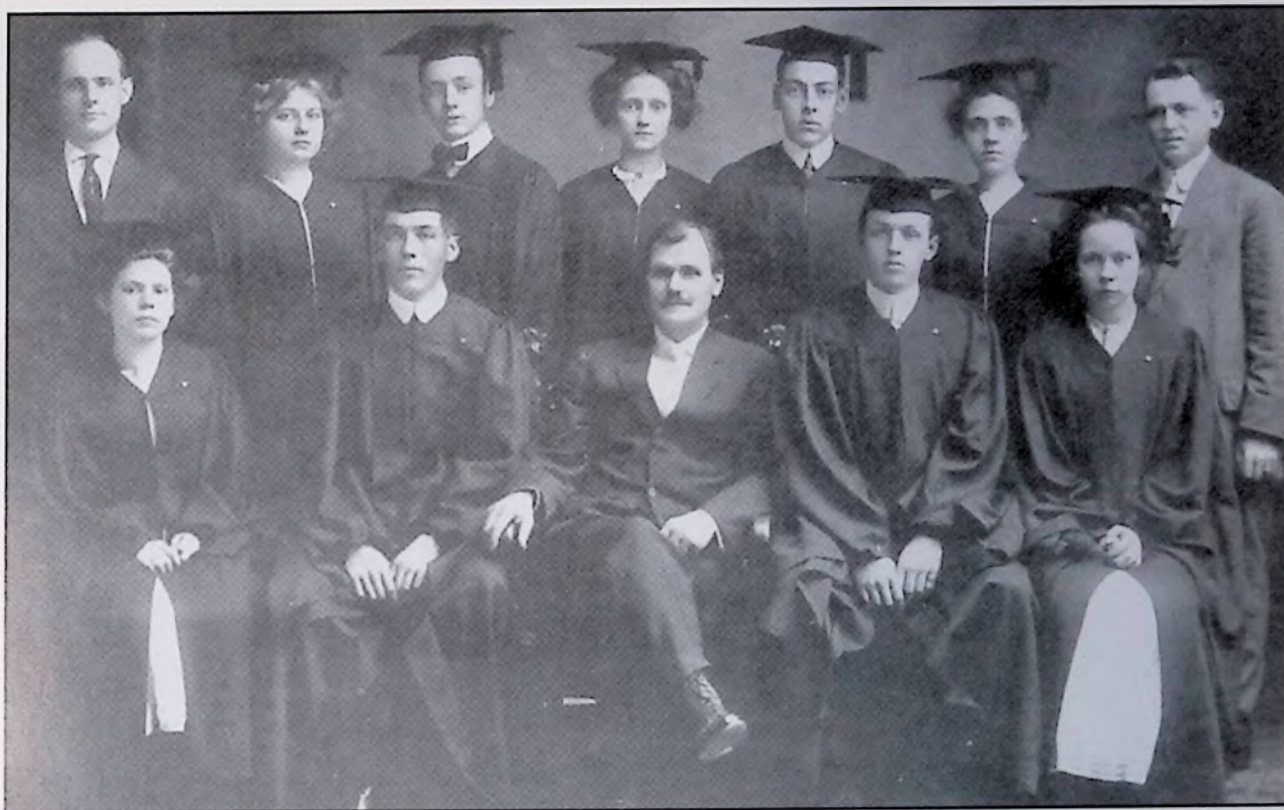


## Class of 1910





## Class of 1911



## Class of 1914





## Class of 1916



## Class of 1919





## Class of 1920



## Class of 1921





# 1928

## Class of 1928

*By Elfriede Andree Redlich*

The number of people that graduated in 1928 was 136. In 1950 there were 138. I was the class Secretary; the president was Joseph Allen, Vice President was Charles Vaughan, and Treasurer was Patricia Sullivan. The class valedictorian was Jean Shoup and Ruth Stott was the salutatorian. My goodness, it was 72 years ago and it is hard to remember these things!

The most important thing on our mind was World War II. Our first reunion was in 1978 (why it took 50 years to have one, I don't know). The second one was in 1983. After those, we had get-togethers in the summer, generally in Memorial Park. Marretta George was very active in planning and she generally called all the local folks, but since she died 10 years ago, there hasn't been one since.

### Our Class Song

*(to the tune of "I Wish You Were Jealous of Me")*

We leave you today, dear old high school  
 Perhaps we shall see you no more,  
 Sweet days of hard work and playtime  
 Are memories now evermore.  
 The highway of life we must wander,  
 God grant we may all do our best;  
 We'll be kind and true, and we'll ne'er forget you.  
 Good-bye, dear old high school, Adieu.

Although we are grown up and older,  
 Our freshman days still linger on.  
 We leave all our triumphs and sorrows.  
 To those who are here when we're gone,  
 We must go although sad tears blind us,  
 Our hearts will remain ever true;  
 We know that our thoughts shall be always with you.  
 Good-bye, dear old high school, Adieu.



### School Song

Dear old Ken-Hi, dear old Ken-Hi,  
The school we back with life and loyalty.  
We'll honor you, our whole life through;  
Dear Alma Mater—Ken-Hi





1929

## Class of 1929

*By John "Kozi" Kuzmick*

### BACK IN '29

I remember that I graduated twice, because the trade school graduated one year, and then you graduated again the next year, so I guess I also graduated in 1930.

I remember Coach Glock back in 1929. He made sure that you got a chance to play, if you were good. During practice football drills, he used to stand behind us with a newspaper, urging us to drive on. Before the Route 366 bypass was built, there was a football field near Seventh Street. Coach had an assistant named Lenox, and there was a Coach Moon and the games were played on Saturday at 2:15. The boys from the trade school made the bleachers on one side. We played against Arnold, Parnassus, Charleroi, and Har-Brack. Our uniforms were not padded, with no nose guard and leather helmets which covered the ears with a strap under the chin. (None of these new "high impact plastic" helmets and lots of padding!) We had some shoulder padding, which laced in the front and back. The jersey was black with a red "K" on the front. The pants were under the knee, laced in front, and we had to sew hip guards into our pants at the hip. (I used asphalt roofing pieces) Our legs were bare and socks were rolled at our cleated shoe tops. I remember we were going to one game in a bus, and when we passed a fruit truck, we leaned out the window and stole a box of grapes. The coach was not on the bus, because if he were, we would have never done this!

I remember I played left halfback. Other players were "Prunie" Mayberry as the quarterback, Dave Falcon, Rudy Kristlak, and Dan Joseph. (ones that come immediately to mind) During the off season, we practiced basketball in Room 401 to stay in shape.

**Yes, those were the 'good old days' back in '29!**





# DO YOU REMEMBER THE 1930's?

.....the wooden sidewalks in downtown New Kensington

.....the streetcars on Fifth Avenue and across the Ninth Street Bridge to Springdale and Tarentum

.....the luscious baked goods at Jacobus's bakery on Fourth Avenue

.....when the banks opened for business on Saturday mornings

.....Miller's Men's Clothing Store on Fourth Avenue

.....Connor's Mercantile Store on Ninth Street

.....Mr. O. C. Medley, the barber on Tenth Street

.....Silverman's Department Store at Fifth and Ninth where Rose Montgomery, corsettiere, helped "shape up" the women of New Kensington

.....Hart's Department Store, where E. J. Ferguson sold yard goods and Mr. (Pappy) Hart helped you select patterns, buttons and thread

.....Seigel's on Fourth Avenue where women could buy nylon stockings during World War II

.....the stamps and food rationing during the war



Class of 1930



.....the big fire at Logan Lumber in 1928

.....when City Hall was on Fourth Avenue

.....the "Boom Boom" theater in Arnold

.....the skating rink upstairs of the arcade on Fifth Avenue

.....when Keystone Dairy made home milk deliveries from horse-drawn buggies until early 1939

.....Burley's Shoe Store on Fifth Avenue

.....the homemade candy sold at Shiarella's confectionery store on Ninth Street

.....Kruger's Photography Studios on Fifth Avenue

.....Mr. Keller, the lamplighter

....."Mike", the downtown newsboy

.....Myers Furniture Store on Fifth Avenue

.....Murphy's, Woolworth and Grant's 5 & 10 on Fifth Avenue

.....Adolph's Shoe Store



**Class of 1931**



- .....the grill room, coffee shop and restaurant of the Kenmar Hotel
- .....Isaly's tall ice cream cone
- .....Emrose's Drug Store
- .....Kamon's Kosher Deli and restaurant, where you could purchase a mouth watering  
Kosher corned beef on rye
- .....Gott's Furniture Store in Arnold
- .....Clawson's Bar-B-Que on Freeport Road, next to the reservoir
- .....steak and shrimp dinners at the Skyliner
- .....Bill Morgan's par 3 golf course, now Valley High
- .....hiking along the creek from Memorial Park to Wildlife Lodge Road past the burning  
gas well
- .....dances and parties at the Aluminum Club House, when it was home for Alcoa  
'bachelors'
- .....the huge Christmas tree displayed in the Mellon Bank lobby for many years.
- .....the Christmas Lighting Contest sponsored by the Daily Dispatch



**Class of 1933**



- .....Thelma's, where beautiful lingerie, dresses, hats and coats were sold
- .....Turner's Book Store, when Ralph Turner was behind the counter
- .....when New Kensington had *five* theaters in operation at the same time
- .....when there was a cage of puppies for sale in front of McKean's Hardware Store on Ninth Street
- .....when Ken Hi's home football games were played Saturday afternoon at Herr Stadium
- .....Miss Braden's homemade hats that were the talk of the town
- .....the fire that destroyed Parnassus United Presbyterian Church
- .....the YMCA Men's Chorus directed by Russell Sparks
- .....when Arnold High School had an orchestra
- .....when 'lawn parties' were popular
- .....the Junior Women's Club elegant Charity Balls
- .....when Elmer Garvin, Manager of Metropolitan Insurance office, always greeted you with a stick of chewing gum
- .....the bear in a cage at the top of Logan's Ferry hill
- .....*last, but not least.....*

the exciting sports rivalry between Arnold and Ken-Hi and Har-Brack and Ken-Hi



# Class of 1932

Sent by  
Amelia Haas Traenkner

# 1932



JUNIOR MINSTREL FOLLIES  
OF 1931  
Presented by the Junior Class  
Produced by Harry C. Madden II.  
New Washington High School

## ACT ONE

Scene I. A Bit of Foolishness.....  
Characters: Master of Ceremonies,  
Fannie Mae Laughtory,  
Chorus.  
Scene II. Minstrel.....  
Interlocutors: Mr. Billy Neal.....  
End Men: Mr. Vincent Pusselano,  
Mr. Paul Chiarella,  
Mr. Earl McNutt,  
Mr. James Hightower,  
Minstrels: Mr. Frank McLean,  
Mr. Sam Paletta,  
Mr. Billy Elwood,  
Mr. Harry Bell,  
Mr. Robert Ewer,  
Mr. Chester Caprelli,  
Mr. Izzy Weinstein,  
Mr. Thurl Johnson,  
Mr. Tom Kberlein.

## ACT TWO

Scene I. "Mind Something Stupid".....  
Characters: Elyse Earl, Mary Mollity, Billy El  
Woodward, Elizabeth, Harry C.  
Girls: Olive Kinsman, Bernice Collins, Ruth  
Kendall, Dwight Decker, Eleanor Butler,  
Mildred Sanchez, Clara Doyle, Bernice  
Cleveland, Bernice Ward, Dorothy Gaid,  
Dorothy May, Florence Allen, Rose Peck  
Tells, Doris, Gertie, Margaret McKeever,  
Mary Kinsley.  
Scene II. "ARRANGED".....  
Alexander.....George Thomas  
Master of Ceremonies, Tony Weinstein,  
Elizabeth.....Thurl Johnson,  
Linda Johnson.  
Scene III. "Bite of Soap".....  
Alexander.....George Thomas  
Vivian Decker.....Harry Decker,  
Carmel Clark.  
Scene IV. "Stomach Interlude".....  
Interlocutors: Eleanor Butler,  
Dorothy May, Harry Bell,  
Members of Chorus.  
Scene V. "Love in a Cottage".....  
Edward Gertie,  
Thomas Kinsley, Frank Decker.  
Scene VII. "Television".....  
Edward Gertie, Elizabeth Decker,  
Carmel Clark, Donald Stewart,  
Alexander, George Thomas,  
Mildred Sanchez, Doris McKeever,  
Lester.....Billy Elwood,  
Edward Gertie, Bob Ewer.  
Scene VIII. "The Peanut Has Stuck".....  
Scene IX. "How Pennsylvania Bids the World Good Morning".....  
Fairmont, Elly and Gertie.  
Scene X. "THE COTTAGE".....  
Lester.....Paul Chiarella,  
Gertie.....Fairmont, Elizabeth,  
Songs: "Dear One, The World Is Waiting" "You're Sweet"  
"Good Night"  
Scene XI. "END"

Scene XII. "My Ideal".....  
Bernice Collins, Evelyn Kinsley,  
Elyse Earl, Billy Elwood,  
Vincent Pusselano, Paul Chiarella.  
Scene XIII. "A DAY IN THE COUNTRY".....  
Father: Kenneth Smith  
Mother: Myrtle Hart  
Son: Frank Decker  
Baby: Anna Gertie  
Scene XIV. "Finale"  
The Haas Sisters  
George Pusselano  
Heading for Happier Times

## ACT THREE

Scene I. W. P. I. A. L.  
New Kensington. Joe Thomas.  
Songs: "Fight Fight Fight! See Em Hit".... first public appear-  
ance.  
Ken High Sturdy "M.  
Good Night..... Florence Solomon  
Cortesies:  
Cooper Brothers ....Piano  
Knights of White ....Lights  
Mr. Fred Elwood ....Society, signs  
Jack Scott Program Front-Piece  
Paul Stevenson ....Dormery  
Walter McLaughlin  
James Smith  
The Fairmont Creamery Co. ....Tickets



25 Year Reunion for Class of 1932



1934

## Class of 1934

*By Henry West*

This is a love story, running over 43 years. It is also a 'chunk' of historical novel, all starting in the late summer of 1930.

The boroughs of Parnassus and New Kensington were molded into the new 3<sup>rd</sup> class city of New Kensington. This political and governmental change was a vital one to citizens and voters of this area. But, even as great as that change was, it was "peanuts" compared to the havoc brought about by the public school system with students, teachers, parents and school boards alike! Focusing on the students; it brought two high school bodies, which actually had been rivals in every sport activity, "**since time began**" into the "NEW" Ken-Hi.

I limit my focus to the 1<sup>st</sup> 'new' Ken- Hi freshmen class of 1934! Here's where love, which was born out of the hate of rivalry, came into being. Beatrice Shukis, a tallish, blonde, winsome lass of the Ken-Hi family, met Harry West, a guy from the little borough of Parnassus. They had the same home room teacher, Miss Lyons, and so each day they had reason to rub elbows, etc. This was really not a case of 'love at first sight' – but a love that grew as a seed planted and nurtured through time and respect each had for the others native abilities. I can't remember exactly when the growing friendship began to show signs of being something more – it was probably during our early sophomore year – when I sometimes ate lunch at the Shukis home at 1120 Victoria Avenue. That led to closer contact, as did the after school hours of study on Latin (her forte) and Math (mine). Most of the study together was done in the evening after I had football practice. As the school years glided by, we became closer and since I had no brothers or sisters at my home, I enjoyed and valued the family life of what really was my second home.

The tale of naming of the re-activated Ken-Hi yearbook just seemed to naturally grow out of the friendship Bev and I had. As I remember, World War 1 stopped publication of the school yearbook. The class of 1934 (the first graduation class of Ken-Hi made up with students from Parnassus and New Kensington), revitalized the idea of a class yearbook – our legacy, the TALEOKEN!

Bev and I had spend a number of hours trying to put on paper the various words and phrases that could make a suitable name – what more obvious final title than "the tales of Ken-Hi" or **Taleoken!**

After May 1934, Bev and I really became closer and we spent vacation times together with our families. Bev, who was the Valedictorian of our class, never went on to college. Money for college was not available in the Shukis household to send two to college. Alvin, the oldest, had the only good fortune to go and he got a W & J scholarship. I went on to college at Carnegie Tech (now called Carnegie Mellon University) helped by a four-year scholarship. Bev and I were married in October of 1940 and we had 33 years of wonderful married life. She was a very special and talented partner and helpmate. We had three sons, two of whom are still living.

Our 'home room' that freshman year was 107 (aka the sewing room in the Home Economics Department). A few of the gals and guys who carved their names there were: Natalie Sybolt, Raymond Shiarella, Ben Shukis, Carolyn Skegas, Edwina Smith, Emily Smith, Elmer Sparks, Mary Spakowski, Roger Sprowls, Pauline Stuckley, Robert Tipton, Lois Tipton, Joseph Vince, Edward Wachter, Eddie Vishkoff, "Punk" Waugh, Catherine Whitehead, Margaret Zalesky, Sheldon Steiner, and John W. Will.





*(Cheerleaders)*  
"Vinny" Allen, "Slick" Eger  
"Buzz" Endean, "Joe" Yingling



Senior Class Play  
Members



# 1935

## Class of 1935

*from the Fiftieth Reunion Book*

### **A prayer for the Middle Aged**

“Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself,  
that I am growing older and will some day, be OLD.

Keep me from getting loquacious, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking  
I must say something on every subject.

Release me from craving to try and to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful but not bossy.  
With my store of vast knowledge, it seems a pity not to use it at all.  
But Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end....  
And just enough for pallbearers, with a mourner or two.  
Do not let the editor of my obituary use the words,

**‘Old Crab Dies at Last; Everybody Glad.’**

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details...  
Give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing as the years go  
by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains,  
but *help me to endure them with patience.*

Teach me the glorious lesson that *occasionally*, I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint . . .  
some of them are so hard to live with!  
But a sour woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Keep me where I can extract all possible fun out of life.

**There are so many funny things in life,  
and I don't want to miss any of it !”**

**AMEN**





**Art Club**



**Concilium Scientiae**

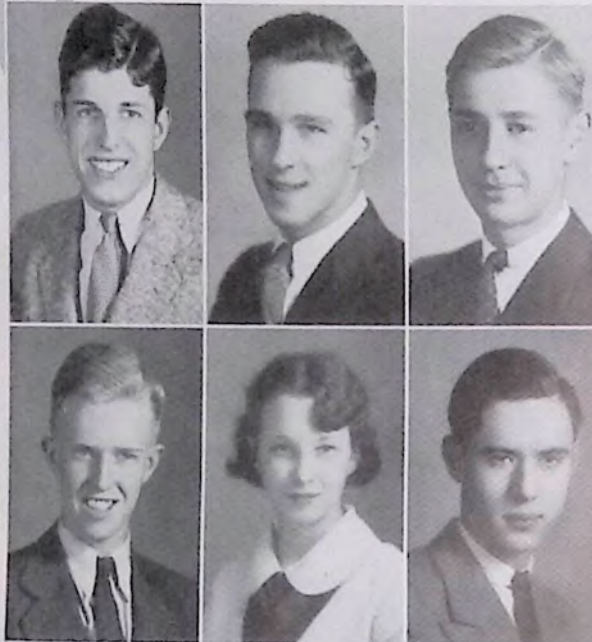


**Class reunion for class of 1935**



# 1936

## Class of 1936



### Officers

**Wayne Everhart**, Class Treasurer  
National Honor Society, Dramatic Club,  
Officer in Tri-Hi-Y, all round sport  
ladies man, courteous

\* **Walter Shearer**, Class President  
Pres. National Thespians, National  
Brought down the house in "Here  
Comes Charlie", Most Like to  
Succeed

**Frank Schweiss**, Vice President  
Pres. Commercial Club, Tennis  
Member, National Thespians,  
dynamic personality

**Ben Beacom**, Editor, Taleoken,  
band member for 3 years,  
National Thespians, witty and wise  
can speak on any subject

**Yvonne Luther**, Class Secretary  
Secretary of National Honor Society  
Secretary, Tri-Hi-Y, Dramatic Club,  
Senior editor, Taleoken staff

\* **William Shearer**, President  
President, French Club,  
Treasurer, National Thespians  
Personae Dramatic of class  
play, frank and straightforward

\* *deceased*

### Vital Statistics of our class, as of April 2000

Graduates—369

Survivors with known addresses—154

In Memoriam—213

Graduates unknown addresses—28

Survivors attending the 1999 reunion—32

### THE GOLDEN YEARS

*by Edith Middleby ( with apologies to A. M. W. Ball)*

Backward, turn backward, O time in thy flight - Make me a freshman just for tonight.  
Let me again feel the thrill I once knew, help me recapture that fresh point of view.

Let me be bashful, wondering and shy - look on the Senior with worshiping eye.  
Let me forget all the facts I have learned, leave but the incense my dream gods have earned.

Backward, turn backward - let me once more dwell in that sunshiny heaven of yore,  
Warm me with memories ere I say "Goodbye" to all my loved school-days in Dear Old Ken-Hi.



## Selected Notes to the Reunion Committee from the Class of 1936

(From 'Survivors' invited to the reunion in 1999)

*Audrey Horton Skillman:*

Already I am looking forward to the reunion. How very wonderful it is to know you all care enough to plan to make it happen...I do want to go back over the years, way back, to tell I recall the very first reunion of our class of '36 was held at Howard Alter's farm (in 1937).....Well, I'm beginning to plan - trying to decide between a face lift or liposuction! In the meantime, you all plan good!.. Our class has always had just dandy get-togethers. We are the **"Do something class"**.

*Florence Cook Gigone "Cookie"*

I'm sorry to be so late answering the letters, I was hoping to work out something so I could come to the reunion, but I can't make it this time....I can't tell you how very sad I am to miss seeing all of you. Please send literature pertaining to the reunion. Love to everybody.

*Ben Beacom*

Your recent letters on the class reunion deserve a little more than a postcard reply. "As the days dwindle down to a precious few...etc", I must extend my appreciation to you and send our class stalwarts for help keeping the flame alive. It's good to hear from you.

P.S. Remember those crazy poker games..... with 2's, 3's and one eyed-jacks wild..... and those Marsh Wheeling stogies?

*Chuck Shetler*

Dear Dink: I won't be attending unless I pick up a lot of "moxie" between now and October, Give the best to all - JUGHEAD

*Melvin and Libby (Pelegrielli) Bashioum*

We aren't able to attend due to illness. We thought things would get better now, but no such luck. We are terribly sorry that we have to miss the reunion and seeing all of you again....we send out love to all. Please send a print of the group and the program/directory.

*Ann (Renock) Baldwin*

I'm sorry I will not be able to attend the class reunion, have just had surgery. It will be the only reunion I will have missed. Give my regards to all classmates attending.

*Wayne Everhart, (by his wife, Alla)*

To bring you up to date: Wayne has had several strokes during the past two years and is now in a total care facility. We hate to miss this reunion, but he would appreciate a group photo. Although confined to a wheelchair, his memory is excellent. Regards to all.

*Dorothy (Gangly) Troup*

Our health is better than most people our age, but we don't drive anywhere unless it is more of less locally. We are slowing down a bit now that we are great grandparents - including a 1 1/2 year old set of twins.



1936

The Weather  
Generally fair and continued  
warm tonight and tomorrow.

VOL. XLV—NO. 143

WEEKLY  
PUBLISHED BY THE

NEW KENSINGTON, PA., FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1936

PUBLISHED WEEKLY MARCH 24, 1915  
PUBLISHED DAILY SEPTEMBER 14, 1915

# The Daily New Kensington Dispatch

TWO RANDITS

## Students Get First-Hand Lesson On Government As They Take Over New Kensington



New Kensington High School students had a good insight on the government procedure as they took over the operation of New Kensington affairs for the day. From left to right, the picture depicts some of the action.



Five Department members are pictured at the left about to transport a "patient" to the hospital in the new ambulance. Anna Schenck goes as patient while the women are left to right, Angela Hester, Chief Charles Hester, Raymond Patterson and Sam Thayer.



Anna Lee Schenck is shown in the center about to take some "padding" from the city's store, taking Satchel. Anna, apparently, has no opinion about the Mayor.

Edna Kille is the girl whose attention has turned from her department, while the young men are busy standing in the city treasury, Edna Kille.

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE CITY OFFICIALS TODAY



A horde of enthusiastic New Kensington High school youngsters descended on the city hall today and took over the reins of city government with a rush. Regularly constituted officers were able to take a well deserved rest as students capably filled the various posts.



## Class of 1937

# 1937

by Edward A. George  
**"As you were then"**

Some say the day is but a fleeting thing  
 Yet, eagerly we await what it will bring

To you who await with us no more  
 We know you've accepted the Master's chore

And when from our strife, we seek relief  
 Pure pleasure will result from the belief

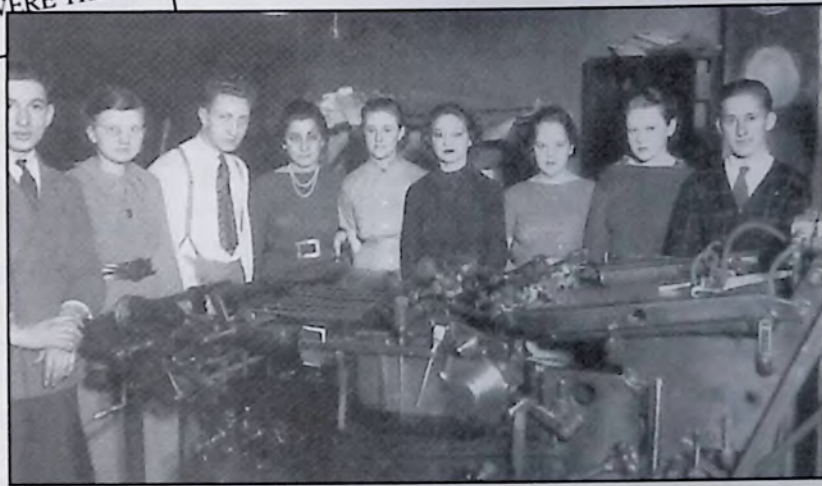
That we will rejoin you some day to sing  
 Of the memories brought by the School Bell's  
 Ring

Through all of the laughter and all the tears  
 Will have been mellowed by the years

When we think of School Days at New Ken  
 We think of you, AS YOU WERE THEN.



**Kentonian Staff**



**Printing Press**



**Stamp Club**



# ESCAPE TO A DIFFERENT TIME ...



# KENT

Published Weekly by the Journal  
"OUR WORLD"

Vol. XV

New Kensington

## Gingham Dance To Be Held By N. H. S.

May 1 the gingham girls and their sport attired escorts will attend the National Honor Society dance, the club members planned at a meeting Wednesday, April 15.

Charles Shetler, president, chose the usual committees: decoration; Miss Walker, Edward Bellas, Yvonne Aiman, Howard Yingst, Lois Steiner, and Leslie Armstrong; refreshments; Miss Hawk, Thomas Klingensmith, Helen McGranahan, Yvonne Luther, and Walter Shearer; orchestra; Miss Taylor, William Vigrass, Donald Sprowls, Joy Edelson, and Myrtle McGranahan; program; Miss O'Leary, Paul Heinritz, Florence Marotti, Edna Ashby, and William Freeman.

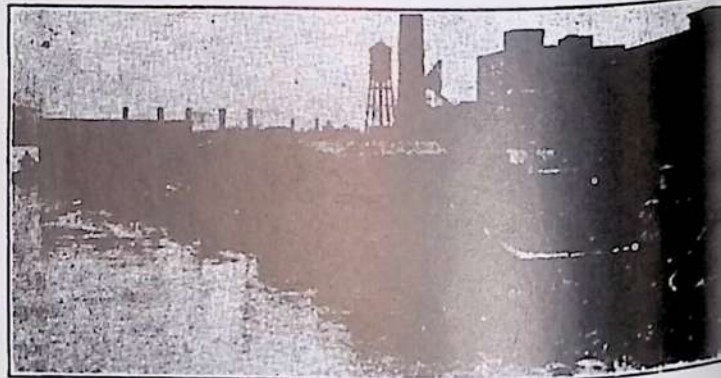
Before the motion to adjourn, the secretary read a letter from Howard Alter, a member who has been critically ill with pneumonia for many weeks.

## The Man in the Hall



### COMPETITION

Competition has again shown its worth, this time as an incentive to better theme writing. Miss Owen, junior English instructor, has for the past few weeks been rewarding those students who have written A and B themes. Students worked for hours at a time on themes so that theirs would be among the chosen few. The



You'll Probably Never See A Sight Like This Again. (We Hope)

## ROSES and THISTLES

### THINGS WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Waddie Abraham's truant disposition.  
Yvonne Aiman's substitute teaching.  
Ella Alex's blackmailing in the Senior Class Play.  
Helen Allan's trip across the ocean.  
Jim Aker's editor's visor.  
Edward Almas's reminiscences of the football games.  
Howard Alter's long illness.  
Richard Ames' grin.  
Leslie Armstrong's chatter.  
Rose Asadurian's annual Fords.  
Edna Ashby's daintiness.  
Dorothy Askin's themes.  
Gladys Atkinson's busy compact.

Wilson Davidson's piano playing.  
Floyd Davidson's piano playing.  
Alda and Nancy De Felice's companionship.

## Honor Roll Sh Marked Increase Totals 72

"The old order is ever changing place to the new." In adapting to the Honor Roll, it is only true. New names do appear in many places and some old names are conspicuous by their absence, but many of the old are still holding their coveted positions.

SENIORS: Six A's—Bessie Johnson, A's—Edmund Geiger and Helen Four A's—Helen Kondzik, Helen McGranahan, and Myrtle McGranahan. A's—James Cassel, James Akers, son, Helen Dalsas, William Freeman Garlow, Fred Keller, Thomas Klingensmith, Robert Martz, Mary Frank Pessalano, Verna Mitchell, Roof, and Regina Shipman.

### Vocational News

Fred Baylster and John Guidinas, Trade School Seniors, were elected to the National Honor Society.

The Trade school annual assembly was held on Thursday afternoon. Larry Faith and his orchestra entertained with music.



# FLOOD AFFECTS LIFE AT KEN HI; 600 ABSENT IN ONE DAY

## Mayor Burns Sets Student Control For May 8

New Kensington's Mayor Burns has set May 8 as the day on which the student politicians will take over the duties of their respective offices. By this date several appointive jobs will have been filled by the "powers that be."

With Sammy Sampson as Mayor, Edward Bellas, Jack Vilella, Walter Krupa, and Donald Menk as councilmen; Sam M. Buffone, as controller, and Roger Sharp, as treasurer, the school's "city fathers" promise exciting times for the town's people.

## KEN GOLFERS LOSE FIRST; WIN SECOND

Clubbing at a .500 clip, the Ken Hi golf team will sail into their next opponent, Aspinwall High School, in their third league encounter tonight on the latter's course.

May 5 will find the boys entertaining the Kiski five in another tough assignment on the Hillcrest grounds.

Last Wednesday, Springdale downed the Ken team 8 to 7 in a hard fought match at Springdale that was carried to the last hole where the one point difference was ground out. The Artman coached boys did well for their meager practice sessions and fans can look forward to quite a few victories.

Wednesday, March 18, 1936, will be long remembered by the residents of Western Pennsylvania as the day of the Great Flood.

At eight o'clock in the morning of that eventful day, the flood waters had reached almost to Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street and were still rising. Had it not been for the gravity of the situation, one would have been amused at the extraordinary sight of a man paddling up Fourth Street in a canoe.

The flooded zone was not limited to the district adjacent to the river but was also extended to the lowland below Freeport Street.

## Seniors-

HAVE YOU SEEN

the latest in graduation cards?

Something New—and different  
 Expensive? Well, you can get  
 100 cards in LEATHER FINISH  
 for 60c, case included!

Inquire of:—

SAM A. BUFFONE—204  
 THOMAS GIORDANO—209

## Watch Terrarium In Room 210

A patch of green to refresh the eyes on a dreary winter day, reposes in a small round glass bowl in Miss Walker's section room. It is a garden in miniature known as a terrarium. However, the common name is a sweat garden because the moisture, by which the garden grows, collects in drops inside the bowl.

On the bottom of the bowl grow four kinds of moss, forming small mounds, which give the impression of hills and valleys. In this spongy material are several sprigs of partridge berry, several kinds of ferns, and a small twig of ground pine, spreading its branches out like a tiny bush. All these plants can be found

Little Pucketos Creek overflowed its banks to a heretofore unheard of level, causing enormous property damage.

The Ninth Street bridge was a mass of sightseers. From morning until night, hundreds of curious onlookers stopped to watch the muddy, surging tide that was the Allegheny. Debris of all sorts was seen rushing down stream, parts of houses, sheds, garages, furniture, chicken coops, oil tanks, telephone poles, dog houses, and hundreds of other things were to be seen.

## Washington and Jefferson Head To Speak At Commencement

Dr. Ralph C. Hutchinson, President of Washington and Jefferson College, will speak at the Commencement Exercises Thursday, May 28 in the New Kensington High School auditorium.

One of the country's youngest college presidents, Dr. Hutchinson was born in Colorado in 1898. His father was Supreme Court Justice William Easton Hutchinson of Kansas.

His A.B. degree was earned at Lafayette College, his M.A. at Harvard University,



1938

## Class of 1938

*By Ruth Davis*

The class of 1938 had the largest class up to the time, due to the World War 1 'baby boom'. The Depression was still hanging around but we still dressed neatly, even though funds for clothing was short. Some of our classmates had to withdraw from school to go to work to help their families financially.

We were the "**Flying Dutchmen**". Our Alma Mater was sung to the tune of "Aloha"; the school victory song was sung to the tune of "Washington and Lee Swing" and the fight song was "On Wisconsin". Carl Glock was the football and basketball coach. Football games were played at Herr Stadium located in Parnassus, which is now brand new Fort Crawford School (now torn down for another new Fort Crawford School). The football team won 7, lost 1 and tied 1. The basketball team won 18 and lost 5. During the basketball game against Arnold the gym windows had been opened, the cool incoming air met the inside warm air and caused so much fog on the floor, the game had to be called off! Ken-Hi won a basketball game played at the Har-Brack gym. As the Ken-Hi players were going to the locker room, some Har-Brack mothers armed with umbrellas proceeded to 'whack' the players on their heads. We also had golf, baseball and tennis teams.

During the winter of 1937-1938, a snowball battle took place in front of the school. By the edict of Miss Watson, our class president, Alfred Belli, was instructed to hold a special assembly and present a speech on "not throwing snowballs"!

Many of our students were active in the academic and service clubs. There were 'tea dances' sponsored by these clubs to raise funds. There was a 10 cent admission price for this after school event. Music was presented by the dance orchestra and helped us get ready for the Junior-Senior prom. We also had a band for the games and an orchestra for drama presentations.

We were the ONLY class to hold a student strike, but I'm not sure of the actual reason! As a great number of students milled around outside the school, classes were held as usual for the few who did not join them. But woe to the strikers – their penalty was indefinite detention hall!

Some of our distinguished class graduates went on to teach and supervise in the New Kensington School District. George Veitch was appointed principal of the Ridge Avenue Junior High; John Bitterice was head teacher at Greenwald and Berkey schools; and Mike Shonesky was football coach at the Junior High. Carl Poole was an accomplished trumpet player and played with many famous bands all over the country and on television. John Ratini was killed at Hickam Air Field during the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.

Our class numbers are being reduced by deaths but those of us still able to navigate are proud of our Class of 1938!

**I turn the pages over, dim memories of the past,  
For when I see how styles have changed it leaves me quite aghast.  
I love the Taleoken and I'm mighty glad to know  
That I don't look as bad today as they did years ago!**

*(quote from our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion book)*





**Culinary Class**



**Leaders Club**



**Vocational H-Y**



1939

## Class of 1939

by Millie DeLuca Collodi

There were over 435 people in the graduation class of 1939. We had tea dances from 3:15 to 6 PM on Fridays in the gym. Class members would entertain us at the 'General Assembly', also held in the gym. The Leaders Club had "Play Days" and we invited other schools to attend and we played softball, table tennis, basketball, and did gymnastics. Then we were invited to go to other schools to do the same. Everyone looked forward to 'Kennywood Days', which always fell on the first Saturday of June. The class of 1939 was a friendly one and there was no prejudice or class distinction. Everyone was equal. The teachers were all well-liked and they taught us well.



### The DeLuca Family

DRUM MAJOR FAMILY HISTORY in Ken-Hi

John, Millie, Carmella and Bill were 4 of 13 children. We were raised and educated in New Kensington by our father, Sam and mother, Rose with love of family and much happiness.

**John** started to twirl with a broom handle and then taught me as he went along. Trying out for the Drum Major, he was chosen by Mr. Gregory to be the 'major'. John went to school and took up woodworking and drafting. After graduation he worked at Alcoa in the Engineering Department as a draftsman. John married a girl from New York and had two children, and lived a quiet life. He died of cancer at age 48.



**Millie** was to follow John as the drum major. I was given John's old pants and sweater for a uniform because the school board would not okay a new uniform. The band appeared at all sports events and I performed with 2 batons. After about a year of being drum major, I got a photo in the *Pittsburgh Press* newspaper, then the school board got me a new uniform! Knowing that I could not go on to college, I took a secretarial course and aimed for a high school position. I was a member of the National Honor Society, President of the Leaders Club, Treasurer of the Commercial Club and kept the Student Bank checkbook balance. After graduation, I found a job at a local scrap yard as general office clerk. The firm grew by leaps and bounds and I was promoted to Private Secretary, later as office manager, and then company secretary for a subsidiary company of the original firm. I worked for the same employer for 43 years, retiring in 1980. I live in Florida with my husband, Rico.

**Carmella**, was the spirited 'new kid on the block', took over from Millie with a lot of zest. She loved the marching and performing. You could find her on weekends at the 'Swing Shanty', or the 'Slovak Hall' dancing her heart out. And she still loves to dance! When the war started, Carmella, went to work at Alcoa department of airplanes. *She was so small they put her inside to help place the rivets!* She left Alcoa and went to work at the U.S. Naval Base in Pawtucket, Maryland working as a government clerk on 'wind velocity' landing for planes. There she met her husband, now retired, Rear Admiral Robert Smith. They later moved to Dallas, Texas, where they now live. Carm and Bob have a daughter and 3 grandchildren.

**William (Bill)** was by far, in his brother's and sister's opinion, the **BEST drum major** of the four. He wasn't just satisfied to 'TWIRL the baton'—he had to *THROW* it in the air! Bill went to Clarion State and later transferred to Pitt. There at Pitt, he became a member of Theta Chi, and was busy with the Pitt Marching Band. Bill introduced the 'fire batons' at a nationally televised game in Pitt Stadium, and he was able to get the Pitt Band to perform at Ken-Hi stadium during homecoming. Bill worked as a buyer for the B. Altman Company in New York, Robinson's in Palo Alto, California and later came home to work for the state of Pennsylvania in auditing. He died when he was 60 years old.

### Favorite Songs of 1939

All the Things You Are • And the Angels Sing • At the Balalaika • Beer Barrel Polka • Begin the Beguine • Bless You • Deep Purple • Do I Love You? • Don't Worry About Me • R.D.R. Jones • I Can Get Along Without You Very Well • I Must See Annie Tonight • If I Didn't Care • In the Mood • Jeepers Creepers • Lilacs in the Rain • Little Sir Echo • Moon Love • My Prayer • Over the Rainbow • Penny Serenade • Scatterbrain • South of the Border • Sunrise Serenade • Three Little Fishes • The Very Thought of You • Wishing – You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby • Adios, Marquita Linda • El Rancho Grande • Jumpin' Jive • The Umbrella Man



Radio Club



Student Saving Club



## Class of 1939

by Mildred "Midge" Shrum Collier

### Dave Koffe

Dave Koffe and I learned to dance together in about 1934 and after the class was over, he said, "Let's go to the Prom together when we get to high school."

Under the WPA work project, in the Roosevelt administration, many people were employed in different endeavors. There were people working as road workers, artists, etc. Our dance instructor was employed as just that-a dance instructor. We learned the fox trot, waltz, polka, and square dancing. But after that, we rarely saw one another. But came junior year, and time for the Prom, he reminded me of the agreement and I said yes. He got me the first corsage I was ever given and they were gardenias.

We lost contact after high school because of World War 1, but we met again at our 50th class reunion in 1989. Since high school he had gone into aeronautics. I told him I had seen a UFO on April 14, 1978. He was in the Air Force as a private and wound up in a unit taking part in the Bikini Atom Bomb test on Kwajalein, a Bikini atoll in the South Pacific. "Operation Crossroads" is the official name for the two tests that took place in 1946. He earned a Mechanical Engineering degree and became a lead mechanic for United Airlines Maintenance base in San Francisco. And then worked for General Dynamics. He had been in the space program for many years prior to retiring, had worked at Vandenberg Air Force base on the Atlas missile, and on the Apollo mission for North American Rockwell. Later on the MOL (Manual Orbiting Lab) for the Air Force and Douglas Aircraft. He met and was married happily to Marguerite. I told him that 'if I would have know he was going to be such a great success I'd have chased him a little harder!' And his reply to me was that his mother had chosen me to be his girlfriend, but he had other plans. And as you can see his career in aerospace was all with pioneers in the industry. He loved being in the forefront in the race for the moon and beyond. Our correspondence lasted for many years after the reunion until he died in August of 1995. Most of his memorabilia is in the Airman's Museum in Washington, D.C.



Kensylvanians Dance Band



# Class of 1940

*By Claire Bongiovanni*

## Some of my Memories

When I was in junior high, I remember sneaking into the gym for the tea dances (the junior high students weren't allowed into the dances) because my brother played in the dance band and being hauled out by my ear by Miss Watson who was the assistant principal.

A group of four girls and I formed a gang and passed notes and giggled in the study hall. For this we were sentenced to weeks in DT (detention hall) which was the study hall on the top floor, room 401, for an hour after school and forbidden to be seen together in school!

H.B. Weaver, the Principal, was to be discharged by the school board (for what reason, I don't know). The whole school went on strike and wouldn't enter the building, standing outside and chanting: "WE WANT WEAVER!" Mr. Weaver was retained for many more years.

A teacher whose name I won't mention wanted to punish me for talking in study hall so he told me to sit on the far side of the room. After several days, he told me I could move back to my original seat, but I said, "I don't mind sitting here". His face became very red, whether from shame or anger, I couldn't tell.

When I became editor of the Kentonian, Miss Russell and I traveled to various schools in the area for journalism conferences at which I had to make speeches. At one of these, in the middle of the speech, my mind became completely blank and I was unable to finish. It was so embarrassing!

In my junior year, my family moved to Arnold and rather than change schools, we paid tuition and I ran back and forth – four times a day! I had 10 minutes to wash, eat lunch, and start back from the 1800 block. Then, after school, I ran downtown to work in a hat shop for 4 hours on weekdays, 12 hours on Saturdays. I made the magnificent wage of 10 cents per hour!

### Favorite Songs of 1940

Blueberry Hill • Careless • Do I Worry • Donkey Serenade • Frenesi • Ferryboat Serenade • God Bless America • Embraceable You • I Don't Know What Time It Was • I Dream of Jeannie With the Light Brown Hair • I Hear a Rhapsody • I'll Never Smile Again • I'm Nobody's Baby • In An Old Dutch Garden • Indian Summer • Just a Little Bit South of North Carolina • Let's Be Buddies • Make Believe Island • Oh Johnny, Oh, Johnny, Oh! • On the Isle of May • Only Forever • Perfidia • Practice Makes Perfect • Say 'Si, Si' • Sierra Sue • Strange Fruit • Tango of Roses • The Breeze and I • The Woodpecker Song • Trade Winds • Tuxedo Junction • Walking By the River • We Could Make Such Beautiful Music • When You Wish Upon a Star • When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano • With the Wind and the Rain In Your Hair • You Walk By





**Cooking Class**

**Is this too  
low—or am I  
too tall?**



**Watch  
Out!!  
Change  
of classes**



# 1941

## Class of 1941

*Taken by Shirley Bevan King and Peggy Shields Stanley*

### Trip Into The Past

We parked the car in a shady spot. Under the trees by a house that used to be a small confectionary store. The one across the street from the high school where a lot of us congregated before the noon bell rang. It didn't look **the same**. A "For Rent" sign was on the converted building. As we walked across the street and gazed up toward the building we used to know fondly as **Ken-Hi**. Peggy and I saw huge blocks of window glass, some broken, some boarded up and the surrounding walls outside in sad disrepair. Our steps continued upwards, how many times we had taken them two at a time rushing in before the tardy bell rang so as not to suffer the stern but understanding look on Miss Watson's face.

On the aging plaque at the entry doors, we discovered that ground was broken for the school on November 16, 1912 and dedicated September 7, 1914. That places our old **Alma Mater** in the senior citizen category. Do you ever remember seeing it before?

As Peggy and I approached the top of the stairs, we were greeted by a wall of boards and glass. The beautiful graceful stairway was no longer there. All boarded up by a fire code regulation! We remembered racing up and down those stairs while the hall monitors, Fred Ferry, Hebe Broffman, and others, would slow us down. I can see that if a fire would be at hand, it would race up that area in a hurry, but we never seemed to have that problem in all the years before. It **definitely** took away the **beauty** of the **entry**.





Upon turning right we were at once at the Principal's office. How many of us remember the "H.B. Weaver" look and Miss Mary O. Watson sitting at her desk? Sometimes our knees were knocking when we were called to the office not knowing what infraction of the rules we had committed. Would it be 3 nights in DT 401 or just a warning?

Dr. David, the principal of the now **Jr. High** gave us complete freedom to roam the halls of our old ivy. We started down the hall to the left. There was my old room 210, Miss Walker at the helm. We invaded the cloak room too. They now have small lockers lining the halls and they give off a very metallic feeling. Across the way we came upon more closed doors. Everything seemed so dim and dreary. As school was not in session, lights were not on. We opened the door to room 214, Miss Patterson's room. We were really astonished at the flag on the wall. **It was plastic!** Ugh. Down to the end of the hall, we could envision Miss Barranco in 213, Miss Taylor in 212, and around the corner in room 211 we found Miss Hawk. The last room on that side of the building was Miss Owens room 211.

Slowly walking back and remembering our own packed halls as we changed classes, we spied a **pencil dispenser machine**. Can't you imagine **us** buying pencils in the hall? All I remember was buying candy bars from the Tri-Hi-Y girls. The machine has probably been broken into many times. We were astounded by the many pencils stuck in the ceiling tiles. Not only in the classrooms but in all the halls as well!

Miss Russell's room 201 was still there, right beside the office. "Pop" Burnett's room 204 faced us as we continued on and turning right again we remembered Mr. Kordes room 203 and Steve Gantz in his POD class 202.

As we walked towards the Freeport Road area hall we were amazed to see that the middle steps leading to the second floor had been blocked off and was now used for storing audio-visual equipment. Down the hall, we found the Gym doors barred and locked by chains and key, how sad. We came to room 208, I think it was Mrs. Gregory's choir room. Up the steps to second floor and we discovered the balcony closed off and made into a band and music room. The box seat balcony openings into the gym area were no longer there, covered by double rows of metal lockers. I can still see Mr. Maxwell sitting there watching basketball games. On to the rest of the second floor. We approached the library. **It is no longer there!** Just a great big classroom. What memories lingered there as we walked around and remembered the stacks of books along the walls and Miss Ewing shushing us for too much noise.

**We found the library!** Up the stairs to 401! What had been our freshman class room was now a big beautiful library. The doors were barred and chained and we couldn't gain entry. At one time, the area was a gym in the original building. Coming down the stairs, we ran into Earl Akins' **Bank Room**. I'm sure it was his. He was always there.

Most of the doors were closed. Most were locked. Some that we peered into were already for the August students and looked very clean and Spic-n-Span, perhaps for one day, as the cleaning men told us they have to wash dirty written marks off walls daily. There was intercom music in all the classrooms we were in but I'm sure that doesn't happen when school is in session.

We discovered a very nice faculty lounge next to Mr. Maxwell's room 314 and joined Mr.



Sisley's room 313. We discovered too, a stairwell leading to the outside right beside Mr. Sisley's room that I'm sure was never there when we attended High School. The art room door was open and we laughed when we both saw the paper cutter sitting on the files. It could have been the same one Miss Seaton and Mrs. McGarr used. Under the stairs leading to 401, we remembered Miss Kennedy's nursing office. No longer there of course. It was so tiny, Minnie Mouse couldn't have stayed there long.

As we were about to go to the lower level, we spied the trophy case. Not nearly so big as the one we had when we were gung-ho on the sport scene. The same level is where the **graduation list** was posted for our final grades and level. Now we were down to the lower level and found the cafeteria, bigger than we remembered. The cooking classroom was still the same but newer equipment and the teachers lunch room was sporting a mirrored mantel and a ceiling with rusted and exposed beams. The sewing room for 7 graders was in its usual space and the 8th graders no doubt still whipped up the very smallest portions of **Baked Apple Betty**. Miss Matheson's civic classroom wasn't there anymore. The kitchen had taken it over.

From there we followed the dim tunnel hall and found the old dark furnace room. We imagine they have replaced the old boiler by now. It was too dark to see. Passing Mr. Walters room 101, we came upon Peggy's old home room, Mr. Lennox's 105-A and Harry Hadden's room 105-B. These were not shop and drafting rooms. At the end of the hall we discovered another art room.

Back upstairs the cleaning and maintenance personnel unlocked the gym doors for us and upon entering, we really became nostalgic. We remembered the tea dances to the Kensylvanians and the basketball games with Coach Glock and our **Proms**. The stage brought back memories of Class Day and what else! Looking around, we discovered the **floor plan** now goes in the **opposite direction**! Miss Doris Phillip's office is now an equipment room. We must also remember the room back stage. The one where we had Coloa's Studio people take our graduation pictures. On our way out, we ran into the cloak room Miss Alice Klinke used for costumes and drama classes.

As we walked slowly back towards the principal's office, we didn't know whether to **laugh** or **cry**. One doesn't realize what 40 years of absence can do to the memory of our senior year in school. For us, it was both fun and sad, **I think**.

I wouldn't advise it for everyone. Our memories should be just that. Memories of days gone by. Fun and loving times, schedules to meet, tests to take and sweat over and goals to be strived and reached for. Some came true and some took a different course entirely. No matter what way we've gone, we have all come to some good in the end.

Our 60 minutes of touring and reminiscing gave us this final thought: No matter how or what it looks today, it still is and was **Our Ken-Hi**.



1941

## Class Song:

Dear old Ken-Hi  
Dear old Ken-Hi  
The school we back with love and loyalty  
We'll honor you  
Our whole life through  
(at least 40 years so far)  
Dear Alma Mater

Ken-Hi



**BACCALAUREATE SERVICE**  
New Kensington High School  
—  
Sunday Evening, May 25, 1941  
Eight o'clock  
—

Professional \_\_\_\_\_ High School Orchestra  
Invocation \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. W. P. Russell  
Selection \_\_\_\_\_ Student Choir  
"Cherubim Song"  
Sermon \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Ralph Cooper Hutchison  
President of Washington and Jefferson College  
Selection \_\_\_\_\_ Student Choir  
"Were You There?"  
Benediction \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. W. P. Russell  
Postlude \_\_\_\_\_ High School Orchestra

The audience is requested to remain seated until the Seniors have left the auditorium.

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**Kentonian**  
Published Weekly by the Kenton Club, New Kensington High School  
1010 WILSON STREET, NEW KENSINGTON, PA.  
1941--VOL. 10, NO. 1--1941  
1941--NEW 700,000--1941

Mitch Alex suggested to Mr. Weaver a new traffic pattern and signal to regulate travel on the main. Tom Skilling and Bill Nichols were the Motorists' Society for good citizenship. Class Officers (made School) are as follows: Pres. Ray Kozminski, Sec. Frank Aversa-Toni, Ralph Abraham.

Mr. Walker did a complicated math problem and it equaled "V". George Sater and all that work for nothing!

Mr. Gault presented a big red apple by Ray Soltzman. He rewarded the room 209 Holidays - Dec. 25th and 26th.

Responsible for the mirror being taken down in Miss Taylor's room were Florence Goble, Florence Krampton and Dorothy Hardy.

Dave Saterbolt used his school as an observatory on the school's first radio program. Nancy Galtz Sinker discussed our schools.

Officers elected for the Commercial Club included Charles Elliot, Pres. Earl Akers, V.P. Marlin, Hanson, Sec. Norma Faith, Treas. Anna Johnston, and members of the "Big 5".

Frank Pallone takes on a "Man about Town" appearance in the convertible he drives.

Kenneth Elstner claims up the stairs in her story that pretty luncheon.

Walt Matzger's Billings never stop coming each time piece of paper in his book?

Jack Devine suggested naming the new room constitution "The House of Commons".

Bob Chascha Grant, Carver and Bob Krampton conducted a discussion on care and respect of property.

John Hartman placed the class with her report on the essay "Let's be Smart".

Students taken into the Commercial Club after serious consideration included George Wolfgram.

Joan Miller attended a meeting at the University of Pittsburgh along with two other students from the newspaper.

Windows, up or down caused problems for Ralph of William and Joan Maria as they struggled with Martin Paul and Jimmy Lantz.

Lockout you may be blinded by Gretchen Van Ameringen's RED shirt!

Interesting surveys were given by Mary Loy Oshenbier, Leda and Theda Flax and Helen Patterson and Jane Gansky.

Harold Realy has just been added to the "Carpenter Corps".

Helen Winterman had the TR-10 V in devotion as they welcomed new members.

Kathryn Howard and Nora Thompson on the House Bill as would also Frances Fabella and Margaret Kason.

Kathryn Jacobs always ready with a helping hand.

Henry Mantz for some unknown reason is called "Snow White".

Russell Mays has "Mack" for an extra name - from a famous football player of the same name.

Jean Hibbert is known as "Speed" because she is so slow.

Fred Zander is known as "Gene" - He aims to be a 1 Letter Man.

Approved for the Commercial Club are Elizabeth Carabin, Janet Fleming, Phyllis Horvath, Naomi Harkness, Alice Holmes, Margaret Hank, Mildred Kahl, Louise Kaser, Gertrude Quillian, Agnes Mitchell, Florence Paul and Violet Starnes.

James Kalkowski distinguished the banking laws by discussing a certified check and a cashiers check.

Anna Kate Marsha and Mr. Gault sang "I AM AMERICAN" at a meeting of the Commercial Club.

Jimma Williams asked Jack Wansell about passing his drivers test. Jack replied, just stop at all the red and orange and Street intersections.

Good advice.

Lloyd Miller made the statement in guidance period that a room mate is the second worstest to his own son. Gaddy Bradley and Mary Margaret Skilling, former writers for the "Kentonian", spoke at the University of Pittsburgh.

HIGHWAYS  
KENTONIAN  
LEADERS CLUB

Office of the Mayor  
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Class of 1941 of New Kensington High School is marking its Fiftieth Anniversary Year with a celebration on Saturday, September 14, 1991; and

WHEREAS, coinciding with this very important event, the City of New Kensington is jubilantly observing the Centennial Year of its founding; and

WHEREAS, as a commemorative gesture, a Key to the City is being presented to Anna Johnston Spens, Valedictorian of the Class of 1941, to hold in trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN J. MONACO, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW KENSINGTON, AND A MEMBER OF THIS CLASS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY ONE, "CLASS OF 41 - NEW KENSINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DAY" IN THE CITY OF NEW KENSINGTON URGING EVERYONE TO TAKE PART IN THE GALA CELEBRATION TO REMINISCE ABOUT THE PAST AND BRING GOOD MEMORIES INTO THE FUTURE.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and signed this seal to be attested.  
John J. Monaco  
Mayor  
September 14, 1991



# Class of 1941

by Peg Stanley

## Memories of New Kensington and School

I have decided that living 1 1/2 blocks from Third Ward grade school and 1/2 block from the High School has its advantages. I could get a late start and still be on time! Across from the Third Ward School was George Saliba's store, so it was always special to have a penny in my pocket to go to the store for some penny candy. One day a bunch of us hiked up Bouquet Hill and beyond, and then after a wonderful afternoon in the outdoors we visited the "White Tower" for the most delicious hamburgers, which cost all of five cents.

Another memory was of the 1936 flood. Because of the flood rains, the gym of Parnassus Junior High School students had to take gym on the stage of the auditorium for the rest of the year. And some of the activities were clogging.

Then, in the junior high school we felt so grown up. Walking down Fifth Avenue beside our high school band to the football games at Herr Stadium. In our sophomore year, the Parnassus students joined us. It puts me in mind of the adage, "*make new friends, but keep the old, one is Silver and the other is Gold*". Some of my favorite teachers were Pauline Stuckley, I enjoyed working in the school office for her. Miss Watson, assistant to the Principal was very nice. Also, Sadie Owen, the English teacher and Sally Barrante, in typing were excellent.

The town is different now - no more Silvermans, no more Harts, no more Liberty Theater. It seems that "change is here to stay". At the Liberty we looked forward to Saturday shows after a week of school. My afternoon started with a stop at the 5 & 10 for those awful tasting 'hore-hound' drops. I bought them because they lasted so long. At the Liberty for 10 cents we got our money's worth! There were two features - a weekly thriller, continued next week and the pre-views, Pathe' news and so much more. Then to the Keystone Dairy store for a nickel cherry coke or a chocolate one. If you were on a date on Saturday night, you might go to Shaner's across the street for a fudge sundae. How our town has changed. But like the song says, "Memories are made of this".

### Favorite Songs of 1941

Amapola • Anniversary Waltz • Babalu • Beat Me Daddy  
Eight To the Bar • Chattanooga Choo Choo • Daddy •  
Deep in the Heart of Texas • Down Argentine Way •  
Elmer's Tune • Everything Happens to Me • G'Bye Now  
• Green eyes • He Wears a Pair of Silver Wings • He's 1-  
A In the Army • Hi Neighbor • High on a Windy Hill •  
Intermezzo • I My Sister and I • I Don't Want To Set The  
World On Fire • I Understand • In Apple  
Blossom Time • It All Comes Back to Me Now •  
It Happened in Sun Valley • It's So Peaceful in  
the Country • Maria Elena • Oh, Look At Me  
Now • Rosie O'Day • Shepherd's Serenade •  
So, You're The One • The Band Played On • The  
Hut-Sut Song • The Last Time I Saw Paris •  
There I Go • They'll Be Some Changes Made •  
This Love of Mine





1942

## Class of 1942

by the Committee of the Ken-Hi Class of 1942

### WE ARE SURVIVORS !

Consider the changes we have witnessed! We were before televisions, before penicillin, before polio shots, Xerox, contact lenses, frisbees and the PILL.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams, ballpoint pens, pantyhose, dish-washers,  
clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes and before the man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. How quaint is that?

In our time, closets were for clothes, not for 'coming out of'. Bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were scheming girls named Jean or Jeanne.

We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and Outer Space was the 2nd balcony of the Liberty Theater.

We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers.  
We were before daycare centers, group therapy and nursing homes.

We never heard of FM Radio, tape decks, compact discs, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processing, or condominiums; 2 by 4's and 4 by 4's were wood, not trucks, hardware meant hardware, and software wasn't even a word!

In 1942, 'made in Japan' meant junk. The term, 'making out' referred to how you did on a History Exam and not the outcome of your date the night before.

We went to a five and ten cents store, where there were actually things to buy for five and ten cents. The Keystone Dairy sold ice cream cones for a nickel and a dime. For one nickel you could ride a street car, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi, or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy coupe for \$600 , but who could afford one? A pity too, because gasoline was only 11 cents a gallon!

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed,  
coke was a drink, and pot was something you cooked in.

Rock Music was Grandma's lullaby and aids were helpers in Principal Weaver's office.

In our day, 'mob' meant the loud crowd at the local YMCA, screaming their leather lungs out every time Ken-Hi made a basket in a 'shootout with Arnold'.

A Saturday Night special was someone to hold in your arms, not in the your hand.



We were certainly not before the difference between the sexes was discovered,  
but we were surely before the sex change. We made do with what we had.  
And we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think that you needed a husband to have  
a baby.

“Good heavens”, no wonder everyone is so confused!. No wonder we have a generation gap!

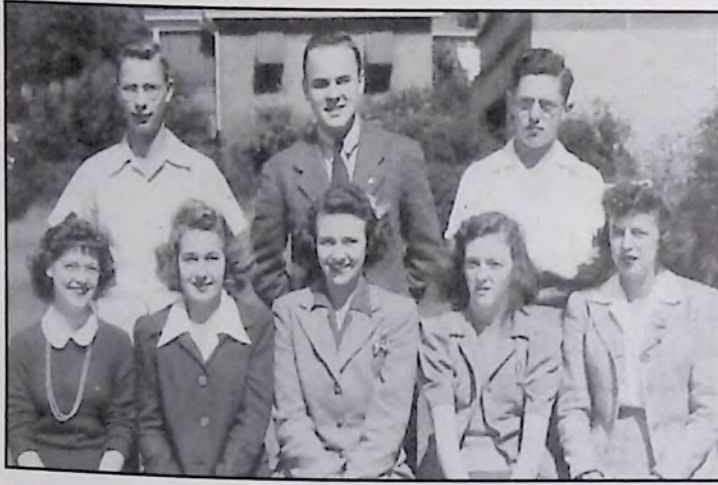
### **BUT WE SURVIVED !**





# 1943

**Assemblies Staff**



**Handbook Staff**

**Office Staff**



**Monitors**





# Class of 1944

*by Ruth Armor*

# 1944

Continuity, adhesiveness and a special kind of camaraderie are a few of the adjectives that best describe the Ken-Hi's class of 1944.

We came from the halls of the elementary schools of Martin, Mount Vernon, Stewart and Third Ward – forming our class in our sophomore year and still enjoying each other 56 years later. We excelled in many areas, boasting not one, but two class valedictorians! (Jean Weaver and Jack Crum) ; and a class president (Dick Clark) who was a three-star athlete who excelled in the arenas of football, basketball and baseball ! We were well represented in many school organizations, cheerleading groups and as members of the band. Several of the latter marched and played under the direction of “Mr. D”, Charlie Davis, who during our high school days composed the music and words for Ken -Hi's Alma Mater.

We graduated midway through the years of World War II, and our research reveals that we did not lose any boys on the field of battle. This is an achievement we cherish.

Our caring for one another was best exemplified with two momentous party occasions. At the close of our Senior year, Class Vice President, Vernon Wills hosted a special party for all class members; and on the grand 50th anniversary of our graduation, alumnus Ray Phillips ‘picked up the tab’ for that festive event.

Today's scholarship fund that benefits seniors of current Valley High School (heir apparent to Ken -Hi) was founded by the Class of 1944. This project was initiated by class member Sally Grotefend Yeamans and continues to reach into the future.

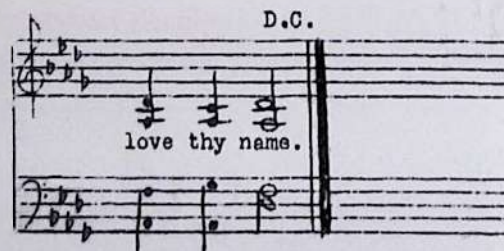
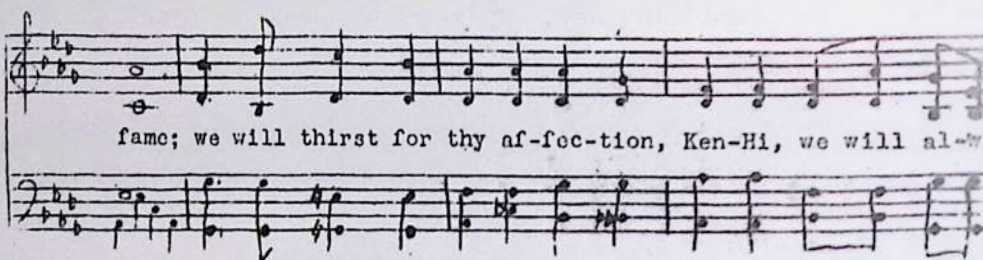
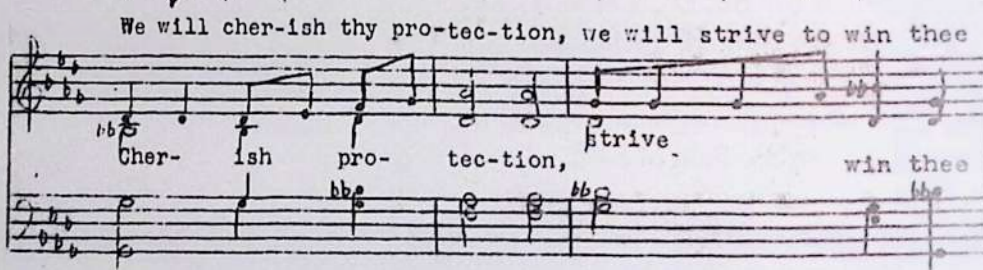
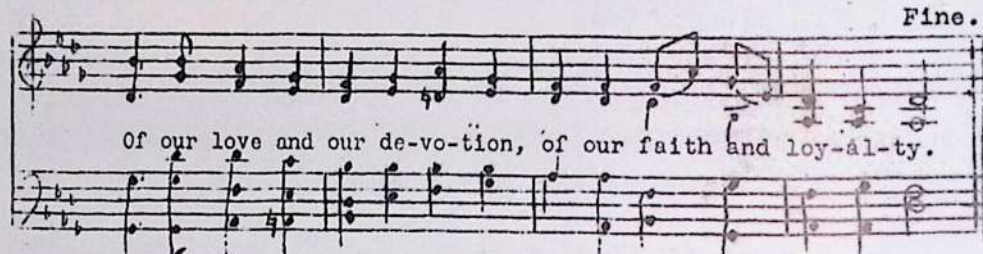
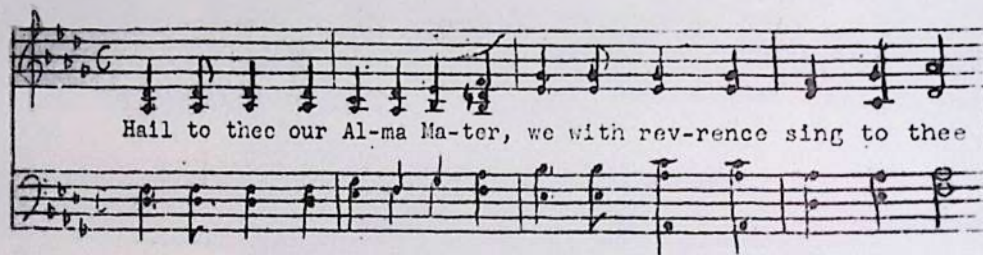
So, as we march into the new century, we, the Class of '44, remember fondly happenings of our school days and look with pride at achievements we are still making. It has been a wonderful life.





## ALMA MATER

Arr. by Chas. Davis



## KEN-HI Alma Mater

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,  
We with reverence sing to thee  
Of our love and our devotion,  
Of our faith and loyalty.

We will cherish thy protection;  
We will strive to win thee fame,  
We will thirst for thy affection;  
Ken-Hi we will always love thy name.

Hail to thee, our Alma Mater,  
We with reverence sing to thee  
Of our love and our devotion,  
Of our faith and loyalty.



---

*From the 1944 Taleoken*

## JUST AN ANSWER

Mother, what man is that marching away?  
That is your brother, son, with whom you used to play.  
Mother, why does he march away so sad?  
He is off to join the wars,  
The wars that are wicked and bad.  
He is off to join the colors and the ranks of fighting men,  
Some of whom, my son, may never return again.  
He is fighting for a cause greater than the greatest oak,  
The right of righteous living under God's solemn cloak.

*By Thomas Henry*

"Three cheers for war in general". Those were the exultant words of one Benito Mussolini, not too long ago. Recent events have proven that Il Duce was as demented as those words might indicate. To Americans, he is a harmless fool, and American are intent on the job of reducing Hitler and Tojo to Mussolini status. We have found the job to be a long and hard war, which is far from receiving "three cheers".

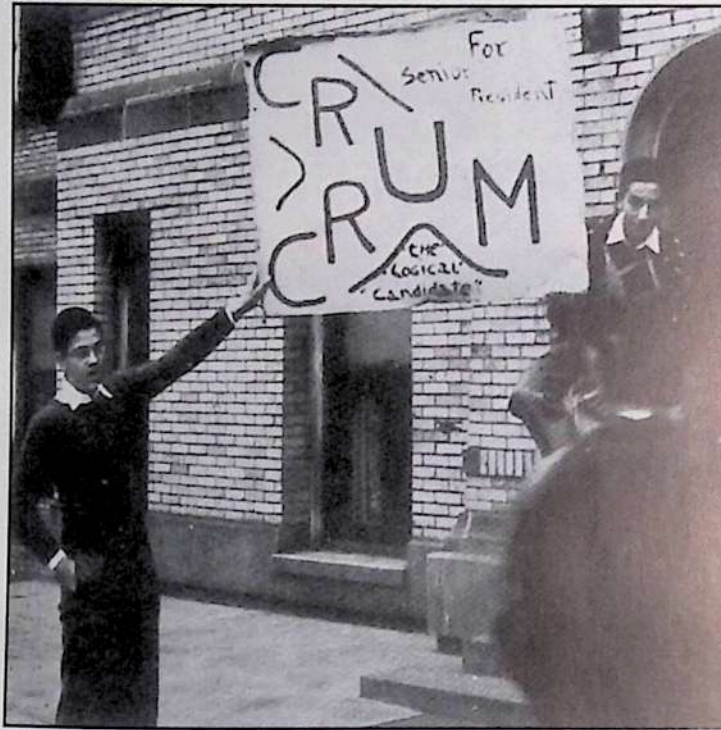
We, who graduate this year, will be flung from our somewhat safe positions into the ugly whirlpool of war. Our boys will be using weapons bought with bonds and stamps they purchased in Ken-Hi. Our girls will be helping to produce those weapons. The 1944 Alumni of Ken-Hi will join an already long list of alumni serving their country, and more that one thousand men and women, who once roamed the halls are now actively engaged in winning this war. They answered the call of their country and are now fighting to make future America a free and happy land. **To them we owe the deepest respect.**

War is not a playground, many died in the war. Our fervent prayer is that the lists of dead and missing will soon be a thing of the past and that the boys and girls who are now only names on an Honor Roll, could be walking the streets of New Kensington again.

We must work hard to reach that happy goal. Optimists say it will be a matter of months; pessimists are predicting a duration of several years. However long it may be, it will end only by hard work and sacrifice. We are ready to make the sacrifices necessary to bring the war to a victorious conclusion.



## Horse Elections



## HORSE ELECTIONS

As time marches on in its relentless course, and as the golden minutes become shining hours, and the shining hours become precious years—in other words, about ten years from now, some of us will look at this book and wonder who in the world the person on our right is. We will probably remember something

about the person, but his name will escape our memory as if by magic. Here we present a sure guide to the outstanding characteristics of some of Ken Hi's 1944 graduates. If you get to about the fourth name and wonder who's crazy—we are.

Most Alert	Tom Steele
Soberest	Nancy Rorabaugh
Most Timid	Steve Bazzano
Wildest Driver	Ross Walker
Class Bookworm	Bill Marr
Class Sourpuss	Jean Gabella
Man of the Future	Bernard Rogow
Most Serious	Doug Waters
Ken Hi's Gift to the Army	Jim Smith
Least Known	Dick Clark
Class Bully	Vernon Wills
Class Sissy	Bill Joseph
Girl Crazy	Phil Silverman
Worst Musician	John Pessolano
Shyest	Einar Iverson
Least Active	Jack Crum

Worst Student	Alvey Rushton
Most Modest	Bob DeLotto
Class Midget	Neil Armstrong
Weakest	Walt Charley
Personality Minus	Ardis Kaufman
Ken Hi's Betty Grable	Shirley Stokes
Last Married	Jane Wilbur
Worst Dressed	Bob Miller
Worst Pianist	Zoe Ross
Fastest	Don Shaw
Least Attractive	Lil Stockdale
Mental Midget	Roger McLaughlin
Least Talented	Tom Henry
Least Popular	Sue Van Winkle
Woman Hater	John Kerstetter
Man Hater	Martha Ross



# Through The War Years

(from the 1945 Taleoken)

*Proud, eager, patriotic men, plunging into unknown depths,  
Ready to serve "Our Country" when menacing hands threaten democratic concepts.  
Humble, just, merciful attitudes o'er all free lands, pure selfless flames,  
Shining examples of fortitude, in history's record engraving the names.*

Russell Shalkoski

"Skylark", "A String of Pearls" - these were the songs we were singing in December 1941, when Ken-Hi was a school untouched by war. It was on the eighth day of that month, however though, that Monday when we sat huddled near our classroom radios to hear Congress declare war, that we, the Class of 1945, got our first glimpse of the excitement it brings. We were freshmen then, in a school that looked as it always had looked. We were freshmen who had been brought that far with the feeling that war was the bombing of places we had never seen, the death of people we had never met. War to us was glory.

Soon, little changes crept into our life. We drilled for emergency, some of us became OCD messengers, many of us studied First Aid, and we sang, "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition", War was fun.

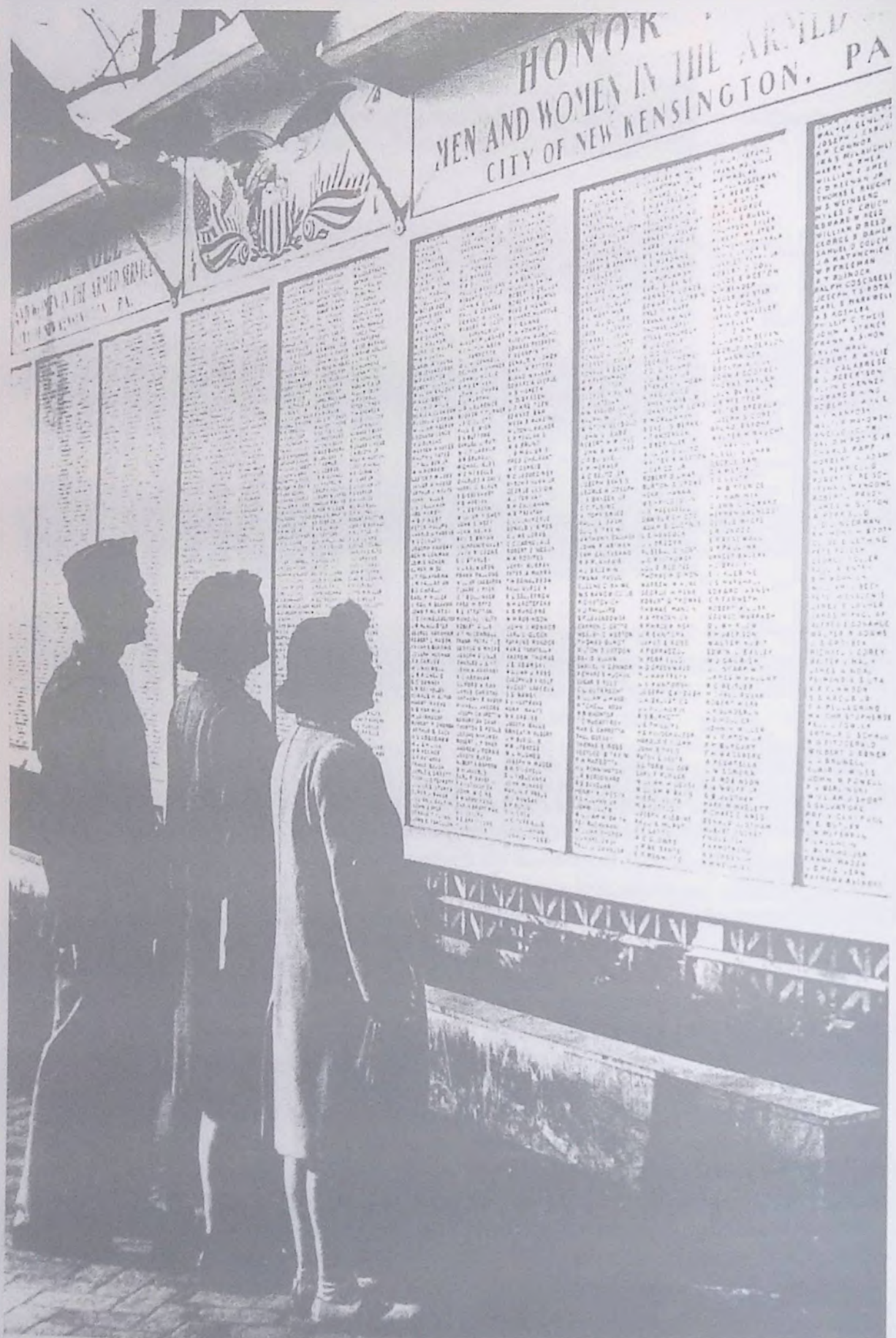
When we returned to school for our sophomore year, we got acquainted (Parnassus and Ken-Hi veterans) but we were disappointed to find too many of our favorite teachers had left for the service. That year a few of them and some uniformed boys visited Ken-Hi on short furloughs. We envied them their great adventure and laughed when they claimed we were to be envied. War was a dazzle of uniforms.

In our junior year, we were a little more somber, for each of us could mention at least one gold star name of a friend or former Ken-Hi student. Rationing had tightened up, so that it was getting harder for Mrs. Lenox to maintain the quality of food in the cafeteria. By that time, visiting servicemen were not an unusual sight in our halls, and boys began to leave in greater numbers than we could deem necessary. Even our own classmates enlisted. War was "goodbye".

Today, we are in our fourth wartime year at Ken-Hi. Seniors now, and graduating, we realize that all our high school education, all our high school fun has been colored by the red demon of battle. When we glance at our service flag that commands the hall, we read that almost 45 have already given up their lives. It has taken these facts to teach us that War is a hard lesson.

Because it had been so much a part of us, then, we pay tribute to those of our teachers and alumni who have served and are yet serving on the fronts. They have glorified the name of America, they have carried the principles taught and learned here at Ken-Hi. We are conscious, though, that the greatest tribute we can offer them cannot be made in words, but in the completion of the task they have started, and the fulfillment of their desires for a better world. With the courage, with the faith, with the humor which they exemplify, we must do it, for we cannot let them down. War must never come again.







## Class of 1945

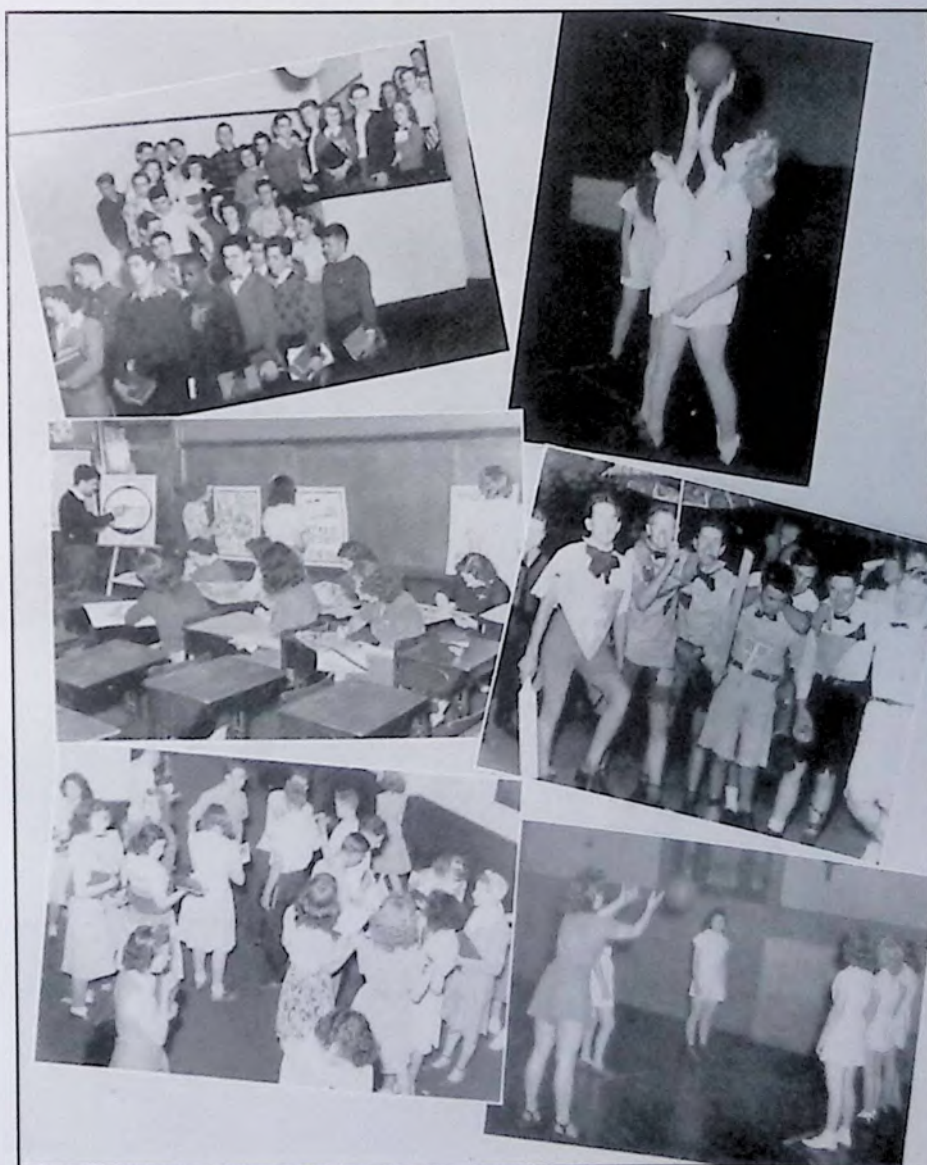
by Beverly Keitzer Cooke and Ree Scherf

### Memories

Dora Sicilia and I made the band as majorettes, I remember the first time we marched with the band, even though it was only for practice. We had to use Arnold's football field. After practice, we marched back to Ken-Hi and there was the whole school standing outside for a pep rally. How proud and important we felt-all those cheers and applauding! (Beverly Cooke)

A humorous thing I remember was when, in English class, we were told to have memorized a poem, and be ready to recite it for the next day. When Dave Cooper's time to recite came, he said,

*"Though her eyes flash fire, and protests blister -  
Never apologize after you've kissed her." (Ree Scherf)*





# 1946

## Class of 1946

*by Rets Wyant McSweeney*

At last we can now celebrate  
A time that is our special date.  
We've made it to here,  
Our Fiftieth year,  
And think that we've done something great.

So now let us look at those years,  
Since studying hard with our peers.  
Will we stand the test  
Of being the best  
When all of the data appears?

We went off to jobs or to school  
To better ourselves, as a rule,  
Some chose military  
Our options did vary,  
In finding our own success tool.

We taught and we nursed and we filed,  
We preached and we farmed and we styled,  
Became CEO's,  
In business we rose,  
With our many gifts we went wild.

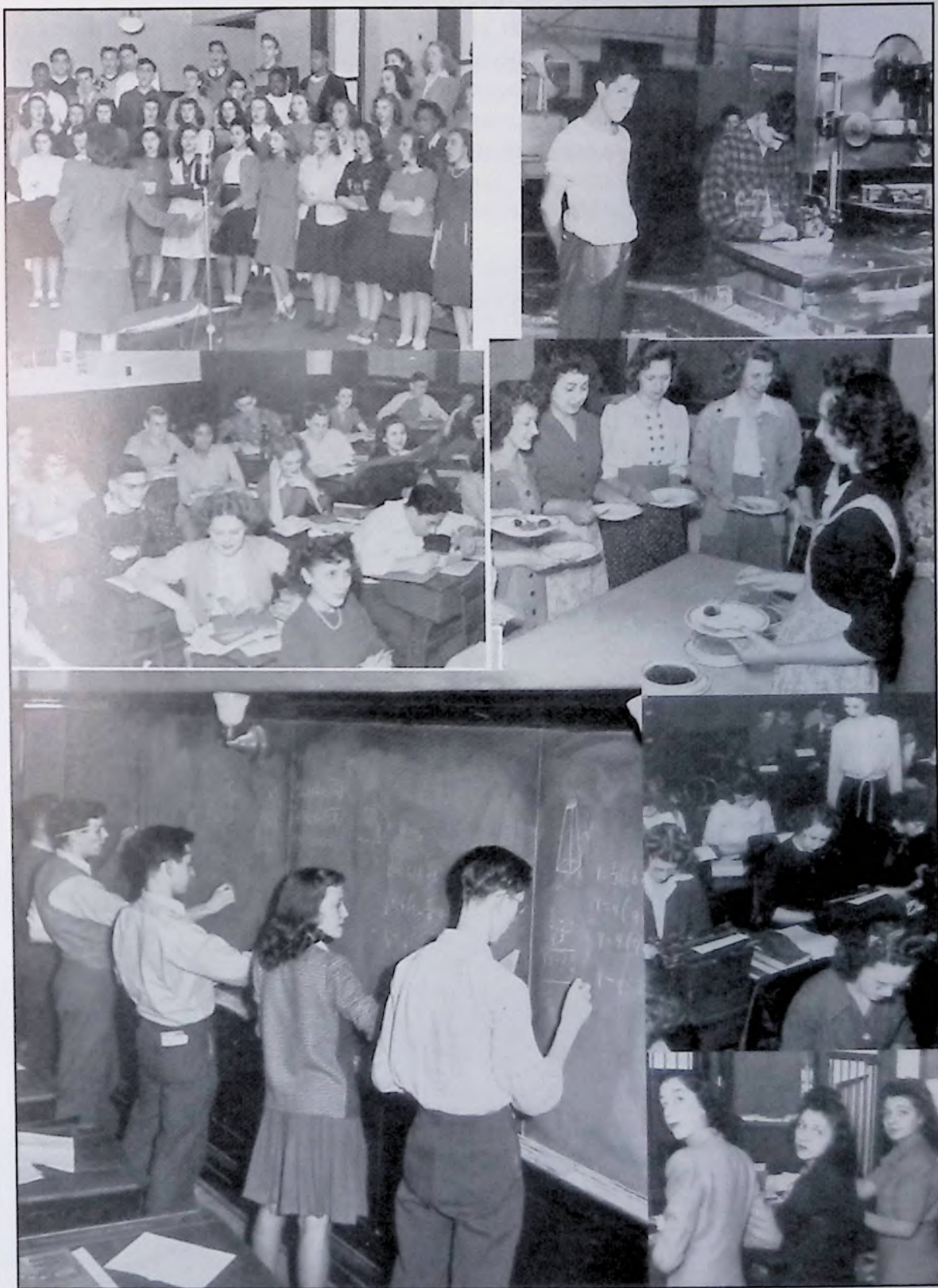
Some married, some didn't, 'tis true,  
While others were widowed – a few,  
Many homes were blest  
With babes in their nest  
And even with grandchildren too.

Our members have traveled this earth  
And seen many sights that are worth  
The time that was spent  
Whenever they went  
Enjoying each footstep with mirth.

It seems that our class has done well,  
For looking at this we can tell  
We've carried the pride  
Of Ken-Hi inside  
While living each year as it fell.



And not we can look to a treat  
Of planning the next time we meet  
In '01 or '06  
A date we must fix  
So time can reserve us a seat.





# 1947

## Class of 1947

*by Patty Phillips*

The class of 1947 graduated 398 students, of which some were veterans of World War II, who came back to finish their high school education and go on to college. Many other classmates went on to college and became doctors, ministers, pharmacists, teachers, engineers, or went to work in a trade of their interest. Many were secretaries or bookkeepers, bankers and clerks, and homemakers.

Many class members left the area, but a big percentage are still in the area.

Our class has had a reunion every five years since graduation, our latest being a three day celebration in 1997 to celebrate our fiftieth.

We have lost 82 class members over the years.

Many are celebrating this special Ken-Hi 2000 reunion with all the other Ken-Hi Alumni as we all become part of the history of Old Ken-Hi.





# 1948

## Ken-Hi Class of 1948

*By Al Bartolacci*

### A Nostalgic Look Back

In 1948, New Kensington was a thriving, prosperous, post war boomtown with a population in excess of 20,000. The life-blood of the city, indeed the entire Allegheny Kiski valley, was numerous industries which included the Aluminum Company of America, Pittsburgh Plate Glass, Allegheny Ludlum Steel, American Window Glass, General Electric, Braeburn Steel and numerous other smaller factories and mines (Renton, Russellton and Harmarville) were the major employers. Virtually every family benefited, directly or indirectly, from these local industries.

Downtown New Kensington, consisting of approximately 10 square blocks, was the center of most domestic, social, and professional activity and provided us with everything we needed to sustain life and entertain ourselves.

Citizen's General Hospital, several doctor's and dentist offices and pharmacies tended to our medical needs. First National Bank and Logan Trust Bank were the premier banking facilities in town where many of us had Christmas clubs and savings accounts. In addition, they featured

the tallest and most spectacular Christmas tree displays during the holiday seasons. The train station at the intersection of Barnes and 9th Street was our gateway to the big cities and beyond, in addition to carrying the largest and biggest selection of national, international, and ethnic newspapers, magazines and publications in the area.

For entertainment and dining, downtown New Kensington was unparalleled in the valley, drawing visitors from all parts of western Pennsylvania.

How many of you learned to swim or play your first organized basketball game at the YMCA upstairs on Fifth Avenue, only to see it destroyed in one of the largest fires in the City's history?

Did you shoot your first game of 8 ball at Adam's Pool Room on Tenth Street, or bowl your first game of 10 pins at the Trocarino upstairs of the old A&P on Ninth Street?

But by far the single greatest entertainment attraction to downtown was the movie theaters.





For 10 cents, you could watch a first run Hollywood Production at the Ritz, Paramount, Circle, Dattola, and elegant Liberty with its large balcony and candelabras. How about watching another episode of Zorro, Dick Tracy or Hopalong Cassidy and a Saturday morning "Boom-Boom" serial. Our heroes and role models were Humphrey Bogart, Errol Flynn, Tyrone Power, Mickey Rooney, James Cagney, Jimmy Stewart, Clark Gable, and Gary Cooper. Our heroines were Betty Grable, Rita Hayworth, Lana Turner, and Shirley Temple. They opened our minds to exciting new worlds and fed our fantasies of adventure, romance, and patriotism. How many of our young and impressionable lives were shaped and inspired in those darkened theaters by those exciting and talented actors and actresses.

After the movie or ball games, did you stop at the Rustic Inn for a hamburger and a bowl of chili for 35 cents? Or Shoralls on Ninth Street for a milkshake or sundae (25 cents)? Maybe it was Herman's Nut Shop, the White Tower, or one of those towering ice cream cones at Isaly's. But if you really wanted to impress your date, you took her to the Ken-Mar Hotel, the Copper Kettle, or Milano's on Tenth Street. Don't forget the best hot dog in town at the Coney Island, next to the shoeshine parlor on Tenth Street. The American Drink Shop and Clawson's Barbecue rounded out the list.

It was only natural that "under the clock" at the corner of Fifth and Ninth became the place to meet and be seen, especially after the games.

This was New Kensington in the late 40's. Our boys were home from terrible World War II. Rationing of gasoline, sugar, coffee, and shoes was over and we began to cash in our savings stamps we had saved up for so long.

Employment was high and gasoline sold for 25 cents a gallon. T-Bone steak was 39 cents a pound, butter sold for 40 cents a pound, and coffee 32 cents a pound. Bus rides were a nickel and penny candy was still only a penny.

In the summers we looked forward to the annual Kennywood Picnic, playgrounds, and swimming at Willows and Melwood Pools. We hiked Bouquet Hill, Eagle Rock, and the Burning Well, and couldn't wait for the picnics on Memorial Day and the 4th of July at Memorial and Falcon Parks. The fireworks display on the 4th left us breathless, and the miners and firemen parades caused the downtown streets to be crowded by virtually everyone in town.

In the wintertime we couldn't wait for the first snowfall so we could skate and sled-ride on blocked off streets, build snowmen in our backyards, or just delight in knocking down huge icicles hanging from our roofs. Like the rest of the world, wintertime meant eagerly looking forward to the holiday season, wide-eyed, anticipating decorating our glistening trees, exchanging and opening gifts, and finally counting down the old year and toasting the new one.

Television was still in the experimental stage so we glued ourselves to the radio listening to Jack Armstrong, Easy Aces, and Lowell Thomas and the evening news. Our imaginations ran wild listening to **I Love a Mystery, The Shadow, Green Hornet, Tom Mix, Jack Benny, Fibber McGee & Molly, and Amos & Andy**. All could be heard on Pittsburgh stations such as KDKA, WTAE, WWSW, and WJAS.



Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Haiti, the Middle East, and Bosnia were in the future and only far-away places on the map in Miss Phillips' geography class. Nuclear bombs, computers, walking on the moon and space exploration were things we read about in the Buck Rogers Comic Books. Organ transplants, AIDS, and The Pill might have been figments of someone's imagination or a Frankenstein movie.

In our naivete and innocence, we were happy, carefree, and life was good.

It was in this setting that we came. Geographically we came from Second Avenue to Pine Manor and Charles Avenue. We came from the far reaches of Mount Vernon, Kinloch, and Parnassus all the way to 12th Street.

Scholastically we came from First Ward on 4th Avenue and Third Ward on Walnut. We came from Parnassus Jr High, Ft Crawford, and Martin Schools. We came from Valley Heights Elementary, Mt. Vernon and Wills School. Oh yes, and some even came from a place **out of the country** called Stewart School. Finally, some came from the New Ken Trade School and the Parachial Schools of St. Mary's and St. Joseph's.

The ethnic mix of our class was a miniature **United Nations**. We were the sons and daughters of proud immigrants of German, Polish, Italian, Slavic, Greek, Russian, French, African-American, and Jewish extraction. Oh yes and even one proud Chinese-American Family (guess who?). Some of us even had real American names of English, Irish, and Scotch-Irish origin. We didn't know it then, but this natural acceptance of living and sharing each others cultural heritages would help us withstand the racial strife that would in later years tear America apart.

And so, it was there, at the venerable Ridge Avenue School, we would converge to make new friends, meet an extraordinary faculty and begin our journey into adulthood.

After 50 years, what do you still remember about your favorite teacher? Was it the **Twinkle** in **Pop Burnett's** eyes as he passionately spoke of the American Civil War? Were you one of the students who learned to **Habla Espanol** in Miss Gosetti's Spanish Class? Maybe the reason you speak so eloquently or write so well today is because Martha Russell or Jane Taylor made darn sure you could conjugate a verb. Mr. Mooney, Bucky Walter, Miss Walker and Mr. Herlinger brought orderliness and logic to our young minds by impressing us with the irrefutable laws of mathematics, physics, and chemistry. Are you a doctor or dentist today because Miss Mathison or Mr. Matisko taught you not to be squeamish when dissecting a frog? How many of you came out of your shell in Miss Klinke's speech and dramatics classes. Are you singing better in the shower today or still playing your horn because of Emogene Whitacre or Frank Oliver? Have you retained your skills at typing or shorthand to this day because of Mr. Batiste? The list goes on: Rorabaugh-Latin; Armstrong-Civics; Baughman-History; Eiges-History and Guidance; Greisemer-English and Library; Jefferson-Science; Gibson-Basketball; Kordes-Commerical Ed; Owen-English; and Phillips-Geography. Rosemarie Pascaretta taught the girls that you could be as tough as the boys when it came to physical ed.

Towering above all was the dominating figure of Football Coach Don Fletcher. Nationally renown, he was one of the most prolific coaches in Western Pennsylvania high school football history. Through his insistence on discipline, conditioning, strong leadership and coaching



expertise, he would come to produce some of the strongest gridiron teams in the state.

Ask any classmate what they remember as the most memorable event of their high school experience and chances are they will tell you it was watching and cheering on the marvelous **WPIAL Championship** teams the **Coach** produced in 1947 and 1948!! Were you there when Ken-Hi beat Vandergrift at Forbes Field with a score of 21-0 to win the coveted WPIAL Championship on points? Then in 1948 our undefeated team crushing highly rated, cross-river rival Har Brack 28-0 at Forbes Field. These were glorious days and our football teams were our pride and joy. We reveled in the glory of these magnificent and extraordinary and tough warriors. Many of them went on to win scholarships and achieve national college and professional football fame. And yes, even to produce the first black quarterback in the history of the National Football League. How many high school classes in the entire country can boast such a record? **And we were there!**

Attending Ken-Hi wasn't all homework, book reports, and cramming for exams. Some of the lighter moments came even within the school itself. How much studying did you do in Study Hall 401? For some, this great expensive room, with its 4-5 teacher monitors became a place to relax and maybe even goof off a little. Were you one of the mischievous ones who waited for the monitors to

turn their backs so you could toss a spitball at your buddy or maybe just to harass the prettiest





girl sitting nearby?

What did you do after a hard day at the salt mines? Some had after school jobs or had to rush home to help with household chores. Maybe a quick cherry coke at the nearby New Ken Pharmacy or a shake, sundae, or sandwich downtown. Music lovers rushed to Cooper's Music Store to check out the latest 45 RPM on one of the worn turntables with headsets on the counter. Upstairs at Station WKPA, Bob Livorio spun our favorite love songs of the day. Remember his theme song, "**Dream**", by the Pied Pipers?

In addition to the school sock dances and Sadie Hawkins Dance, we had the Saturday Nite Club in our gym, and St. Clements and St. Joe's Lyceum, Ukrainian Hall in Tarentum. Of course, Buddy Lee was our favorite orchestra to dance to. His closing theme, Harlem Nocturne, was our cue to grab a quick last dance with our favorite heart throb or make that quick last arrangement for a date afterwards. Fifty years later, we are fortunate to have him and his fine group here with us again!! On occasion, we were lucky to dance to nationally known bands such as Harry James, Gene Krupa, and Tex Beneke at the Ches-A-Rena in Cheswick.

Where do you take your date after the dances or after the ball games? Downtown to the Rustic Inn, Shorall's, Herman's Nut Shop or the P & M Pizzeria? Or maybe you just hangout on the corner of Fifth and Ninth to see or just to be seen. Watching the parade of cars go by, hoping someone with a car would pick you up to go cruising. If you were lucky enough to have a ride, you drove over to Savor's in Cheswick to play miniature golf and later, inside, to enjoy one of

their delicious B-B-Q sandwiches and dance on their tiny dance floor. We fed the jukebox with nickels so we could listen to our favorite Tony Bennett, Nat "King" Cole, Bing Crosby, Patti Page, Jo Stafford, or





Doris Day hit.

Later on when the golf driving range opened in Harmarville, that became the place to show off our driving skills.

Other highlights of our school social year of course was the annual school trip to Kennywood, when we bought our ride tickets in advance and had as much fun on the train as we did riding the Jack Rabbit. For some, the rides we took to events and games seem to have been more memorable than the destination!

The final social event of our school year was of course the long anticipated and eagerly awaited senior prom. Finding the **right** date for this momentous event started early in the school year and was the most important decision many of us had ever made. For the vast majority of the class, this was our first experience at **going formal**. The boys handsome in their only coat and tie and the girls in their dazzling gowns. Were these the same homely looking roommates we sat next to in class for so many years? Where did these good-looking people come from? Where did you go after the prom? To the Copa or Carousel or Twin Coaches in the big city? Maybe just to some nearby hilltop to watch the sun come up. For some strange reason, some adventurous souls thought it was exciting to visit the Pittsburgh City Morgue. (probably our future doctors, nurses, and undertakers!)

And so finally, on that bright, sunny, and fateful day of May 25, 1948, the graduating class of New Kensington High School, the largest class (371) ever to graduate from Ken-Hi (to that point), assembled on the newly opened Memorial Field to receive our hard-earned diplomas, wrapped in our school colors of red & black ribbon.

Who knew what the future held in store for each of us at that moment in time? Some of us would go on to college and enter the professional world of medicine, law, business, and industry. Some would become educators, and one even went on and became an esteemed local School Superintendent. Another was to become a distinguished and well respected monsignor of the Greensburg Catholic Diocese. Others became self-employed and some opened their own businesses. Some would enter into military service and a few even made it a career. But most important, most would marry and raise wonderful families to follow in their footsteps, become good citizens and carry on the Ken-Hi tradition.

Did any other equivalent length of time in the history of the world hold as many momentous events and marvelous wonders as our class of "48" experienced?

Born of the disastrous depression of the "30's", we grew up to see the only president in U.S. history to serve 4 terms. We lived and experienced, through the most terrible and devastating world war the entire world had ever seen; only to be ended by a mysterious, earth rattling atomic explosion in the New Mexican desert and over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The dawn of the nuclear age and our lives would never be the same. Something else happened to our generation that would affect our lives forever. A small box in the corner of our living rooms that could actually transmit images and pictures over the airwaves! Imagine that, and we were there! But that's only the beginning. We lived during the period that penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lens, Frisbees, and of course the pill became a part of



every day life. As if that weren't enough, we saw the advent of radar, credit cards, laser beams, and ballpoint pens. Maybe panty hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, and drip-dry clothes played a part in your life. And we were there! Did you ever think you would live to see a man walk on the moon? How about the transplant of human organs, and the eradication of polio, smallpox, and yellow fever? We lived through an era when a president was assassinated and a movie star became one. The totally unexpected collapse of Communist Russia and the end of the cold war. Yes, we were there. And finally, consider this: of all the people who have ever inhabited this planet, how many have, or will, experience the dawn of a new millennium? Yes, ours was a very special generation!

**Ken-Hi - Raise your glasses!** And in a toast to salute our beloved class of "48" and to paraphrase Humphrey Bogart in everyone's favorite movie of our day:

**HERE'S LOOKING AT YOU,  
CLASS OF "48"**

*In memory of*  
***Al Bartolacci***  
*who died Christmas Eve, 1999*



1949

## Class of 1949

by Barbara Heigley Tipton

### THOUGHTS FOR THE CLASS OF 1949

The Class of 1949 began classes with a renovated school, all new lighting and pastel shades of paint. In September 1948, bright eyed students converged on Ken-Hi for their first year of school. Some had been here only two years, some three, some four and for about 60, it would be their 6th year. For Nancy Dunn, Bertha Baker, Lora Lee Andree and Jim Ross this would be their twelfth year together. The group coming from Stewart and Third Ward would also be together for 12 years. It was a calmer time. The boys were home from war, rationing was over. You could take a train or a Harmony Short Line bus to Pittsburgh. The Steel City to the Aluminum City, it said on the side of the bus. Now there is no more Aluminum Company and no more steel mills. Would you have believed it if someone told you that in 1949? But could you have imagined the things that have happened in the last 50 years! Even the language, VCR, camcorder, fax, Walkman, computer, Laser, credit cards, pantyhose, penicillin, contact lenses, microwave, 'the pill', Viagra, hippie, yuppie. Buck Rogers was traveling in space only in comic books and the man on the moon was only a song.

In January of 1949, snow measuring a foot fell in Los Angeles. In March, Captain James Gallagher flew non-stop around the world in 94 minutes, 1 second. In May the Berlin Airlift was ended after 321 days. The Polaroid Land Camera sold for \$89.75. A record million cars rolled off the assembly line. New fads were bikinis, cowboy and Indian suits for kids, roller derbies and pyramid clubs. The Argentine card game named *Canasta*, virtually unknown at the beginning of 1949, is played by 10 million people by December. Rita Hayworth marries Aly Khan. In Chicago, a baker named Charles Lubin named a refrigerated cheesecake after his daughter, Sara Lee. The big news in sports, Joe DiMaggio gets \$90,000 per year. The highest baseball salary in history. Jackie Robinson is named the most valuable player. Martin and Lewis made their first movie, *My Friend Irma*. Olivia De Havilland won the Oscar for *The Heiress*. *All The Kings Men*, is best picture. *Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend*, *Ghost Riders in the Sky*, *The Huckle Buckle*, *Mule Train*, *My Foolish Heart*, *Some Enchanted Evening*, *The Cry of the Wild Goose* and *Mona Lisa* were the top tunes.

A survey completed in 1949 showed that 85% of the people thought that there would be a cure for cancer by the year 2000 and only 15% felt that a man would land on the moon!

Everyone told us that "these are the best years of your life." *And they were great!* From the first day trying to find your room, seeing what classes you would be in and who was in them. Trying to get from 105 to 401 between bells and using the correct steps, with monitor watching. Then football season- WPIAL champs for two years! But not this year, Vandergrift won 20-14. Twenty-three wins, 1 tie, 1 loss in three years. A great record. I hope that no one has forgotten the Class of 1949 contribution to football. We had the first black quarterback in the NFL - **WILLIE THROWER** - who is in the Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. And after the games, walking up and down Fifth Avenue stopping for your favorite treat at *Shorall's*, *Isaly's*,



*Sun Drug* or *Emrose*. If you were lucky and had a car you went to *Savors* for a Ham Bar-B-Q and a lemon slush.

What do you remember most about Ken-Hi? The teachers; the friends you made; the sports. Sock dances; Sadie Hawkins dances; Saturday Night Club; 401 with 3 teachers. Were you there when Mr. Matisko tried to get the bat out? How about Miss Boucher calling to see if you were really sick?

*The years flew by -*  
Senior Day  
The Taleokens came in  
The Prom  
Graduation Day

It was a nice sunny day for graduation, and then it was over.





I am sure that each class thinks theirs is special, but the 49er's were a great group. There have been life-long friendships, that are one of the most important things in life. We are spread over the 50 states, so having reunions have been a great way of keeping in touch. We have one group that meets monthly for lunch. Everyone is welcome. Give us a call and join us!

It has been a great time and now we are starting a new century. We wish the classes before and after us all the best.





## Class of 1950

# 1950











Script and Score



Dance Band

*Let's Play a Tune  
for Our  
50th  
Reunion*



1951

## Class of 1951

by Nancy Ney

### THE WARDEN AT RIDGE AVENUE

Students today experience many fears just by entering school. These fears are much different than those of several decades ago. The biggest fear then was the fear of being sent to the principal! However, in the high school I attended, it wasn't the principal to be feared - it was *Boucher*! No one met the principal without dealing with Miss Boucher. A student was sent to the principal only if Boucher couldn't resolve the problem and that wasn't very often.

Miss Boucher held the distinctive title, "Dean of Girls". (Whatever that meant remains a mystery to this day.) Any student, be it boy or girl, who was late or was asked to leave class for any reason knew to report to Boucher, even though he or she may not have been at fault. When 25 people tried to climb the steps to get into Room 401 study hall, it was a slow process, and if several hadn't reached the top by the time the bell rang, all were sent back. It was at Boucher's office that any punishment deemed necessary was assigned, even to the 25 who couldn't get into Room 401, because the steps weren't wide enough. Boucher received the daily absentee lists and she was the one who called the home requesting an explanation of any prolonged absences.

Boucher sat in a small office behind a large desk. She appeared to be as wide as the desk and one often wondered if she ever left or maybe remained there as part of the furniture. Whenever an individual entered her office, she would just sit and stare and this just left the person looking and feeling stupid. Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, she would speak, "Why are you here?". At this time the student was expected to offer an explanation of his or her presence.

Often a student would receive notification requesting them to present themselves at her office. It was mandatory that he or she appear or else suffer the consequences. I was summoned to appear one day. The summons read "report to my office on Tuesday, January 21, at 10:15 am". I could not imagine why I

was called in, as it was common knowledge that one was in some sort of trouble and about to receive punishment to receive a call to her office. With the notice in hand, I marched into the office at the precise time, handed over the message, and still wondering why I was there, was met





with more stares for the usual eternity. Finally, when she spoke, I was informed, "you were not in English class yesterday at the third period. Where were you?" This was a complete surprise to me, as I was not scheduled for third period English. I, feeling really foolish, explained this and was stared at for another seemingly endless time. Finally she spoke and I was instructed to have the English teacher sign the slip and was handed back the notice. I didn't know if she even believed me but I was relieved and hurried out the door, hoping I wasn't called back.

After this was signed, I really felt better as the whole thing was a mistake. I had been marked absent for another person who sat in the same seat in the other class. However, I then realized.....I had to take the signed slip back !!! When I entered the room and handed the signed note to Boucher, she spoke not a word, but did give a nod, which I understood as a signal to leave — — NOW!

I left the room and never returned.



Pep Rally



# 1952

## Class of 1952

by Norene Michel Nelson

### TO KEN-HI

Each and every graduate that passed through the doors of Ridge Avenue has their own unique story to tell. I personally would like to hear them all. I was just an average student at Ken-Hi, graduating in 1952.

The only unique thing about my three years at Ken-Hi was that I shared those years with my brother and that in itself was very interesting. In the class of "52", we had three brother and sister sets and a set of identical twins!

When we arrived at Ken-Hi from Parnassus Junior High School in the fall of 1949 to begin our sophomore year, we met up with so many new people. Some came up from Fourth Avenue Junior High and some had come in to Ken-Hi from Valley Heights School beginning in their freshman year. We also had Upper Burrell and Lower Burrell students as well as a few tuition students so we had quite a mix of academic, cultural and geographic factors to consider. Most of us knew somebody though, because we had gone to neighborhood or Catholic schools together.

From my perspective, school at Ken-Hi was a well run, organized affair and I myself, never saw the inside of Principal Weaver's office. I'm not sure that my brother would say the same!

We didn't get to know our classmates well because we were all busy getting our work done and we did have to walk everywhere then or ride the bus, so it wasn't difficult to stay busy.

Fun: Football and basketball games - The Alle-Kiski band festival - Dances - Herman's Nut Shop - Going to the movies in nice downtown New Kensington theaters - Part-time and Christmas

jobs at local stores - Joining after school clubs helped us to know and work with others - Participating in sports was a big plus for boys and girls alike - Band and Choir was a great experience and stories from band camp in Salisbury, sounded like a lot of fun - Of course, the Prom was a highlight for all those people who attended.

We attended the United Presbyterian Church on Sixth Street and so did a lot of New Kensington teachers. They kept an eye on us and were always interested in what we did and they encouraged

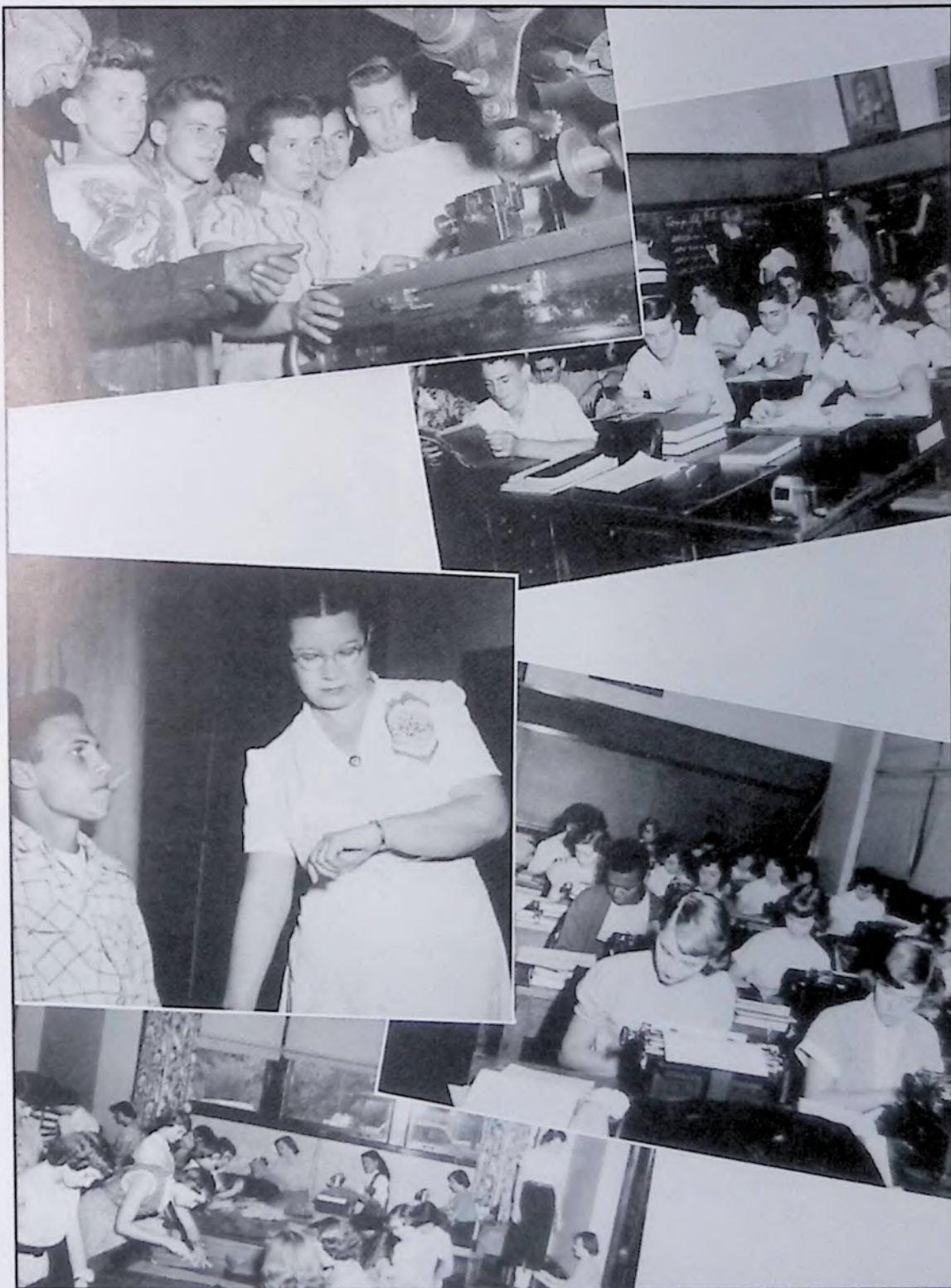


**Devotions Committee**



us to do our best. Actually, they set a good example for us to take along into our adult lives.

Hindsight shows us that we lived in the "GOLDEN AGE" of New Kensington. For anyone who has stayed around New Kensington or has returned for a visit, we were idealistic in our youth, but have become realistic as adults and we can any hope that there will be a future for our town. We can be thankful and proud that we were here then to enjoy it and we can look back now and remember so may things that after almost fifty years we get an almost "Andy Hardy" movie feeling about our days at Ken-Hi.









# Ode to the Ken Hi Class of 1953

*by Nancy Bash Schott*

Innocence was really the key  
To our class of 1953  
We didn't have to face gangs, drugs, or a gun  
It was just Friday night football games that were always great fun.

Our character was shaped by memories  
Of terrible World War II  
Television was not the standard  
By which we grew.

In our young lives, we were taught  
To be grateful and share  
From war bonds to rationing  
We were raised to care.

Our strength of character  
Was built on bonding together  
Our loyalty was to country  
And family forever.

An evening with Ozzie and Harriet  
Was great to see  
But we all knew  
That it was just TV.

We have all had trials and problems  
In our journey through life  
Each of us have had  
Our share of grief and strife.

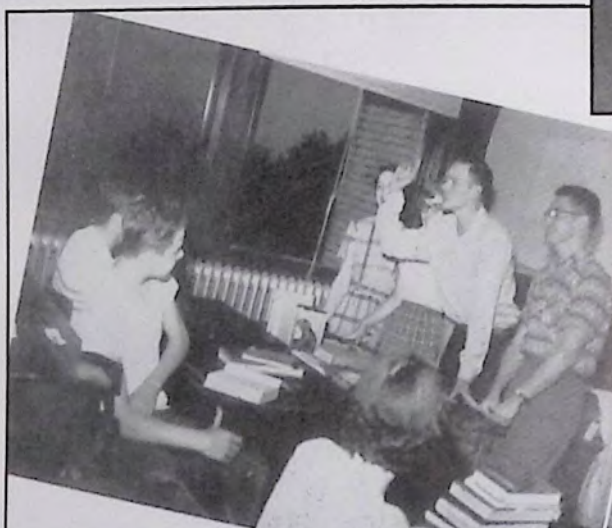
Yet this class has produced teachers,  
Artists, lawyers, and medicine men  
And a legion of hard working citizens  
On which any company could depend.

We have respected the laws  
Of this great land  
And in times of need  
Offered our helping hand.

In closing, we thank you Lord  
For blessings and this reunion tonight  
And may our lives continue  
As a beacon of what is right.



Kenny leading the band...



the dreaded gym uniform!





# 1954

## Class of 1954

by Gretchen Altmeyer Bofinger

### Where have all the years gone?

It seems like only yesterday, when I was young and gay...  
Going downtown to visit all the shops along the way...  
New Kensington was thriving then, with theaters, and 5 & 10's, and stores of every kind.  
This morning, as I drove to work, the stores were boarded up and gone-  
a depression to my mind.

The years that passed have taken from me the hometown that I love,  
I know that this is not the work alone of the dear Lord up above.  
The streets are all lined with trees and when you look down the street,  
If you didn't know the stores were empty, you would think it still may be a treat  
to walk and talk to everyone who are shopping in this city,  
and run into a million friends who think our town is pretty.

I wonder where the shops have gone and where are all the theaters?

Let me remember now—there was the *Kent* in Arnold, and I do believe it is a boarded up building used for bingo on Sundays...there was the *Dattola*—it just sits there vacant...there was the *Paramount*...Gee!, that was the cheapest movie in town—now it houses a closed down vacant shop. There was the *Ritz*—it is long gone—it is now Abraham's bingo hall...and the *Circle Theater* is now the Sons of Italy, where they have bingo two nights a week. Last, but not least is the *Liberty*—that was the prettiest theater and they tore it down to build what is supposed to be a *PARK*. But the sad part of that is, *no one ever sits in that park*...and I know, because I see that park five days a week.

Yes, they are all gone now...along with the shops that lined the streets...DO YOU REMEMBER THEM? There was *Montgomery Ward*, clear at the end of Fifth Avenue and next to that was *Herman's Nut Shop*, where you could go and have a soda, or a sundae and the best milk shakes in town... There were *three 5 & 10's*—*G.C. Murphy's*—where you could find everything and anything that you might want, and *Authenreith's*, and *Harris's five and dime*...I remember going there with a quarter and





coming our with all kinds of toys. There were shoe stores....*Adolph's*, which was my favorite because it was the cheapest, *Miller's*, *Teek's*. Do you remember all the hat shops? Everyone had so many hats! We had to have them for church on Sunday...it just wasn't right to go into church without a woman having her head covered and who would ever think of Easter without the "Easter Bonnet"? That was showing respect to the Lord, and the white gloves, to go with the hats...there were so many clothing stores. I know that I will forget a few of these...I am 61 years old, you know! But there were: *Fisher's*, *Silverman's Department Store*, *Siegel's*, and *Queen Cotton*, (where you could get house dresses and uniforms) *Betty Gay's*, *The Ritz Shop and Ben's* (in 2000 it moved to Lower Burrell). There were places to eat....*Isaly's*, where you could have a nice lunch for about 75 cents and top that off with a cone, a regular cone of every flavor you could think of for a nickel, or a skyscraper for a dime! There was *Milani's*, where they had the best spaghetti in town, and *Child's Restaurant*, which had a bar on the side...and *Candyland*...where all of us 'girls' went to learn to smoke! There was the *Melody Restaurant*, and *Weber's*. Another store which is presently still there, but will be gone by the first of the year..it is moving out by the K-Mart. There was *Klingensmith Hardware* and *McKean's Hardware*. I loved McKean's because they always had pets in the back. Sometimes it was kittens and puppies, or sometimes one or the other, and it always smelled like chicken feed in there.

I remember starting to work for my Dad when I was 12 years old, every day after school and from nine until 7:00 on Saturdays, when I was in high school. The reason I could leave at 7:00 on Saturdays was because that gave me time to get ready for the Saturday Night Club dance at the high school and I lived for those Saturday nights! If my father was going to punish me for anything—that was it—NO SATURDAY NIGHT CLUB! (I always felt like a wounded puppy then.) I remember when plastic drapes just came in and everybody was buying them...they came in every color and pattern imaginable and we sold a ton of them! And those nice chenille bed



spreads. In the downstairs of the store was a big platform, in the shape of a bed. On that platform, there must have been sixty different bedspreads and all of them different...I remember folding them back, one by one, for customers to see, to that they could choose the one that they liked best. Our best seller was the 'double wedding ring' pattern, which came in every color. Do you remember when you went into a store and a sales lady greeted you with a smile AND said, "Can I help you?" **I was one of those ladies!** As far as my dad was concerned, *the customer was always right*...and we better darn well treat them with respect. I remember him saying, that if a person came in there to spend 10 cents on a dish towel, or ten dollars on a larger item, they were all to be treated like they were special, very special, because they were OUR CUSTOMERS. When was the last time you got treated with respect for



spending 10 cents? I can't remember when that was; for one thing, you can't buy anything with ten cents now! And for another thing, it seems that all the stores are self-serve now, and half the time the cashiers don't even smile!

I remember when I was young my parents told me how hard they had it when they were young...no cars...no heat...no television. What I remembered when I was young, was that everything was wonderful...the fifties were a great time to grow up...things were so much slower, it seems...we didn't have a lot, but we were rich—rich with health and rich for growing up in New Kensington. You know the more I think about it New Kensington is not gone or a ghost town, as some people say, because to me it will always be the way it was. It is imbedded in my memories, and isn't that what life is all about? Each day passes so swiftly, and we cannot bring it back, but we hold in our hearts memories that are the happiest parts of those days.

It is early morning now, and last night has left fresh white snow....the Christmas lights are all up in town, and the lamp posts are decorated with pine branches and pretty red ribbons, with huge red and white lollipops. It is almost Christmas time again...so once again, I am sharing thoughts with you.....*do you remember too?*

**W**e wanted to include this special letter as a memorial to Gretchen Altmeyer Bofinger, class of 1954, who passed away, April 1999. This letter of memories was one of the many that Gretchen would write and enclose with chosen Christmas cards to her many friends. She seemed to write with so much 'heart and soul', about how very special 'her' New Kensington meant her. We also wanted to reflect on the passing of so many classmates. Many prematurely, some expected, some in pain, but always remembered in some special way by each of us living today.

*God bless them all.*



## Class of 1954

by Marlin "Mick" Clark

### DO I REMEMBER 'KEN-HI CLASS OF 1954' AND OTHERS —Ah-huh

*What I remember?* **Ruthie Lauff** cruising down Ridge Avenue in her Plymouth Convertible, loaded with 'chicks' (page 61, '54 Taleoken) and pretending they do not hear the 'cat calls' from the likes of Bill Campbell, Ray Armitage, Joe Manna, Fritz McKillop, Chuck Baxter, Mickey Clark and others. Well, according the Taleoken picture, she caught a few "Hunks"!

Bill Campbell and his lunchtime gang, speeding down Ridge Avenue screaming at the top of their lungs, "**BELAUHA**", being a secret code name for an 'elite' few silent members, namely, Joe Manna, Ray Armitage, Bill Campbell, exalted ruler, Jimmy Como, Chuck Stewart, Carl Baxter, Bill Speedy, Mickey Clark, Ollie McCloskey and the secret 'gang' and the list goes on and on. Functions of the "**BELAUHA**" gang were to gain attention, check our 'chicks, blow off steam built up during the morning hours of "hard work" studying. Challenges were to see who could spit the furthest, one-eyed, and who could hold their breath the longest. The highlight of club functions was the annual "*Turkey Lip Roast*" held at the practice field during a tennis match. All proceeds from the event went to the "Future Homemakers Club", (page 81, '54 Taleoken) because one of our members was trying to get friendly with one of their members. I bet that you never heard of this story before, *forty-six years of absolute silence*. "Good Job" Class of 1954!

And then there was my best 'buddy', **John Callahan**. Check out page 27, '54 Taleoken...my goodness, I look young. I went downtown at lunchtime, because we couldn't stand the frozen food served in the cafeteria (pg.91, '53 Taleoken). If you look, there isn't a "Hunk" in the whole group! Hah, those who are shown in the photo really like to eat. Plus you had to pay cash for your meal and besides that, the cafeteria was where Health Class was held or the room next to it. Oh, yes, back to the trip downtown—after I picked up two hot dogs at "Jacob's Hot Dog Shop" with mustard, (*yellow mustard*), relish and onion, I ran across Tenth Street to Adams Pool Hall, because the Fifth Avenue Pool Hall was "taboo", ( too much cigar smoke to breathe, let alone eat your hot dogs). There were some very 'risque' characters in here playing pool, they didn't work for a living! I shot two games of pool with Billy Bauman, he wasn't busy, and he was skipping out of school. I kept checking my wristwatch because I had one more stop before returning to school. I ran over to "Ben's Army Store" to purchase a new knife—a 'hunting knife' with the money I had earned, working at the Amoco Station at Ninth and Third Avenue. I worked 4:30 to 11, never took a book home or to the station all through school, and still graduated 143<sup>rd</sup> of my class. But the monetary value was great, \$38.75 a week, after deductions! Oh, yes, the hunting knife—it was a beauty, you could split the hairs of a butterfly's eyelid in one quick swipe. It came with a hand made leather sheath that attached to your belt securely while hunting in the deep forest. Well, I knew that I had to get back to school for afternoon class and it was getting late. I ran over the viaduct, up Locust Street, up and up the hill to the school, (since I didn't smoke, drink beer, or stay out all night with Johnny yet), but I still felt the toll and was tired and out of breath. So I sat down on the famous brick wall at the front of the school to rest. Along came Johnny Callahan, my buddy, and he noticed that I had a paper bag with me. My buddy, John said "Mick, what's in the bag?" I said, "Nothing, John". He said, "Aw, let me see



it", and I said, "No, John, the bell is ringing and we have to go to class". But John grabbed the bag and took the 'hunting knife' out of the leather sheath and proceeded to pretend to cut my throat with the *blunt side* of the knife. I said, "Come on, John, give me the knife, he said, "Boy, this is neat", and again feigning to stab my arms, saying, "Zap, Zap". Well, fortunately, for me, the second bell rang and we scurried to class. It was a warm day and as you know we didn't have air conditioning, as it probably hadn't been invented yet. As I started to study, I felt a chill run down my right arm, down the sleeve of my shirt. Sweet "Shirley Henry", (pg.32, '54 Taleoken) who was sitting behind me, said, "Hey, Mick, *you are bleeding*, and it is running down your sleeve!". Well, a trip to the Nurse's Office, and then a visit to Mr. Jefferson led to the cause of the 'incident', as word of the same spread like 'wildfire'. My "buddy", John Callahan was led by the ear by Mr. Danovich, (pg. 13, '54 Taleoken) down to Mr. Miller's office and was given a ride 'home' and a three-day suspension. *End of problem* - until, that is, John's 'old man' got a hold of him at home P.S., the wound was only a slight 'nick'. It healed. Damage to my coat was minimal. I still have the scar and the hunting knife and, we have remained friends!

And then there was "**Belva Magee**" in the class of 1953. (pg.73, '55 Taleoken) who was a member of the choir, Leaders Club, and bank staff, following the general course. Her goal was college, (pg. 35, '53 Taleoken). God, she was beautiful! Sure she graduated a year ahead of our 1954 class, but the halls still echo the sound of her name, *Belva*! She had a friendly personality, easy to talk to and man was she endowed, but her beau was John "Humpy" McCollim, class of 1950. (pg.35, '50 Taleoken) Boy, was he envied by all of us 'hunks'! Sorry, John, if I have the wrong person, I think it was you - *you 'devil'*.

**Chuck Phillips** - who was Chuck Phillips? He was the lineman on the football team, (pg. 37, '51 Taleoken) Charles L. Phillips. What did he do? He drove down to the Booster Camp, "Band Camp" at Salisbury, Pennsylvania and took the good pleasure of throwing Billy DeLuca, head drum major of the University of Pittsburgh, into the icy cold water of the camp lake. Ask Kenny Russell about this, I think he had something to do with this; probably thought Bill was trying to take his job (pg.90, '54 Taleoken) And, as for Charles L. Phillips, I guess he did not like the guy, plus Bill had an eye on the head majorette, who was Beverly Salvatore, I think.

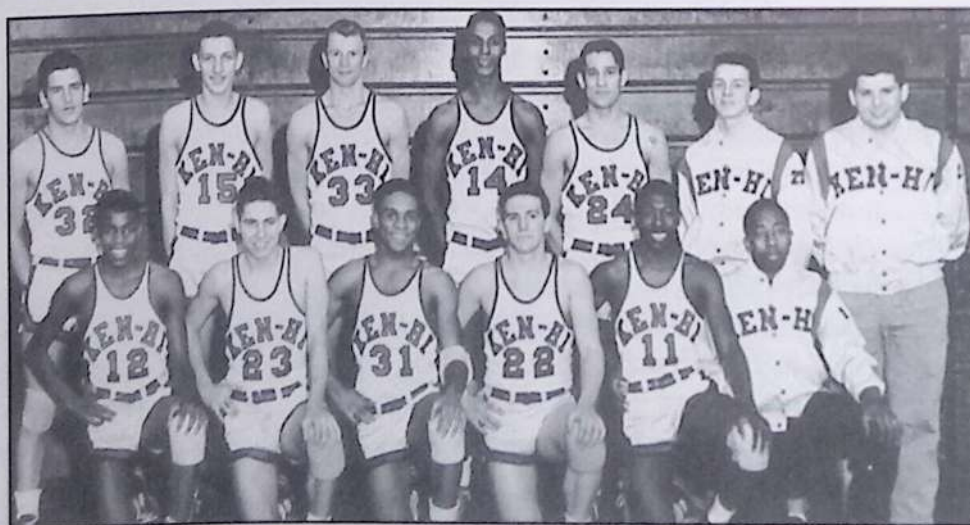
**The Band!** (pg. 90, '54 Taleoken). The band members and majorettes and six lovely cheerleaders were a 'special group' of students (pgs. 90-91, '54 Taleoken) We liked ourselves, very much !!! Consisting of students from Parnassus, Fourth Avenue and last, but certainly not least, Stewart Junior High School. We had the class president, Hervey Peebles, (pg. 22, '54 Taleoken) and quite a few fellows that were highly critiqued by the "macho" football players, for choosing the band over football. *You could not do both!!* We had Jerry Yetka, a Kentucky squirrel shooting expert. And nobody could surpass the talent of Marshall McKillop on the saxophone, *not one* football player! Ask Marshall, he will tell you himself! The list of gifted band members, majorettes, and cheerleaders goes on and on. Mr. Oliver and Mr. Stephens were very proud of us. I had my own run-in with Mr. John Stephens. Band class was always the last period of the day, about three o'clock. The band room being located at the rear of the school was an ingenious design. During the fall when all of the leaves have turned to brilliant colors, this is "Hunting Season". Well, it came to mind that walking down the hall, the double doors, rear exit of the building were located right next to the band room (pg. 87, '54 Taleoken) So the next day, I took the liberty to hurry down the hall, fly past the band room doors and burst through the double doors to freedom! I shuffled my way down the sidewalk and ran home to my hunting haven in



Kinloch, to spend the remainder of the day hunting small game. This went on for several days. The weather was beautiful. But, on the fourth day, as I was scooting past the band room, Mr. Stephens stepped out in front of me, put his hands up and said, "It's all over-pick your choice, it's hunting or the band". To this day, I swear it was Jerry Yetka who blew the whistle. I stuck with the band.

**Basketball.** We had some good teams, didn't we? *Well, do you know why?* Can you imagine the joy of a coach having the liberty of selecting five first team members from three junior high schools? Parnassus Fourth Avenue and Stewart. Fifteen first string players coming to Ken-Hi every year! Coach Slosky and J.V. Coach, Veitch had the world in their hands. My own experience with this situation was exhausting! Being a first string player from Stewart School and aware of bad odds of making the team, I tried out for the team anyhow. Fortunately, among all of the new players trying out (pg. 96, '54 Taleoken) and those that did not make the teams, I was given the opportunity to hit the floor. My 128 pound frame, five foot seven and one half inches high, ran down the sidelines and somehow on a bad pass by Theodore Watkins, received the ball and just short of mid-court, out of sheer fear, I shot the ball. It soared through the air, hit the backboard and sank into the bucket, shattering the threads-I made the team!!!! How about that? The team was something else. It consisted of all those that survived the tremendous low odds described above, we were the 'third string', but were unique in that we practiced with the first team, then with the second team, then with the first string team, then again with the first team. We had to be physical marvels. Theodore Watkins saw the strength being sapped out of us and morale was very low. To address the situation, Watkins came up with the name "Bookknockers". I have no idea what the name meant, but at least we were *something!* The "Bookknockers" were Theodore Watkins, Neil Corbin, and Ronnie Sanders. Practice continued and then the time came for our first J.V. game. To achieve this, you had to have a uniform for the first game, scheduled for the coming Monday. Coach Veitch handed out the uniforms and suggested we try them on for size and we did. A strange thing occurred to me as we dressed-I was given a leftover uniform from years past, and it did not match the other 'Bookknockers'. *That did it!* When my Dad called home from the mountains and said he had a friend from New Kensington who was going to their camp for the first day of Buck season, and that they had room for me, if I wanted to hunt, I could ride up with the friend and join them. I quit the team-there was no way that I was going to go before my friends in my zebra uniform!

*That was the end of high school basketball!.*









1954

## Class of 1954

By Frank C. Krieger

**Boy! Am I going to miss the band camp trip!**

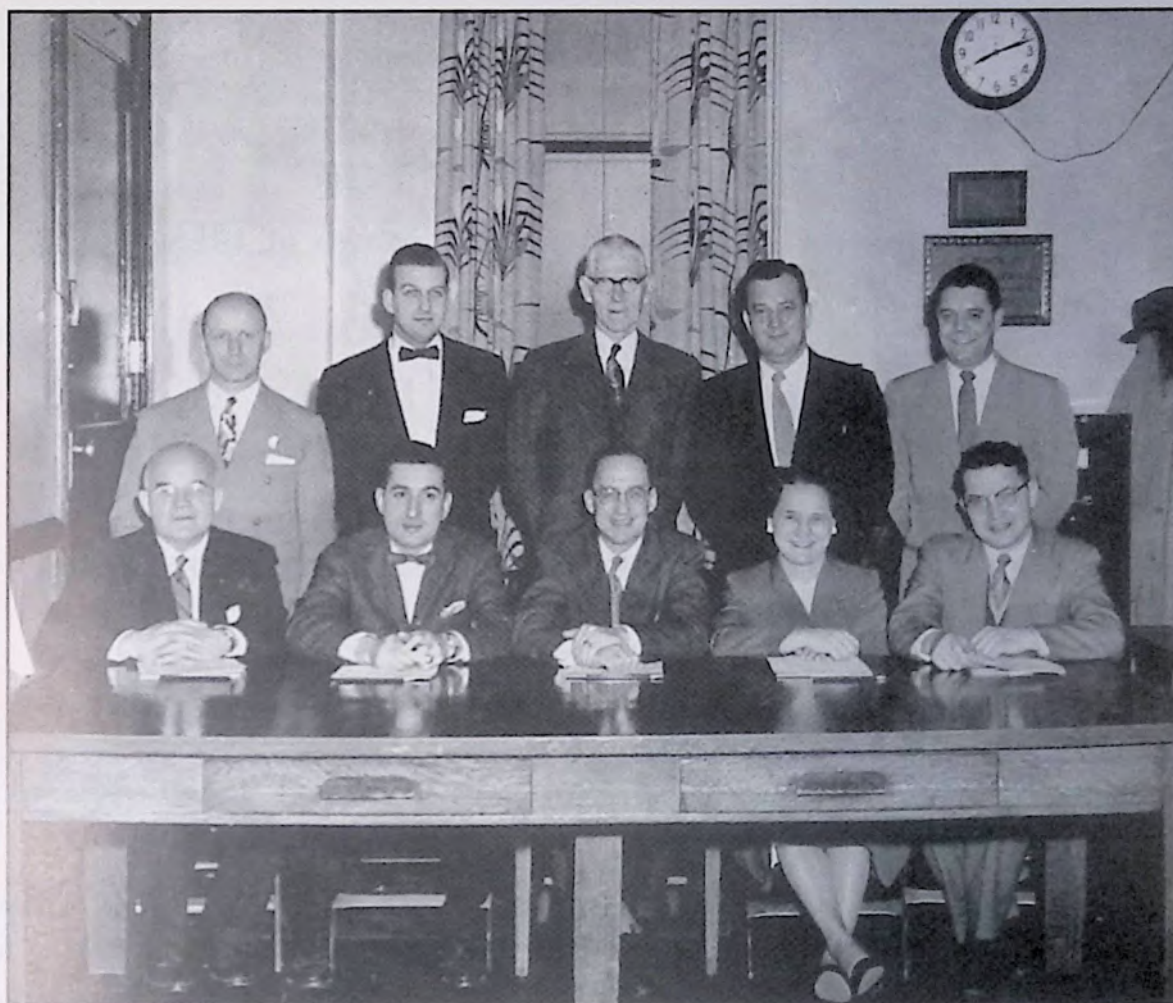


My first year at band camp, I was faking sleeping and the "boys" were getting ready to send all the fers (if you read Harry Potter stories you will know what I mean) through the paddling machine. One of my friends said, "No, let him sleep. He has been up all night between guard duty and working the diesel generator". ( I think the girls worried

more about the guards than any intruders!). so I got to sleep another ? hour to the tune of "slap, slap, slap, slap, slap, slap".

We would get the generator going by hooking up a belt between the generator pulley and the rear tire of a jacked up Chevrolet that had "posi-traction". It was very effective, too!





First Row: Mr. Gensamer, Mr. Little, Mr. Vaughan, Miss Mazur, Mr. Patterson.  
Second Row: Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Booth, Mr. McKean, Mr. Jones, Mr. Keller.

## The Board of Education

The members of the Board of Education are the voices behind the scenes. They work diligently and continuously to improve our schools so that the youth of New Kensington may have the best possible educational advantages. The citizens may well be proud of the schools for which these men plan. Board members meet once a month in regular session and often sacrifice other evenings for special sessions or committee meetings. We, the Class of 1955, thank them for the splendid service they are giving.

### Members of the Board of Education

President .....	Mr. Charles H. Vaughan, Jr.
Vice-President .....	Mr. Ralph M. Little, Jr.
Treasurer .....	Mr. Blair E. Gensamer
Superintendent .....	Mr. William L. Jefferson
Secretary .....	Miss Veronica Mazur
Solicitor .....	Mr. Frank W. McKean
Mr. Charles Booth, Jr.	Mr. Garfield Jones
Mr. Charles W. Keller	Mr. James Patterson, Jr.



1955

## The Class of 1955

by Kenny Russell and Mary Ann Gensamer Justham

### We remember with fondness...the events of 1955

Class Officers: <b>President</b>	Ikaros Kayafas
<b>Vice President</b>	Frank Zito
<b>Secretary</b>	Rosetta Pisano
<b>Treasurer</b>	William Varner

Ken-Hi had only 2 mascots in its history and both were with the band and from the class of 1955. Beverly Salvatore became mascot in 1946 with the first organization of majorettes at Ken-Hi and Kenny Russell in 1949 marched with the band. At the last football game of the season, both were presented with watches for their service.

Fights happen in football games, but in 1955 the Ken-Hi Band and the McKeesport High Band got into one heck of a fight at the game, which was held in New Kensington. Many instruments were damaged and a lot of members had cuts and bruises. Because of this fight, bands no longer sit next to each other at Ken-Hi Memorial Field.

Miss Bruno came to Ken-Hi as the choir director. "*The Kenettes*", Angie Arabia, Evie Elder, and Mary Ann Gensamer sang the song, "*Sentimental Journey*" on the Wilkins Amateur Hour. ("*easy credit, easy credit.....Wilkins is the place where you can get it*") Thousands of postcards were mailed in to vote for them, but a harmonica player beat them out! Was it "fixed?" However, the real recording stars of 1955 were Harry Belafonte, Chuck Berry, Pat Boone, and Little Richard, Bill Haley's "Rock around the Clock", which was # 1 on the charts, and Billboard's # 1 singers were Frank Sinatra and Doris Day.

401 Study Hall had an unknown student named Ruth Runch, always appearing on the rolls. She always answered in a high-pitched voice, "Here!". Only Bob Kiser knew who she really was! Did we really pass notes around that said, "at 1:34, everyone cough" and then at 2:00, "blow your nose"? During study hall, '*popularity books*' were passed around. Better known as '*slam books*', student's names appeared on the top of a page and everyone wrote what they thought of that person.

Those who had a car cruised up Fourth Avenue and down Fifth Avenue to see "who was out", then stopped by **Emrose Drug Store** for a vanilla coke, and listened to the latest gossip of who was "going with whom!" Girls even stood in front of the **Sun Drug Store**, and the **Tenth Street Pool Hall**, hoping to get noticed by anyone driving the new "Thunderbird".

Places to hang out included **Savors**, with their glitter ball, and lemon slushes, **Saturday Night Club** (with Spider and Web) and **Henry's** (if you were 'allowed' to go). The girls in the poodle skirts, white bucks, and Orlon sweaters worn backwards, were dancing the night away with guys in Levis. Neon clothes were all the rage, especially the color "pink". Drive-in movies became popular and were better known as "*passion pits*". Did our parents really believe the story that



"I'm just going to my friend's house"? Who could forget Miss Ewing (pigtails) keeping the library quiet as she took a snooze, while Pop Burnett and Miss Boughman were falling asleep in their classes? Even Miss Boucher believed Carl Baxter when he told her he was late because a *space alien* abducted him!

Willie Varner broke the school scoring record in basketball and The Kentonian (the school newspaper) won first place in the field of journalism for the third straight year! Of the 75 advertisers in our 1955 Taleoken, only 3 remain in New Kensington....*Memory Lane Florist*, *Jerome Motors*, and *Pati and Sons* (*Klingensmith Hardware* has just closed!)

Mr. Chapman retired and Mr. Jefferson succeeded him, Frank Oliver became the principal, and Johnny Stephens was our good-looking band director. The 'New School' started construction at this time also. Gasoline was only 29 cents a gallon; the minimum wage was increased to \$1.00 an hour; "Marty" was the best movie; Dwight D. Eisenhower was the President; and Lee Merriwether was crowned Miss America. Our beloved James Dean was killed in a car crash and Albert Einstein died. You could buy a 21' Motorola Console TV for \$199.00 to watch these programs - The \$64,000 Question, Toast of the Town, I Love Lucy and The Jackie Gleason Show.

New products were introduced....vibrating toothbrush, Play-Doh, Kodak 35mm Ektachrome film, Special K cereal, the U.S. Post Office introduced "certified mail"; Disneyland opened and prednisone was developed. Betty Crocker got a facelift to make her look more like a sincere housewife.

The class of 1955 has remained close by having a reunion every five years. We loved Ken-Hi and all it's activities and continue to reminisce fondly at our gatherings. We look forward to our big 50th in 2005



**Driver's Education**



**Old Girls Chorus**





German Club





# Class of 1956

by Katherine Patterson Kersten

# 1956

Reflecting back to our graduation year, 1956, we were living the "Happy Days" of a simpler time. We just didn't know it then. Let's take a look at the way things were then.

On the world scene, the population was 2.833 billion. Nikita Khrushchev was the USSR Communist Party Chairman. There were problems in the Suez Canal area with Egypt and Israel. Soviet troops crushed anti-Communist uprisings in Hungary. The 1956 Winter Olympics were held at Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy. Figure Skating gold medals were won by Americans Tenley Albright and Kayes Jenkins, both reigning World Champions. The Summer Olympics were held in Melbourne, Australia.

On the national front, Dwight Eisenhower was our President and Richard Nixon was the Vice-President. U.S. population was nearly 169,000,000; unemployment was 4.4% and a first class stamp cost \$.03. The New York Yankees defeated the Brooklyn Dodgers in the World Series. Oscars went to *Around the World in 80 Days* for best picture; Yul Brynner for best actor in *The King and I*; Ingrid Bergman for best actress in *Anastasia*. Emmys were awarded to the Phil Silvers Show, Caesar's Hour, Robert Young, and Loretta Young. Tony awards went to the *Diary of Anne Frank* and "*Damn Yankees*." Music was undergoing a change with the introduction of Rock 'n Roll. Elvis Presley was just beginning his rise to become the 'King'. "Jailhouse Rock" was a big hit for him. Other popular songs included "Love is a Many Splendored Thing" and "Rock Around the Clock".

In Pennsylvania, George Leader was Governor. The Mayor of New Kensington was Raymond Gardlock. We had a population of approximately 24,000. The *Daily Dispatch* reported on a gambling raid in the downtown area by Federal agents. Alcoa was in full production in various divisions, including Wearever cooking utensils, Kensingtonware, and the Research Lab. Hourly pay for part-time employment in the retail stores was 35¢ to 50¢.

At our "Castle on the Hill" a typical school day began with prayer and salute to the flag. Girls generally wore blouses or sweaters with skirts and the boys wore Levis and shirts. White bucks or penny loafers were the chosen footwear. Girls were not permitted to wear slacks to school. Superintendent of Schools was William Jefferson; our Principal was Frank Oliver and Lucretia Boucher was the Dean of Girls. The cafeteria food was good, especially the barbecues and fries and the desserts were very tasty. For \$1.00 you could eat like royalty.

Our class had 333 students and the class officers were: President, Jim Lagoon; Vice-President, Leopoldo Porzecanski (exchange student from Argentina), Secretary, Larry Daniels and Treasurer, Patricia Phillips.

Led by Senior cheerleaders Sue Ames, Patty Phillips, Lois Sculco and Patty Tobin, we enjoyed rooting for our athletic teams. Friday night football games were always well attended. Don Fletcher was the head football coach. Basketball games were held on Tuesdays and Fridays.



with Ken Slosky as the head coach. Baseball in the Spring was coached by Al Dunn. You could do a little socializing after school at the Kenmar Hotel if you stopped for a soft drink or snack. No Saturday night was complete without a cruise or two down Fifth Avenue. We attended movies at the Liberty, Circle or Dattola theaters (the Ritz and Paramount were gone). In the summer we could go to the drive-in at the Gateway in Parnassus or the Family in Lower Burrell. Dances were held at the Saturday Night Club at the new YMCA on Constitution Blvd. and the CIO Union Hall on 3rd Avenue.

One of the fondest memories some of us have is from Band Camp in Salisbury, PA. We would attend for a week in August to prepare routines and shows for the coming year. John Stephens was the director, assisted by Joe Farinelli and Tony Arabia. It was not a modern facility as we had outdoor latrines and no hot water. The water in the lake was cold, even in the summer. We ate our meals in the mess hall. There was a talent night and most of the "rookies" had to perform all sorts of comic antics wearing funny clothes. At the end of the week we boarded buses, marched and performed a show in Meyersdale, PA. There were 44 majorettes, Katherine Patterson was head majorette, Judy Bailey, Peggy Heise and Myrna Carrop were assistants. Band members numbered approximately 90 and were led by Drum Major Gary Nichols. The band performed at a Steeler game halftime at Forbes Field and also opened the Pirate's baseball season at Forbes Field in April.

**Do you remember:**

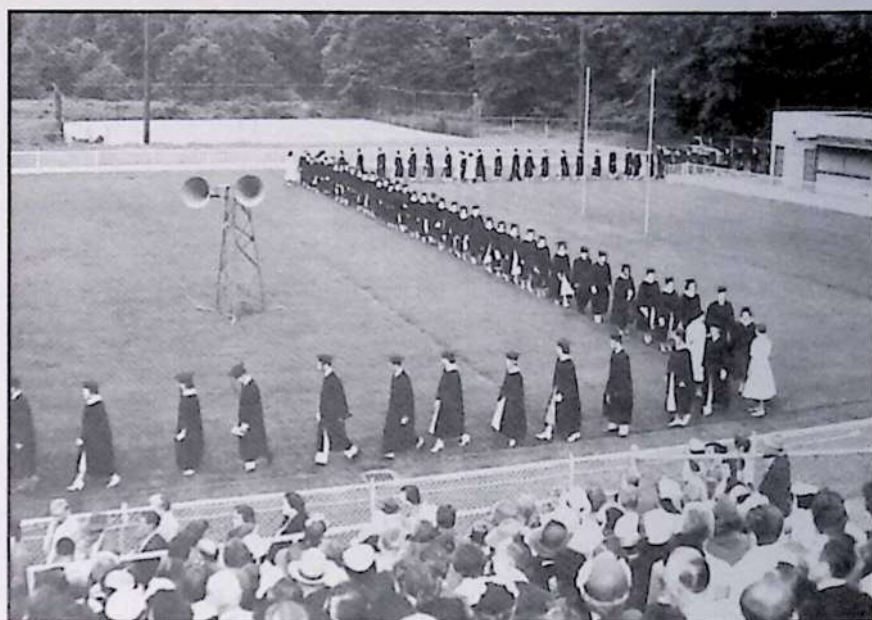
Rock and Roll shows at the Syria Mosque  
 Shamrock Ball, March, unexpected spring snow; Nancy Levendorf and Jim McDowell were King and Queen  
 Our Sororities: Beta Kappa Nu, Sub Deb, and Theta Gamma Rho  
 Senior class play – "Time Out for Ginger"  
 Senior Prom "Stairway to Heaven" with steps leading up to the balcony from the floor in the gym  
 Choir trip to New York City

Hopefully the experiences we had at Ken Hi were happy ones and prepared us for our life after graduation. Let's enjoy this wonderful reunion and share our memories with other classmates and alumni.



**Choir Christmas performance**







# 1957

## Class of 1957

by Pat Kempinski White

### Memories from the Class of 1957

Class Officers were:

President, Alan Patz

Vice President, William Kraft

Secretary, Rose Marie Pecardo

Treasurer, Claude De Luca, our French Exchange student)

Class Valedictorian - James Chmiel

Salutatorian - Helen Lesniak

The Editor of the Taleoken, Larry Dominick, is now a priest with Vatican radio in Rome.

Our Kentonian staff sponsored the Red Raider Contest and John Roberts symbol of a red fox was established as Ken-Hi's official **Red Raider**.

The Board of Activities, a group of nine elected students, became the Student Council with 41 members. Richard Silverman was our first President, William Kraft, was the Vice President, Bernice Kozor was the secretary and Joseph Drake, the Treasurer.

The Drama Club presentation was "*The Poor Nut*", starring William Siebold.

Helen Lesniak was the *only* girl in Science Club—we were way ahead of the feminist movement!

Our Geography Club won 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mention at Buhl Planetarium exhibits.

We had an outstanding mixed choir under the direction of Carolyn Bruno—  
100 members. The Seniors went to New York and had a blast!

One of the most popular and active organizations was the Band and Majorette Corps. Steven Fryncko was the President and student conductor, Myrna Carrop, the head majorette.

Our Senior Drum Major and Color Bearers were Tom Lasher, Robert Hajel, and Joseph Valley, who added to our school spirit and patriotism.

Spending one week at the Booster's Camp near Salisbury, PA, was always a highlight. Rumor has it that everyone had their fill of SPAM, which caused many trips to the famous Camp latrines.

In 1957, the band performed at the Indiana Homecoming game and a Steelers Football game.

Of course, our cheerleaders were always cheering us to victory led by Carol Huth, Yolanda Hutchison, and Patricia Sullivan.

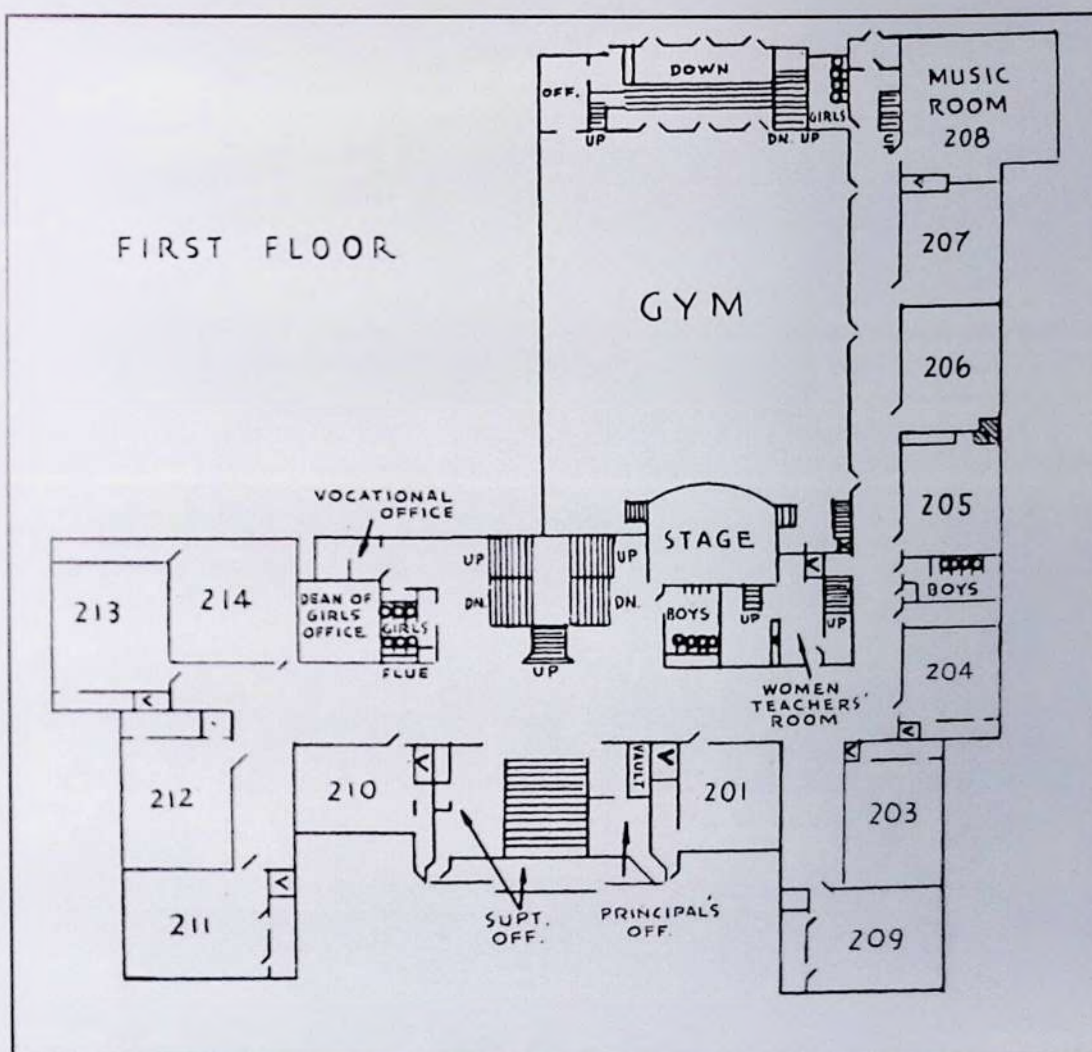
We had a tough football schedule in Class AA but compiled a 6 win 3 loss record.

Our halfback, Joseph Drake, won the coveted Renaldo Kozikowski award, an award given on behalf of one of the players who died while serving his country.



We 'painted the town red' at the Senior Prom realizing that this was the end of our high school days together but were excited about moving on to make our mark in this great society of ours.  
Those were great times!

## Memories of Ridge Avenue High School





## Class of 1957

*by Myrna Carrop Kierzkowski*

The Class of 1957 was the last class to graduate from the "Castle on the Hill".  
That was the year President Eisenhower was sworn in for a second term of office.  
The Steelers were in 3rd place in their division and the Pirates were in 7th place.

The number one song was "Young Love"  
and the most popular television program was "Father Knows Best".

We gather now to celebrate our school years and to renew the friendship  
that began during those unforgettable years.  
We all have gone on different paths.  
Everyone's memories are not the same.

Some of us may remember the walks down the hill to the 'Rustic Inn'  
for the after school get-together.

The Band and the majorettes practiced in the summer on the streets near the school  
and in the Fall, the evening practices at the field.

The formal Sorority Dances were at the Country Club and there were after  
Basketball Game dances.

Much has changed since then and all of us have experienced difficulties  
and disappointments as well as joys and successes, but whatever turn our lives have taken,  
we are all better off for the years spent in our small town of New Kensington  
and the formative time we spent at Ken -Hi.

This reunion will refresh, celebrate and enjoy a section of our lives even though we have already  
lived it.

We can share the funny things that age brings, our wider waists and balder heads.  
Because we are now considered 'senior citizens'.

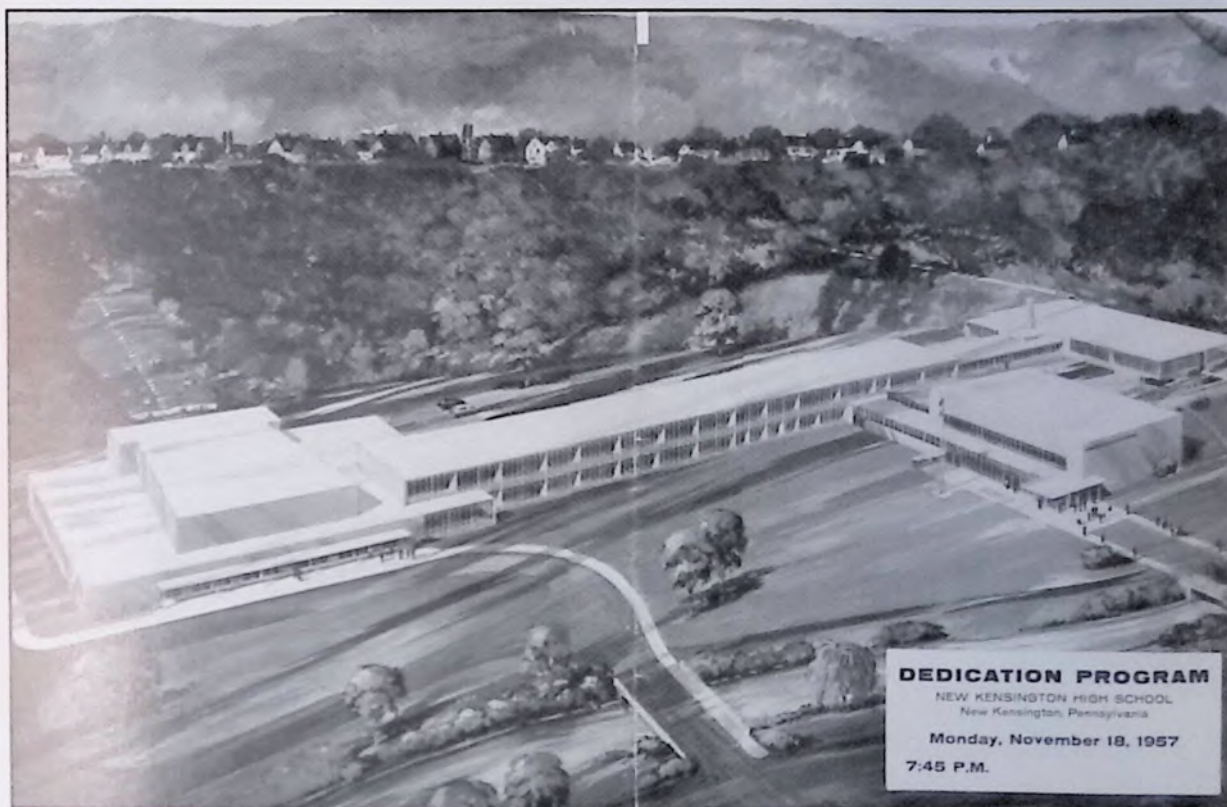
We will make more memories this weekend





# Dedication of New High School

*November 18, 1957*



Apel, J. Dale  
 Armstrong, John  
 Babalis, Gust  
 Batiste, John  
 Baughman, Maud  
 Braunger, Thomas  
 Bruno, Carolyn  
 Burnett, Thomas  
 Casillo, Catherine  
 Crosby, Ruth  
 Delia, Jean  
 Dunn, T.A.

Eiges, Dorothy  
 Ewing, Florence  
 Fields, Ruth  
 Fitzmaurice, Vincent  
 Fletcher, Don  
 Frazier, Matthew  
 Fry, Gertrude  
 George, John  
 Gosetti, Mary  
 Greiner, Theodore  
 Griesemer, Ruth  
 Herceg, John

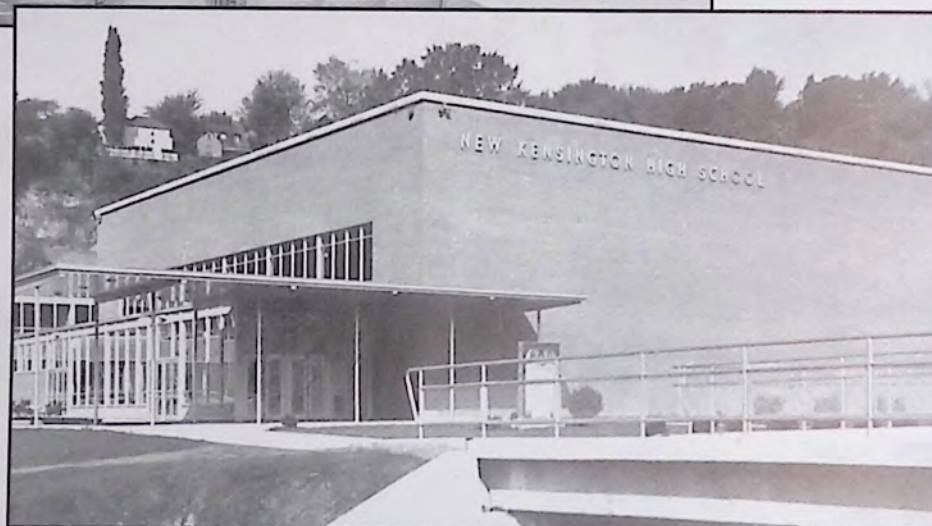
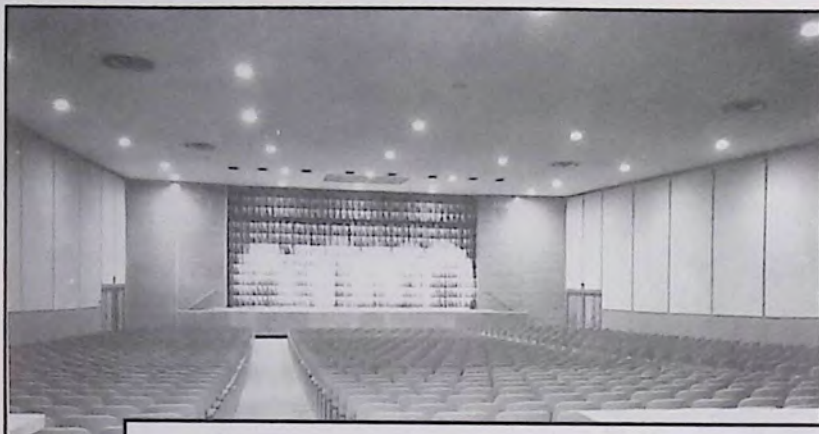
Hobaugh, Mary Ann  
 Hood, Catherine  
 Keiser, John  
 Klinke, Alice  
 Kordes C.M.  
 Malyn, Milton  
 Mathison, Janet  
 Matisko, John  
 McDonald, George  
 Moore, Jessie  
 Nalbach, Henry  
 Olmer, Genevieve

Pandolph, Eugene  
 Pascarella, Rosemarie  
 Patterson, LaRue  
 Potter, Margaret  
 Roberts, Florence  
 Rorabaugh, Alice  
 Russell, Martha  
 Shearer, Walter  
 Slosky, Kenneth  
 Stephens, John  
 Taylor, Jane  
 Terwilliger, Helen

Thompson, Elizabeth  
 Upton, Fred  
 Vorlage, Ethel  
 Vorlage, W.L.  
 Walker, Marie  
 Walter, C.H.  
 Warner, R.F.  
 White, Thomas



1957

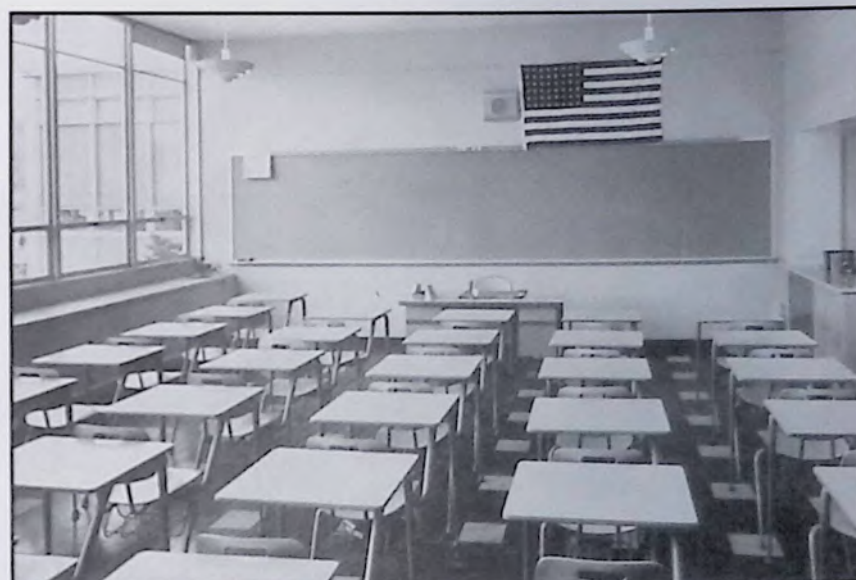


**everything is up  
to date in the  
new school**





the office



our new  
classrooms



home ec suite



# 1958

**Band Camp**



**What is it we were  
looking for?**



**Camera  
Club**





**Spanish Club**



**Chess Club**



# 1959

## Class of 1959

by Joyce Walter Alberta

### Memories

I remember when our Senior High choir went to New York City. It was the first trip for some of us so we were all excited and took in all the sights. One evening, we went to Radio City Music Hall and saw the "Rockettes". The next evening we went to the theater and saw **"My Fair Lady"**. Afterwards, we all went different ways. Barb Oberleiter, Diane Bercel and I got lost on the subway, or *did we*? When we got back to the hotel we were in a lot of trouble, but thanks to Miss Bruno, the trouble seemed to disappear.

Our class had a group called the **"Rotten Club"**. They really weren't that rotten, but they likes to play a few tricks now and then. I remember when they decorated a student teacher's residence. She was a beautiful redhead. I think my father heard from her before I got in the door! I wonder how many rolls of toilet paper were used that night?

We also had a good time at the Saturday Nite Club. I think everyone in our class went one time. YMCA was also the home to the leaders Club. I'm sure we taught a lot of you how to swim. remember Bob Aysse and Ray Bitar? They thought they were so cool with their Speedo's!

Our class was one of the few that had a class reunion every five years, except one time! Pat Torok Giordano, Mic Giordano, Bene Russo Rogers and Keith Rogers, Gerry Klimczak Finn and Ed Finn have done a great job in keeping our class reunions going! Do you know they dated in high school, got married, and are still married to each other!! "Just some of the values we garnished at Ken-Hi"







our class  
memories





# 1960

## Class of 1960

*by Anonymous*

At the Senior Banquet, some people threw chicken at the accordion player.

Ray Daugherty stole all the girls lipsticks from their purses  
and drew swastikas on the girls room mirrors.

Dave Luffy, what happened on the choir trip to New York?



**Mr. Walter's Science Class**



**Varsity Basketball**





**identify your  
class photo**



**let's get measured  
for class rings**



**admiring our  
class photos**



# 1961

## Class of 1961



**Skin Diving Club**



**Junior Town Meeting**





Waiter's Club



Art Service Club



# 1962

## Class of 1962

*by the classmates of 1962*

**What we remember, what we want to forget**

### ***Our Favorite Songs.....***

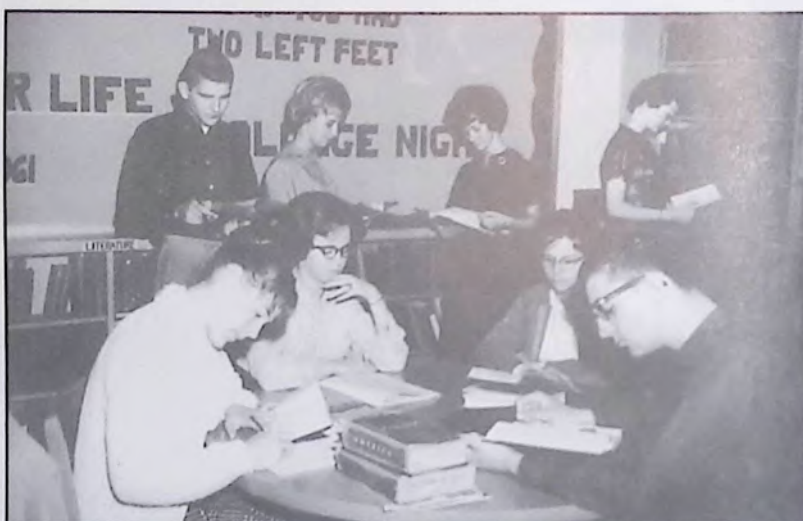
I'm Mr. Blue - The Wanderer - Lying Eyes - So Much in Love - I Want to be Bobby's Girl - Foot Stomping - Twilight Time - Charlie Brown - Since I Don't Have You - Goodnight, My Love - Goodnight, Sweetheart - Shout - Blue Moon - There's a Moon out Tonight - Splish Splash - Sherry - Unforgettable - Image of a Girl - Surfer Girl - White Port and Lemon Juice - I'm Leaving it All Up to You - The Twelfth of Never - Roses are Red - So Fine - Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow? - Rockin' Pneumonia - I'm Confessing that I Love You - In Paradise - Puppy Love - When a Man Loves a Woman - Duke of Earl - Chapel of Love - Come Go With Me - It's All in the Game - Earth Angel - It's Only Make Believe - Sixteen Candles - Angel Baby - Baby Love - In the Still of the Night - Soldier Boy - For Your Precious Love - I Can't Stop Loving You - High on a Hill - Just one Look - Big Girls Don't Try - Leaving on a Jet Plane - You Belong to Me - Give Me that Old Rock and Roll - Put Your Head on my Shoulder - Hold Me, Kiss Me, Thrill Me

### ***Our Favorite Teachers.....***

Miss Hood - Miss Gosetti - Mr. Drummond - Miss Bruno - Miss Harold - Mr. Babalis - Miss Fry - Mrs. Crosby - Pop Burnett - Mrs. Christy - Mr. Dunn - Mr. Upton

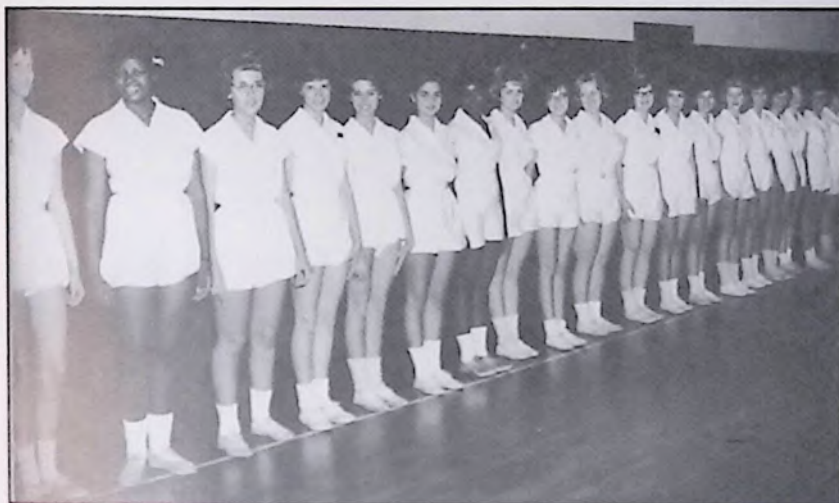
### ***Our Favorite Memories.....***

Majorettes and Band Camp - Henry's after the football and basketball games - crowded lunch lines - Friday morning club meetings - Choir - Pep Rallies - "Rustic French Fries" - Shorthand Class with "Norman Twist Batiste" - goofing off in A.V. and band - Dramatics Club - Teacher for a Day - Senior Banquet - the Prom Entertainment: Walt Harper, The Stereos, The Wallace Brothers, Bill Webb and Bobby Vinton and the Bachelors - Sororities: Beta Kappa Nu, Sub Deb and Theta Gamma Rho - The Tri-Hi-Y's "Shamrock Ball" - the trip to New York and the Taft Hotel - The Post Prom party only cost \$2.25 and had Little Anthony and the Imperials and Dr. Price Jenkins, a hypnotist - the North Park after party - Cecelia De Salles, our exchange student - FBLA trips - Vic Bush getting the Football trophy - "Dress Up Days" - The non politically correct chorale department "Festival of Song" program with the songs, 'Ezekiel Saw De Wheel', 'O Boundless Love', 'Lift up Your Heads', 'Thou Art Worthy', 'I Hear a Voice a-Prayin' and 'When the Saints go Marching In'. Miss Boucher and





Pop Burnett's retirement - Darryl Spohn's untimely death - the old friends we still have after all these years have passed.



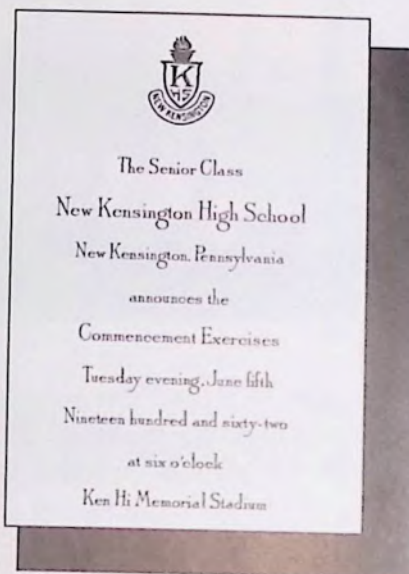
### *Things We'd Like to Forget.....*

Mr. Armstrong - gym suits and P.E. class - Miss Pascarella - how strict it was back then - Physics and Chemistry Class - Mr. Drum - Mrs. 'B' - "trying to keep a French twist roller in your hair when your hair had just outgrown your 'pixie' hair-do - trying to fit pronouncements with the 'In Crowd' like, "He's really nice, but he

doesn't wear button-downs" into the cosmic scheme of things - Ritually reciting locker combinations on the way to school and praying we wouldn't try opening our gym lockers with the lunch locker combination - worrying about Mrs. Terwilliger's (Tweety's) surprise quizzes - singing a capella for Miss B - whether you had time to go to the bathroom between lunch and history class - how to get wrinkles out of Oxford cloth - swaggering tyrants who rule the study halls and cafeterias and passed out hall passes as if they were 'keys to the Golden Gates' - walking to Ridge Avenue dances and huddling against the shouts about 'nice gams' coming from the darkness - getting to the dance and either dancing with other girls, or finally with a boy who smelled of alcohol and 'Sen-Sen' - trying desperately to hold some kind of vertical posture - the painful differences that seemed mine alone and generally living on the borderline of haywire."







#### INSTRUCTIONS TO GRADUATING SENIORS AUDITORIUM

June 5, 1962 -- COMMENCEMENT -- 7:00 p.m.

All Diplomas will be received on stage.

Report at 6:15 p.m. at high school.

For putting on caps and gowns report to your section room.

Find your regular place in line and stay there.

Be sure you have the seat assigned to you.

Leave seats vacant in case there are any absentees.

#### ATTENTION PLEASE

All Seniors remain standing for Invocation.

Boys remove caps for Invocation and keep them off.

Girls keep caps on, tassel to the left of the cap.

Note: When Mr. Jefferson moves to the front of the stage and prepares to award diplomas--boys will place caps on heads, red tassel to the right. Girls will also change tassels to the right side.

There will be a continuous single file line to receive diplomas. The ushers will indicate when each row is to rise and when it is time to start moving.

Stop in front of Mr. Oliver and hand him your White

White Name Card. He will announce your name and you will

step forward to receive your diploma from Mr. Jefferson.

Thank Mr. Jefferson when you receive your diploma.

As soon as you return to your row after receiving your

diploma, be seated quickly.

Keep the line straight and don't crowd the person in front

of you.

Flowers are not to be worn with cap and gown and no flowers

will be presented on stage.

Boys remove caps for Benediction and replace after

Benediction, tassel to the right.

The same procedure will be followed for marching out as

at Baccalaureate.

Returning caps and gowns. Each graduate must return his

cap and gown with his yellow card immediately after the

close of Commencement to his own section room

teacher.

Important: On leaving auditorium after Baccalaureate

and Commencement exercise, you must remain quiet

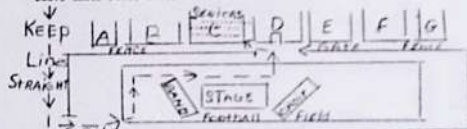
going through the halls. Remember--the exercise is

still in progress.

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO GRADUATING SENIORS - MEMORIAL FIELD

##### 1. Directions for entering the Stadium (COMMENCEMENT)

You will report to the Stadium at 5:15 p.m. on June 5. Rooms 101, 102, 104, 106, 107, and 114 will use the Ken Hi Dressing Rooms; Rooms 110, 203, 205, 211, 213, and 219 will use the Visitors Dressing Rooms. You will be called to line up back of the Stadium according to your row and seat number twenty minutes before the exercises are scheduled to start. The line will enter at the Main Gate and proceed to the seats as shown on Diagram. Keep the line straight. Don't crowd the person in front of you. Be sure to have the seat assigned you. If there are any absentees, leave their seats until after the Invocation.

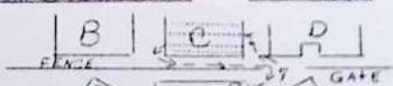


##### 2. Commencement: June 5, 1962, 6:00 p.m.

All seniors remain standing for Invocation. Boys remove caps for Invocation and keep them off. Girls keep caps on heads. Tassels are on the left side. Note: When Mr. Jefferson moves to the front of the stage to award the diplomas, boys will place caps on heads, tassels to the right. Girls will also change tassels to the right side. There will be a continuous single file line to receive diplomas. The ushers will indicate when each row is to rise and when it is time to start moving. Your section room Teacher will hand you your WHITE NAME CARD as you leave the stands.

##### A. DIRECTIONS FOR RECEIVING DIPLOMAS

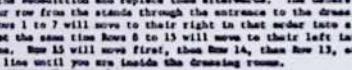
##### KEEP LINE STRAIGHT



The diploma line moves up on the stage as shown by the diagram above. You will stop and hand Mr. Oliver your white name card. He will announce your name and you will step forward to receive your diploma. The diagram above indicates route of Row 1. Rows 2, 3, 4, etc. will follow the same route. As soon as you return to your row after receiving diplomas be seated. Keep in line when coming back from the stage. Flowers are not to be worn with cap and gown and no flowers will be presented on stage.

##### B. DIRECTIONS FOR LEAVING THE STADIUM

The entire class will rise for the Benediction and remain standing when it is over. Boys will remove caps for the Benediction and replace them afterwards. The ushers will direct your row from the stands through the entrance to the dressing rooms. Rows 1 to 7 will move to their right in that order into a single line and at the same time Rows 8 to 13 will move to their left into a single line. Row 13 will move first, then Row 14, then Row 15, etc. Do not break line until you are inside the dressing rooms.



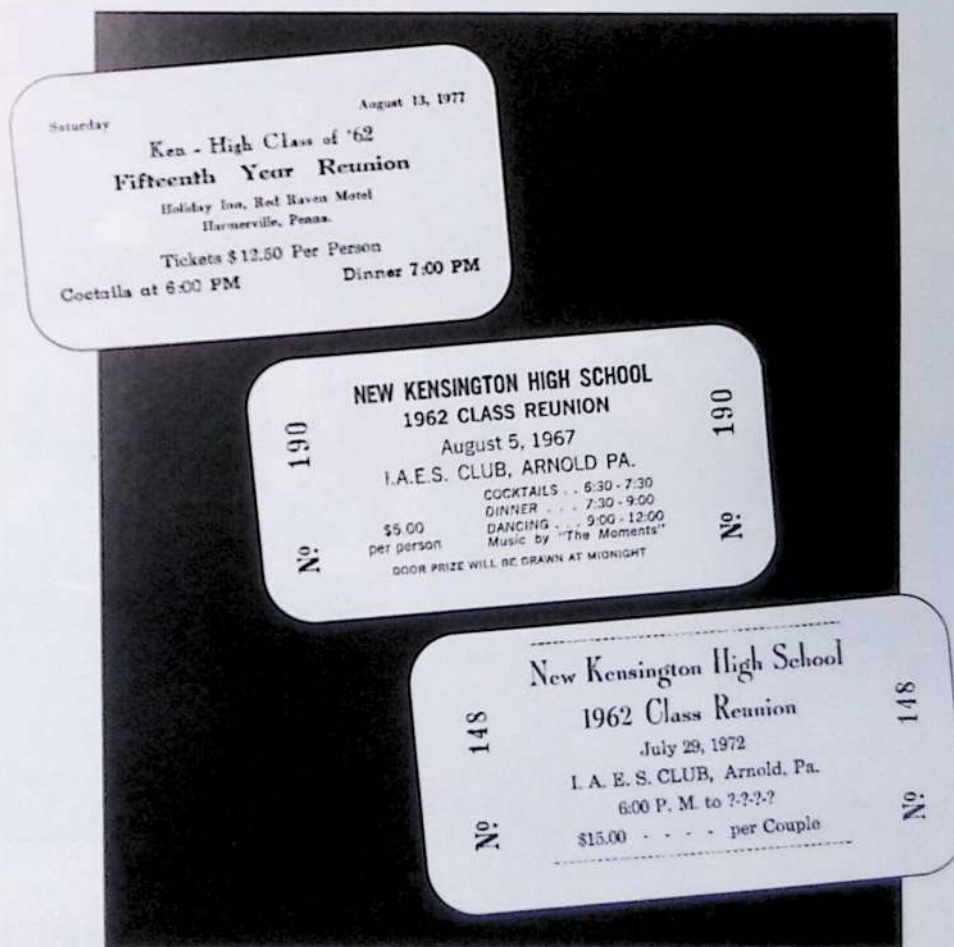
##### C. DIRECTIONS FOR RETURNING CAPS AND GOWNS

Important: All seniors must check in their own caps and gowns with their Yellow Cards to their Section Room Teacher in the Dressing Rooms. Windows at which checking will be done will plainly marked with the Section Room Numbers. Be sure to return to your own Section Room Window.





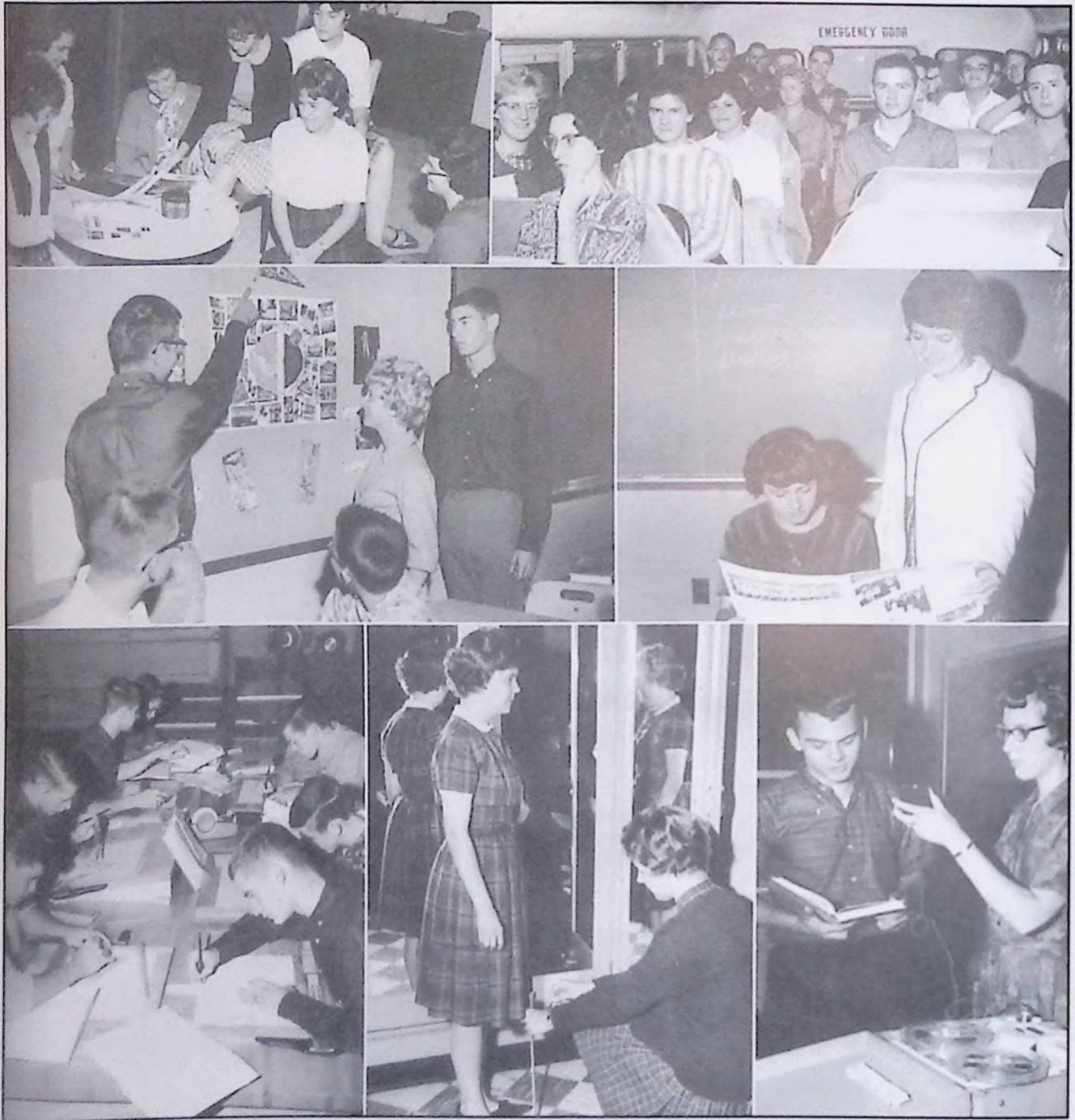
Class of 1962's five year reunion





# 1963

## Class of 1963







Science Fair



Tri-Hi-Y



Attendance Staff



1964

## Class of 1964

by Kaetche Facemyer Miller

On Wednesday afternoon, November 22, 1963, the entire school went to the auditorium for the Drama Club's performance of "A Remarkable Incident at Carson's Corners". I played the school librarian and had a few lines in the first act, nothing in the second, and a bit at the very end. I don't remember anything about the plot of the story, but my character was to be emotional; as the story unfolded in that third act.

What I remember better than the plot was that I was happy to have the time during the second act to roam the halls freely while everyone else was in the auditorium. I went all the way up to the gymnasium, then back, past the cafeteria where Mr. Arabia and some other teachers were listening to the radio through a loud speaker. I approached the group, curious at what they were listening. *One of them told me that the President, John Kennedy had been shot in Dallas!* Then, just a few minutes later, we heard the announcer confirm that he was dead. I don't remember exactly what teachers were there, but they instructed me not to tell anyone, that it would be announced after the play.

I returned to the green room under the stage and paced, breathless and stricken. My limited experience with the events of such import did not allow the news to be really absorbed. Confusion over how to react—what? sad? afraid? No one was there to share this with, *how can I do this silly play?* I played my part stiffly, including the part where I was supposed to cry hearing myself as if I was in an echoing chamber and everyone else was on the other side of a glass window. I dreaded seeing the reaction to Mr. Oliver's announcement after the play.

We had an early dismissal, confusion everywhere, tears, and someone gave me a ride home. We were stunned and I knew just a little sooner than everyone else about what was, for many of us, the **First Terrible Thing** to happen in our lives.





## Class of 1964

by Francine Bartolacci Costello



### Band Camp Memories



I think of Band Camp and I hear the song, *"Moon River"* (Or it can work the other way around) No matter, the song and the place are merged forever in my memory, just as the musky scent of the deep woods is mingled with *Aqua Net* hair spray and *Coppertone* suntan lotion.

*"Oh, dream maker, you heart breaker".*

The Band Camp were years of dreams and heart breaks and all of us knowing so much of life was still ahead.

*"Two drifters, off to see the world. There's such a lot of world to see".*

But as Ken-Hi majorettes in the early 1960's, we were excited about seeing only that little corner of the world where the legendary Ken-Hi band camp nestled at the foot of Mount Davis. *Going to band camp was a BIG deal!* And it was an even bigger deal the first year that I got to go because that year we were to become a **new** majorette corps. The school had hired a choreographer named Larry Cervi, and we were told he had **'big plans'** for us!

So, once the last of the parent cars crunched away down the dusty, dirt drive and after we had our first supper in the white frame mess hall, we got to meet this Mr. Cervi in the big empty room on the other side of the mess hall, which was called, the "rec-room". Usually we would gather there in the evenings to fast dance to songs like, *"Cheri Baby"* and *"Blue Moon"*. Or we'd listen to *"In the Still of the Night"*, or anything by Johnny Mathis and "moon" over our boyfriends in far off New Kensington. (Who were probably over at Henry's dancing with some cute Har-Brack girl!)

But on this night we tried to stifle our giggles as Mr. Cervi, who was trim, muscular and



sophisticated, told us and *showed* us how we would all learn to twirl our batons like proper majorettes and point our toes and prance lightly like young, sleek fillies. He said he had observed our corps clomping along with heavy boots, made even more clumsy by the fat, red, yarn tassels we loved so much. "The tassels were **OUT!**", he said, "Big smiles, perfect posture, pointed toes and chins held high were **IN!**"

Back in the bunk house we howled as the more gifted mimics among us like Kaetche Facemeyer and Cheryl Monaco pranced up and down the aisle in hilarious imitation of Larry Cervi's demonstration of his "*ideal*" *majorette*!

The next morning, after the shock of reveille and the numbing mountain chill, once we had stuffed ourselves with a great band camp style country breakfast, and after we accepted the fact that we *would* clean up the bunk house and *would* pass inspection, we found ourselves standing out in the practice field, looking anything but sleek in our layers of sweatshirts, regretting all those pancakes with butter!

While Mr. Arabia and Mr. Stephens worked with the band on our first formation, Mr. Cervi started in on the majorettes. Before the frost had burned off the field, many of us had black and blue jaws from hitting ourselves in the face with our batons as we attempted the horizontal and the figure 8 twirls while remembering to "Smiiiile!"

By lunch time we were properly discouraged and most of us couldn't get to our bunks fast enough for our mid-day rest. But we were young then and by the time we were called to afternoon practice, we arrived on the field refreshed (and looking a few pounds lighter,) as by now we had shed our sweatshirts in favor of bathing suits and short shorts.

That first afternoon, we were included in the formation and taught the routine. On this first day of camp, it started. The song, "Moon River" and the majorette routine was something of a waltz. We were to dance back and forth, pairing with a girl of like height, twirling our batons, *sort of*, leaning toward each other, then back away from each other. My partner was Gayly Bettor. It was a lovely routine and we were **awful**! Gayly and I thought it was hilarious. But it was only Monday.....*who cared?*

Following afternoon practice we would race for the showers and the bunk house would fill with the scent of dozens of different shampoos, soaps, hair sprays and perfumes. We would set each other's hair in pink spongy rollers, try on each other's lipstick and Bermudas's and act as if we were dressing for a 'hot date' instead of just another meal in the mess hall.

Rookies to camp and those who got themselves in trouble, handled K.P. duty but this year there was additional help because our dear friend, Bonnie Latona, (who was not a majorette, or a band member) had volunteered for steady K.P. duty, just to be able to share in the experience of "camp". That meant dances in the rec. hall, bonfires and most of all, nights in the bunk house. We lived for the frantic running up and down the aisles in our 'short pajamas', sharing 'zit'cream, teasing hair, taking pictures in silly poses and most of all - talking! Our Senior head majorette, Sandy Meanor, was one of the world's greatest talkers. After lights out, Meanor would hold court around her bunk, joined by different girls on different nights, depending on who was tired, sunburned, or otherwise occupied. The subject was, of course, BOYS, and we all loved it.





"Aida" with the Pittsburgh Opera

We would learn several different routines during that last week at camp. Mr. Cervi had choreographed all of the majorette routines for the programs, as well as our fabulous entrance onto the field and a parade routine. But this year, he did something different. After watching us dancing in the rec-hall one night, he asked a handful of us to meet with him and show him how we danced to the "Twist".

Even though the "Twist" was a specific dance, at Ken-Hi, when that song was played, we did a variety of different dance steps. Well, by the next day, Mr. Cervi had created a routine to "*The Peppermint Twist*", incorporating all the real dance steps we actually did. **We were thrilled!** But, as happened every year, by Wednesday, we were still struggling our way through most of the routines. We had our traditional show to perform in town on Friday evening. And what a mess we would be! So, as always, some time between Wednesday and Friday afternoon there would be a kind of "blow-up" and we would all be told to shape up and get serious about learning these shows.

That year, it was Mr. Cervi who read us the 'riot act'! "*You still look like a bunch of farm horses out there! You're not pointing your toes! Nobody knows how to guide right! Everyone forgets their posture and smiles! I can see you all counting and I don't even want to talk about your twirling!*".

Of course, we felt awful about it and by the next practice, we were sharper. So somehow, by Friday afternoon, there was at least one show the band and majorette corps could actually perform in its entirety for the folks in town.

That year it was the one that included "Moon River". And so that was the one we performed. Our black short shorts, white blouses with red cummerbunds covered sun burns and mosquito bites. But we were a new corps now. And that routine to "*Moon River*" that showed off our



twirling was as graceful as Audrey Hepburn herself and at last we began to feel like the dancers that Mr. Cervi wanted us to be.

Back in the bunk house, we celebrated in a riot of silliness. Then, after the lights out, tradition dictated that the story or "**Mary**" be told. And just when the tale reached its most frightening, there was a horrible racket at the screen door and to a chorus of screams, in came "**Mary**" herself! Ken-Hi's '*Liz Taylor*' look alike, Cheryl Monaco, was our "**Mary**" that year, and she was a good one! We never got much sleep that last night and the next morning, as we squeezed into parent cars bulging with a week's worth of dirty laundry, there was little sentiment about leaving camp. After all, we'd see each other back home and the fun and good times would just keep coming!

We really believed all that stuff about "*...rainbow's end, just around the bend*". We didn't know that college, Vietnam, marriage, jobs and life itself would challenge, change and scatter us farther than we could dream. But we probably did keep a few good things that we learned at Band Camp.

**Maybe even now some of us still remember to stand up straight, point our toes, smile, hold our chins up high and try not to hit ourselves in the face with a twirling baton!**



### **Our Prom**

*(What is T.J. doing?)*



# Class of 1965

by Max Adams, David Dudek, Angie Kuzmick Beeler,  
Frank Meladandri, Joyce Shiarella Andersen and Tom Smetanick

## Things we remembered when we jogged our memory banks!

### *Fondest memories.....*

Probably it was the Senior choir trip to New York in 1965. Going to the Playboy Club (Joyce's mother and Aunt Dora took some of them!) then hiding Joe Van Derworf in a bathtub so that he wouldn't be caught during room check.... And Angie, going up to the boys rooms, during the day and hiding under the bed when one of the chaperones came by.....Also in New York, who remembers the beer cans and police whistles?.....A stabbing outside the auditorium and the guy laying there asking for Joyce's father, who was a doctor.... And how Mr. Hoak always called Joyce, "Ambush", because it was the perfume of choice back then.... The Senior Prom, attended by Rich D'Andrea, where he got hypnotized and was told it was really hot and he started to strip!....Trudy Thrower being Joyce's 'body guard'.... The girl who fell through the trampoline in gym class and fell through, breaking her ankle.... "Chicky" Waugh who came 'halloweening' at Joyce's parents house, and thanking her father, Dr. Shiarella for bringing him into the world.... Angie Kuzmick's father's great homemade pizza....Sneaking to the Rustic after a dance, coming home and having our fathers reprimanding us for going there (*how did they know?*) Mr. Meladandri would not have called - no, it was the smell on your clothes!.....And why was Tom nicknamed "Ned Nature", something about initiation of some kind— — something about his underwear— — something about a parking lot— — something about a car door to hide him, (the details are fuzzy).....Angie being called "Veronica Lake" by Mr. Slosky and "Look at those hips" by Mr. Alcibiade.....In Chemistry - on the blackboard was the word "g/atom", which Joyce was come to learn meant grams per atom, but she raised her hand and asked what "glatom" was and was promptly asked to leave the class .....People riding on David Dudek's running boards of his 1937 Plymouth.....Cutting Sunday CCD classes to run all over New Kensington (Joyce, Frank, Tom and John Dennis Discello).....Max dropping Linda Litz at every rehearsal for "Brigadoon" for the Spring Concert.....Max also rehearsing "Elijah" for the concert, jumping off the risers, only to fall and utter some words that wouldn't warrant a second look in the 90's!.....and Angie, participating in a gymnastic exhibition in front of the whole school, did a front handspring, fell flat on her face, then jumped up excitedly, as if it were part of her performance!

**And we are all glad to be celebrating our 35th Reunion this year!  
We may be older, but we think we are a lot better!**





## Sub-Deb Sorority Dance

### — PROGRAM —

<b>SENIOR CHOIR</b>	
PSALM 96	McRae
FOLLOW YOUR SAINT	Thomson
JIG FOR VOICES	Rowley
<b>ENSEMBLE CHOIR</b>	
O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM	Paulson
EXULTATE DEO	Paulson
"THE TENDER LAND" - Opera	Coyland
Swamp Your Feet	
The Promise of Living	
REQUEST SELECTION	
<b>SOPHOMORE CHORUS</b>	
GONNA BUILD A MOUNTAIN - Folk Song	arr. Lepson
<b>GIRLS CHORUS</b>	
"CARNIVAL" selections	Merrill
Soloists: Connie Bunkin, Frank Oliver, Melanie Noble, Linda Paul, Jennifer Wang, Valerie Wolk	
Organist: Mrs. Helen Bengtson	
MICHAEL ROW THE BOAT ASHORE - Folk Song	arr. Hayward
<b>SENIOR CHOIR</b>	
SOMETHING TELLS ME	Martin Gray
ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE	Hammertown-Kerr
HOLA LA	German Folk Song
Student Conductor: Frank Oliver	
I HEAR A VOICE A-PRAYIN'	Bright
Student Conductor: Allen Wolk	
LET'S FALL IN LOVE	arr. Lacey

"MARY POPPINS" selections	arr. Sim
A Spoonful of Sugar	
Chin Chin Chorus - soloist: Gene Erbe	
Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious	
<b>GIRLS ENSEMBLE</b>	
MR. WONDERFUL	arr.
YOU MAKE ME FEEL SO YOUNG	
<b>SENIOR CHOIR</b>	
THAT OLD GANG OF MINE	arr.
DIRE'S NO HIDE'N' PLACE - Negro Spiritual	arr. Parker
Soloist: Ricky Greene	
IF I HAD A HAMMER - Folk Song	
Student Conductor: Ricky Greene	
CHING-A-RING CHAW	Bark
FUGUE IN C MINOR	arr.
THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC	
"MUSIC MAN" selections	
Soloists: Polly Fritz, Ricky Greene, Terry Carlson, Richard Paul	
<b>ACCOMPANISTS:</b>	
Senior Choir: Allen Wolk, Jerry Froberg, Edward	
Girls Chorus: Frank Oliver	
Sophomore Chorus: Beryl Ann Carney, Cheryl M	

## Baccalaureate Exercise...

New Kensington High School Auditorium  
SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 6, 1965  
7:00 o'clock

"Huldigung's March"	High School Band	Grieg
Invocation	Rev. Ata W. Roberts	
Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church		
"Jubilant Song"	High School Choir	Norman Della-John
	Polly Fritz, Soloist	
	Allen Wolk, Pianist	
Address	John S. Stockheck	
	"Architecture for Excellence"	
Benediction	Rev. Ata W. Roberts	
"American We"	High School Band	Hall

The audience is requested to remain seated until the Seniors have left the auditorium.



## Spanish Club





Taleoken Staff

### Commencement Exercise . . .

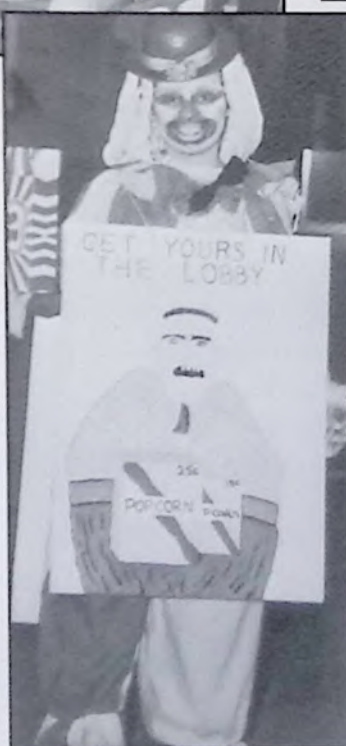
Ken High Memorial Field  
TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 8, 1965  
6:00 o'clock

"Pomp and Circumstance" \_\_\_\_\_ Elgar  
High School Band  
Invocation \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Norman C. Hunt  
First Christian Church  
Selections \_\_\_\_\_ High School Choir  
"Art Thou With Me" \_\_\_\_\_ J. S. Bach  
"I Hear A Voice A-Prayin'" \_\_\_\_\_ Houston Bright  
Conductor, Allen Wolk  
Senior Choir President  
"Psalm 96" \_\_\_\_\_ William McRae  
Greetings from School Directors \_\_\_\_\_ Henry J. Bizar  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Ivan Bostell  
"The Graduate and the Globe"  
Presentation of Diplomas and Awarding of Scholarships and Awards  
W. L. Jefferson, Superintendent of Schools  
Alma Mater  
Benediction \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Norman C. Hunt  
"Brass of Flame" \_\_\_\_\_ Caveras  
High School Band

The audience is requested to remain seated until the Seniors  
have left the auditorium.



Fun Fair



Beta Kappa Nu  
Sorority dance



# 1966

## Class of 1966

by Fran Pugliese

It's Friday night, and you have to decide if you are going to go to Henry's after the football/basketball game, or are you just going to spend the evening cruising around all night, or at least until we have to have Dad's car home. Either way, you'll be listening to tunes all night. Bob Livorio will be at Henry's, or you will be listening to Cousin Brucie on WABC in New York on that wonderful AM radio you had in Dad's car! *FM??, what FM??* Tape decks, CD's, that all came much later!

Speaking on Dad's car, weren't they something? Back then your girlfriend could actually sit next to you! No buckets seats or consoles to get in the way. Just those big bench seats. We won't even get into what went on in the back seat of Dad's car. And you could actually get five of your friends in the car with you! **Try that today!** Not to mention that you could drive around all night on a bucks worth of gas. The other reason I mention Dad's car, is because back then, most of us did not have our own car. As a matter of fact, most of us only had one car in the family. So if you were lucky to be out cruising, it was probably Dad's car.

On Saturday it might be the Tarena, or one of the other dance spots around the valley. Or better yet, you could pile as many of your friends as physically possible into Dad's car and head off to the Sunset Drive-in. In for "Buck Night". Saturday was also a good night to hit the late night eateries. Sometimes it was the Cheswick Barbeque, or maybe it would be the Rustic, for some french fries and gravy. You might even venture into Sgrigna's for some chicken wings and maybe even try to get a beer. Some were successful, but most failed in achieving the latter.

Sunday, unlike today was spent mostly with our families, at home or at our grandparents. We couldn't go to the mall. First of all they didn't exist then and second, stores were closed on Sundays! Remember the "*Blue Laws*"? The highlight of the day was watching the Ed Sullivan Show to see what new rock and roll act he would have on, and listening to our parents tell us how that really wasn't music.

It's now Monday and back to school. Most of us walked to school for most of our years! (2 miles up hill, both ways, at least that is what I tell my kids!) Most of us had the same routing. Meet a friend or two along the way, discuss what we did over the weekend, if we ever met anyone new, etc. etc. etc. No one carried a book bag. I'm not sure when they appeared on the scene. And if you were walking to school with your girlfriend, or would-be girlfriend, you carried her books too! Then it was into the school and off to the locker. What a mess that always was. I swear there were some kids who had the same gym towel in their locker for three years.

The first bell rings and it's off to home room. Attendance, announcements, Pledge of Allegiance, finish a little homework we forgot about, (due first period) and we've already used every excuse known to man and our first period teacher. There never seems to be enough time in home room to get that homework done, but we make do. Hopefully, our first period teacher has a sense of humor.



Next bell, off to class. What class went next depended on what we were supposed to be preparing for. College, business vocation, undecided. For the most part our teachers tried their best to educate us. Like any school, we had the good and bad, and the sometimes *wacky*. If you went to school during this time, you knew who was who. Some of our teachers were even feared (paddling was allowed and well used at times.) These teachers usually had a paddle hung in a prominent location for all to see and contemplate.



On a personal note, I came face to face, in a manner of speaking, with one of these innovators for a slight indiscretion. I believe it had to do with not turning in the required French homework for the fourth or fifth time. When I learned of the consequences of my actions I took heart in the fact that my French teacher, Miss Shimek, was a petite woman who on a good day would have trouble lifting a paddle, let alone swinging one! Unfortunately for me, she also knew she would have a problem delivering the

punishment she had decided upon. So to my dismay and my classmates delight, she enlisted the help of another foreign language teacher, Mr. Rogusky, and needless to say, I dropped French soon afterwards.

Lunch came in shifts, and depending on whom you talk to, the food was either bad or awful, unless you carried your lunch. Then, it was just stale! You could tell who was who by where they sat in the cafeteria. The jocks in one place, the popular girls in another, the nerds, (*those who are now known as the successful*) in yet another, and everyone else mixed in. This was also a good place to plan what we were going to do on the next weekend. The conversation would usually go something like this: "well, what do you guys want to do?.....I don't know, what do you want to do?.....I don't care, what do you want to do?".....etc. etc. etc. Also mixed in was "can anyone get their Dad's car?".

After lunch, it was down hill till the end of the school day and thoughts of what we were going to do after school. Some of us had practice in some sport or maybe the band, others may have a club meeting, and still others had the pleasure of DT. I don't know what it





was about DT, but it always seemed to be the same people in there all the time. Maybe they just liked Dr. Batiste's company. Some of us had after school jobs where we made some spending money. The rest of us walked home. (two miles UP hill)

The rest of the week followed the same basic pattern with a few changes every once in a while. An assembly here, a pep rally there. It was at one of these assemblies where an event in your life happens that answers the question, "Where were you when this or that happened?" For the life of me, I couldn't tell you what the assembly was for, but none of us will forget that day.

### November 22, 1963

And that day, we were told that President Kennedy had been assassinated. The auditorium emptied in silence and we went home.

During our time at Ken Hi, a lot of things happened in our world. Some of them unforgettable - like Kennedy's assassination, the Vietnam War, and the Space Race. But most of them passed without much notice from us. We were teenagers, 'baby boomers'. We were much more interested in whether we were going to go to Henry's or just cruise around on Friday night.



Future Nurses



## Class of 1967

1967



**Halloween  
Costumes**



**Machinists Club**



**French Club**

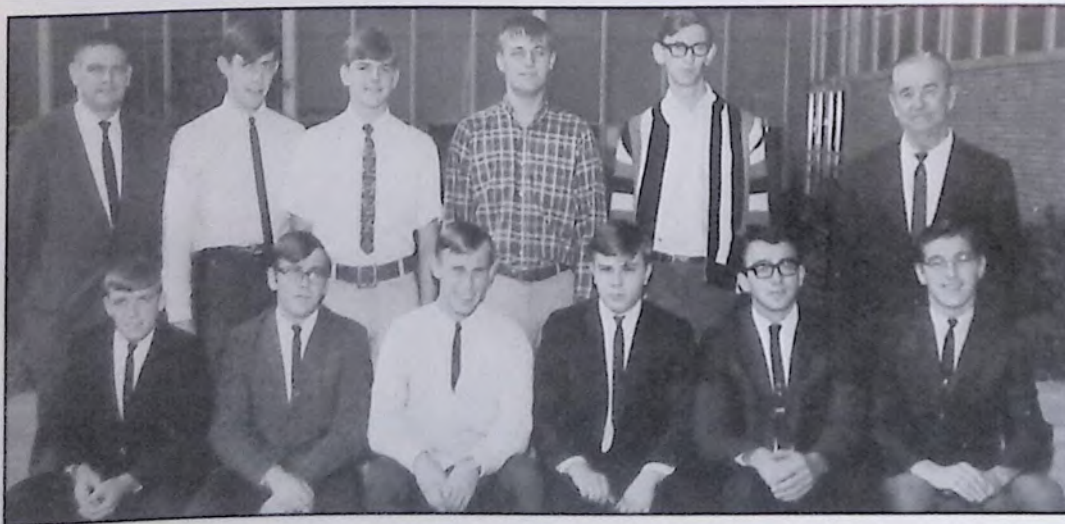




**Majorettes**



**Art  
Service  
Club**



**Vocational Club**



# Class of 1968

by Chris London Sokalski

## LUGI

*(the facts may be off . . . these are only memories)*



The gym seemed filled to capacity that cold winter night as we watched our Valley Vikings drive for another basket. Leading the team was Ron "Lugi" Waugh, our Captain and longtime friend. I can remember Lugi at Martin School, reading a report at the front of the class, swaying from his toes to his heels during the whole reading. I think back to his easy smile, quick laugh, and pride in his family. "My grandfather taught me to do this!", he exclaimed, as he showed the fifth grade class a trick that involved drawing a straight line freehand. I smile at the memory of Lugi teaching me to shoot a gum band by first looping it on my index finger, around my thumb, and hooking it on my "pinkie", as a sort of trigger. I continue to use that method when shooting a gum band, (do we ever REALLY grow up?), and I think of Lugi. His determination and character made him not only a leader among the class of 1968, but a hero, as well.

It was a big game that night, and the team was having a great season. Lugi and a few others on the first string had gotten out of several classes for some extra practice that afternoon, and I marveled at his endurance. He was an athlete, however, and knew how to pace himself, so I knew he would have more than enough energy to play his best that night.

As I remember, we were well into the game when it happened. Suddenly Lugi went down. The crowd gasped, then collectively we seemed to hold our breath as we watched. Help was called; the ambulance arrived. Paramedics surrounded our captain, and the stretcher finally lifted and Lugi was hurriedly carried away. We could see him moving as though in pain, and I squeezed my eyes shut in a little prayer, "Please let him be okay". I knew that every student in that school, every person in that gym, felt the same way.

The game went on, but with worry in the backs of our minds. As soon as I got home, I turned on the news and waited. Calls were made to friends to see if any news was released. It came.....the terrible, unbelievable news.....**We had lost Lugi forever.**

School was held the next day, and we attended, but I will never forget the grim, dark halls, the absolute silence between classes, as we shuffled numbly like robots. No one spoke . . . we were each lost in our own thoughts. I dreaded seeing the empty seat in the class I shared with Lugi,



but it was there when I entered the room, and seemed to share our sadness. No one sat in that seat the rest of the year . . . it was a silent memorial. Teachers tried to say the right words . . . we listened, but did not hear.

We visited the funeral home where the line of mourners extended for blocks. It seemed so unfair to lose one with so much promise and life. Losing Lugi was the most vivid memory I have of the year at Valley High School.



**Latin Club  
Banquet**



Cena Romana  
"Ab Ovo Usque ad Mala"

**Gustatio**  
Ove

**Ferculum Primum**  
Lactuca Capitata  
Radiculae — panis — olivae

**Ferculum Secundum**  
Pullus Pisciculus Porcus  
Carotae — Panis

**Ferculum Terium**  
Maol Ulvae Pira

**Ferculum Quartum**  
Crusta cum ovis et lacte  
Commissatio  
Vinum Innocuum



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## Class of 1968

### THE GOOD...

- French fries with gravy and a Pepsi for 42 cents at the Rustic Inn.
- The start of co-educational industrial arts and home economic classes.
- Toga attire at the Latin banquets hosted by Miss Hood.
- Mini-skirts.
- Dress code: no jeans, no tee shirts, no athletic shoes.
- Plenty of things to do . . . 3 movie theaters in New Kensington - 25 cents matinees.
- Dances at Henry's, YMCA, The Cove, The Tarena, etc. etc. etc.

### THE BAD ...

- wrap around skirts, especially that unwrapped and fell off in the cafeteria.
- Detention for chewing gum in class.
- Suspension for an anti-Vietnam War poster in a locker.
- Exclusion for participation in National Honor Society exercises for a male with "long hair" that almost covered his ears.
- Being sent to the office for a too tight or too short skirt.
- Being unable to participate in graduation exercises due to an exorbitant amount of detentions.
- The loss of classmates to death.
- The loss of peers to the Vietnam War.

### AND THE UGLY...

- Tent dresses.
- White lipstick.
- Large hair curlers.
- Ironing hair to straighten it.
- White one-piece gym bloomers for the girls.

AND WE WERE THE LAST  
CLASS TO START AS KEN-HI AND END AS VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL





**Future Physicians**



**Future Attorneys**



# THE ORGANIZATIONS OF KEN-HI

Were you a member of any of these clubs ?

Art Club  
Assembly Staff  
Attendance Staff  
Audio-Visual Aids

Bank Staff  
Board of Activities  
Boys Leaders Club

Camera Club  
Chess Club  
Civics Club  
Commercial Club  
College Club  
Consilium Scientiae (Nature Study Club)  
Culinary Arts Club

Debate Club  
Devotions Committee  
Distributive Education Club  
Dramatic Club

El Circulo Espanol

French Club - Le Cercle Francais  
Future Homemakers Club  
Future Nurses Club  
Future Business Leaders  
Future Teachers

German Club  
Geography Club  
Girls Leaders Club  
Girl Scout Council

Handbook Staff  
Hi-Y  
Home Economics Club/ Department

Junior Police Patrol  
Junior Red Cross  
Junior Town Meeting

Kentonian  
Key Club

Latin Club - Senatus Discipulique Romanus  
Leaders Club  
Library Staff  
Literary Club

Mixed Choir  
Model Aero Club  
Monitors

National Honor Society  
National Thespians, Troup 14  
Newclid Club

Office Staff  
Radio Club  
Red Cross Council

Science Club  
Science Fair Committee  
Senior Class Play  
Senior Red Cross  
Skin Diving Club  
Sophomore Choir  
Sophomore Tri-Hi-Y  
Spirit and the Score  
Stamp Club  
Student Savings Bank

Taleoken  
Tri-Hi-Y

V-News Staff  
Varsity Club  
Victory Club  
Vocational Board of Activities

Waiters Club



# Music





# MUSIC AT KEN-HI

## THE BAND AND THE MAJORETTES, ORCHESTRAS, GLEE CLUBS, SCRIPT AND SCORE, CHOIR, AND THE CHEERLEADERS

Shakespeare said, "*If music be the food of life, play on*"  
No school could properly be a "real" school without music.  
And no school should lack enthusiasm. That's the reason for bands, marching  
and cheering. So we take a quick look at all the music of Ken-Hi.  
Maybe you were a member of these proud traditions here.  
I can't imagine the school without them, can you?

## SCHOOL VICTORY SONG

When Ken-Hi's sturdy men fall into line, We're going to win again, another time.  
It's for the dear old school we love so well. It's for the dear old school I yell, I yell, I yell.  
So let's fight, fight, fight with all our might. And not give up 'til this old game is won.  
So give the old time pep of "*Sis! Boom! Bah! Rah! Rah! Rah!*"  
Old Ken-Hi!  
(Tune - 'Washington and Lee Swing')

### The Early Years

*Band* - During World War I, the extra-curricular program at Ken-Hi had to be curtailed, but in the 1920's most of the organizations began to function again and new ones were formed. Perhaps the most outstanding was the Ken-Hi band. Begun in 1923, the band would play at football games. In 1925, Mrs. Pearl McClellan of the choir also became the band director, and John Wainer was the leader with a flag bearer, Clyde Pfeiffer. In these early years, the major event was the annual concert and funds from this concert bought instruments.

*Orchestra* - With the aid of Miss Maude Fiscus, the Ken-Hi orchestra was organized in 1915 for the purpose of furnishing music at such social events as commencement, concerts, plays and assemblies.

*Kensylvanians* - were started in 1931

*Glee Club* - The first mention of a singing group was 1916, when it was started.

### 1934

*Band* - Mr. Arthur Gregory became the new band director.

*Orchestra* - During its nineteen years of existence, it has become most firmly established of



Ken-Hi activities. This year's orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Gregory.

*Glee Club* - Although originally established in 1916, it was finally revived in 1934, with Miss Grace Cost as sponsor. The members are encouraged to study light classical music and was composed entirely of girls. The one exception was the temporary Boys Glee Club which made its appearance at the 1933 Commencement.

*Cheerleaders* - To the strains of "Ken-Hi's Sturdy Men", these four lads have led hundreds of cheering students to spur their classmates on the team to victory. From the splendid records left by our athletic teams it would seem that they have done their work quite well. Two members of the squad, "Vinny" Allen and "Slick" Eger have led the cheering sections for 2 years, to be followed by "Buzz" Endean and "Joe" Yingling, and a couple of hand clapping sophomores.

## 1935

*Band* - Ken-Hi has sported a good many things since last September - new Radio, new bulletin board, and even a new coat of paint. Not to be outdone, the band fairly swept the school off its feet by the appearance of new uniforms. Wearing red and black, they have been on hand at all athletic events to spur the "Flying Dutchmen" on the victory! And the first of the fours DeLuca family drum majors, John DeLuca graduated.

*Orchestra* - Ken-Hi can boast of an orchestra which has completed a very successful year. Although the orchestra has not had the opportunity to prove its musical ability during the first of the year, the commencement afford it an excellent opportunity to show Mr. Gregory's directing. The members perform like experienced musicians at the Class Play, Baccalaureate Service, Class Night and Commencement.

*Girls Glee Club* - The newly reorganized club is under the supervision of Mr. Gregory.

*Cheerleaders* - Almost as important as the athletic teams themselves are the cheer leaders. These boys have led the hundreds of loyal supporters throughout the season in such popular yells as the "Ken-Hi Locomotive", "Fight Team Fight" and "Yea Team, Sock it to 'em". As is the usual custom, there are four men this year. The two veterans, Joe Yingling and "Buzz" Endean, which the two newly picked boys are Dick Ames and "Ush" Einstein.

## 1936

*Band* - Of all the organization there is none that has rendered more service to the school than the band. During the last year it has evoked much favorable comment from athletic fans and musicians alike. This has been due to the efforts of Mr. Gregory under who direction the band has been molded into and accomplished musical unit. With rare enthusiasm it has mastered and added to its repertoire a dozen well known marches. Its activities have included playing for part of the assemblies and for all athletic events.

*Orchestra* - Ken-Hi may well be proud of its orchestra this year for it has developed into an organization far above high school standards. The orchestra consisting of 32 members has played a wide range of instruments, such as the violin, cello, bass viol, clarinet, cornet, trombone, bassoon, oboe, flute, French horn and drums. Under the fine leadership of Mr. Gregory, it has accomplished splendid work in playing at assemblies, at the Thespian and Class Plays, and at Baccalaureate Service, Class Night and Commencement.

*Tea Dance Orchestra* - This organization's main purpose is to play at the afternoon tea dances. The first orchestra of this type was organized during the 1932-32 school term by Edmund Manganelli. During the past 2 years proceeds from the dance buys music for the band. This year the orchestra was organized by Victor De Santo.

*Cheerleaders* - Cheer leaders were selected this year to encourage the fighting teams of Ken-Hi



to victory. They were determined to organize a better cheering section and received splendid cooperation from the student body. Sponsored by Miss Doherty and Mr. Haddon, the cheerleaders are Verna Mae Mitchell, Billy Walley, Freda Sakulsky, Dorothy Mae Leipertz, Joe Moran, Lamont Dickey and mascot, Chester Anderson. "Ken" and "Kenna" red and black yarn dolls, were made to earn money for the uniforms and met with instant success. Several yells were introduced, "Yea, Team Victory", "Yea, Red, Yea Black" and the very popular "K". New motions were applied to "Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight", "Fight Team Fight" and the spirited, "Hit 'Em High, Hit 'Em Low". Much of the school spirit was also created by this new song:

**FLYING DUTCHMEN**  
(To the tune of "On Wisconsin")

Flying Dutchmen, Flying Dutchmen, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight.  
Take the ball right down the field, we've all our faith in you - Rah, Rah, Rah!

Flying Dutchmen, Flying Dutchmen win this game today.  
And for us bring victory to old Ken-Hi.

**1937**

*Band* - To create a better school spirit at both basketball and football games, the band is made up of 39 talented boys and girls, who by their hand work and cooperation with Mr. Gregory, are able to fulfill the band's obligations to our school. The basketball court, the football field and even the general assemblies would seem lifeless without these black and red clad musicians with their inspiring marches. Millie DeLuca, a sophomore, has attained and held the position of drum major. She is the first girl in the school to hold this honor and Ken-Hi is proud of her.

*The Kentsylvanians* - This is the first year the tea dance orchestra has been associated with a title of its own. So named in a contest sponsored by the Board of Activities, the Kentsylvanians is a popular group of musicians. During the past three years, the Board of Activities has held the first tea dance each fall and with profits has furnished the music for the orchestra. In the past, the orchestra has worked with student leaders by this year, it played under faculty supervision.

*Glee Club* - In the fall of this year, Miss Powell organized both a girls and a boys glee club. It was more difficult to form the boys club, for the boys did not seem to be able to spare either their time or their talents.

*Cheerleaders* - This year are Margaret Cooke, Howard Newmeyer, Freda Sakulsky, Chester Anderson, mascot, Billy Johnson, Dorothy Leipertz, Joe Moran, and sponsored by Miss Doherty.

**1938**

*Band* - Mr. Gregory director, has a well-trained musical organization that plays at football and basketball games, at safety meetings and school assemblies. It marches in the Armistice Day parade and holds an annual band concert.

*Kentsylvanians* - plays for tea dances held by various organizations for the school, without then the clubs would have to find other ways of making money and students would miss a great deal of fun. "She's the leader of the band" is the appropriate title for the drum major, Millie DeLuca. Millie is the first of her sex to hold this position in the history of Ken-Hi. Completing her second year as drum major and being only a junior, she will lead the list of drum majors who have



performed at Ken-Hi when she is graduated. She twirls a baton with the greatest of ease and has been Mr. Gregory's prized attraction at football and basketball games. Wherever she has performed, she has given a good exhibition of her talent and has received great applause.

*Orchestra* - And now a school orchestra completes Ken-Hi's claim to harmony. Although the orchestra is not very active, it gives those who play an instrument and who are truly interested in good music experience in playing in an orchestra. The members learn to follow the conducting of a leader, to interpret music and to play classical music. It makes for a true understanding and appreciation of better music.

*Glee Club* - In January of this year, Miss Powell, combined the choruses into mixed voices, eventually to form an a'capella choir. They have sung for chapel programs and fulfilled other engagements.

*Cheerleaders* - The cheerleaders, played a very important part in keeping school spirit at the football and basketball games. They have been help to athletics in Ken-Hi, and may they continue their good work. Two senior leaders, Dorothy Leipertz and Joe Moran have earned varsity awards. Margaret Cooke, Betty Hoskins, Billy Johnson and Howard Newmeyer received junior varsity awards.

## 1939

*Band* - Fall ushered in band tryouts. Mr. Gregory, after weeding out the 'corny' ones, immediately undertook to mold 44 players into a group of competent musicians. Soon, with Millie DeLuca, the band became the familiar herald of the Flying Dutchman's approach, and demonstrated many intricate maneuvers between the halves of numerous football games. The arrival of the winter months meant many busy nights for the band, because basketball season was in full swing. Part of the teams success should be attributed to the 'fight' songs played by the band in the midst of hectic games. In addition to these notable activities, the band marches in various parades, plays for assemblies and presents a concert in the spring.

*Orchestra* - A less active, but nevertheless extremely important musical organization is the 19 keenly interested members of the orchestra. They play for the Thespians, Class Plays, Baccalaureate and Commencement.

*Kensylvanians* - have been playing for club tea dances since 1931. Arthur Gregory is the faculty advisor, rides herd with an E flat alto sax. The reed section is composed of Charles Hogg, Lynn Long and Paul Zender, who play the sax and double on the licorice stick. Dick Brown, Merle Ruppel and Mike Sluser swing a sweet and hot trumpet section, and Americus Bruno accompanies with booms on the bass viol. While Tom Hanna hammers the hides and keep rhythm in the family, Martin Brill and Dave Seesholtz keep the 'slush pumps' well lubricated. Hudson Clements pleases the jitterbugs with a high-handed display of piano playing.

*Mixed Chorus* - Under the guidance of Mrs. Gregory, the glee clubs unite to form a group of over 100 members. They participate in both senior and junior assemblies, a carol sing in the corridors before Christmas vacation and this year put on a operetta, "Blow Me Down".

*Cheerleaders* - Sponsored by Mr. Hadden, are as follows: Eugene Bradley, Davie Broffman, Margaret Cooke, Muriel Dosch, Billy Johnson, Earl Johnson, Howard Newmeyer, Nora Elizabeth Schall and Gretchen Van Amerigen.

## 1940

*Band* - Under the expert direction of Mr. A.E. Gregory, the Ken-Hi band once again took its place at the head of the line as the herald of the "Flying Dutchmen". It was enlarged to 50 mem-



bers this year because of the incorporation of its sister organization from Parnassus. One Drum Major became two, Carmella DeLuca and William Milburn. Carmella is keeping alive the De Luca family tradition. The band made its traditional appearance at the games, at several away games and all the assemblies. The annual spring concert held in April was the final event on the band calendar.

*Orchestra* - This class accounts for the harmonious sounds flowing from the gym the fourth period daily, except Monday. It is a small organization, but highly important, as it entertains at the operetta, Thespian productions, senior class play, musical setting for graduation activities.

*"Kensylvanians"* - This orchestra has Mr. Gregory as its conductor and it would be a loss of entertainment and the "rug cutters" would miss a great deal of fun..

*Mixed Chorus*- It was a cold winter. The bitter winds makes you shiver. Loyal students stamp their way into the gym and before long are heard many voices singing rollicking tunes. This was a typical scene as the Mixed Chorus prepared this year's successful operetta, "The Belle Of Bagdad". This chorus comprised of over 200 voices, gives a spring concert and sings at assembly programs.

*Cheerleaders* - Visiting opponents were loud in their praise of Ken-Hi's 1939-40 cheerleaders. Bedecked in new uniforms and carrying megaphones, they put on a fine display at every game and faithfully followed the team on their out of town jaunts. If the success of cheerleaders is measured by the noise of the supporters, then this was a banner year for Ken-Hi's pep crew of Newmeyer, Van Amerigen, Braden, Schall, and Broffman.

## 1941

*Band* - The music begins and the color guard steps forward on the gym floor. While the band plays "The Star Spangled Banner", the audience stands at attention and sings the anthem. Then the tempo changes, and as the five boys of the color guard leave the floor, the flag swingers appear. These 8 girls toss and twirl their flags up, down, and around. When their act is finished, they march from the floor. By their generous applause, the audience shows approval at the work done by instructors, Mr. Gregory and Max Kipfer. The Drum Majorettes were gaily decorated with gold braid, tall white hats with fluttering plumes of bright red feathers, and high white boots—those are the uniforms of our drum majorettes. Contrary to the custom of previous years, we now have four high stepping young ladies rather than the usual one. The girls made their first appearance at the Titusville football game where they received more than just the usual applause; and since then they have gone far on the road to success. Not only do these four girls twirl batons, but they also jump rope, waltz, rhumba, and their most recent and outstanding accomplishment is roller skating. The student body of Ken-Hi is proud of the majorettes and hopes they continue to enjoy success.

*Kensylvanians* - For several years, these musicians have kept the students in touch with popular renditions of the latest song hits. However, this year, it maintained the 'swing' band with its arrangements of soft, sweet melodies putting the waltzers and the sentimentalists in heaven, while then slipping into the 'groove' and the 'jive' makes the jitterbugs pant for more.

*High School Choir* - "New Things" describes the 1940-41 season for Ken-Hi's vocalists—everything from a new director to a new name. The new director is Mr. Davis and new music began to appear. One Saturday morning in December they sang on WKPA radio. In March, they entered a county-wide contest. May the eighth was the final wind-up of new things. Before an audience of several hundred, the High School Choir, dressed in black robes, presented a concert of 'numbers', the majority sung a cappella.



*Cheerleaders* - What this year's cheerleaders lacked in size has been more than made up in pep. By means of a contest to test the students ability, they obtained new cheers. Their enthusiastic use of the new cheers and new songs has made them an outstanding group in the valley. Their snappy red uniforms seemed to vibrate with vitality and to reflect their radiance on both team and fans. They were loyal to the teams regardless of the scores. They fought for good sportsmanship on the part of the student body and presented themselves as the best example. They frequently held pep meetings to help students learn new yells. In short, they personified the kind of cheering for which Ken-Hi would like to be known.

## 1942

*Band* - There were 59 members to this years band. The Drum Majorettes number four and Carmella De Luca, is a veteran of six years service. There are also 6 flag twirlers in the squad.

*Kensylvanians* - If you haven't had the pleasure of sighing at the sweet tunes dished out by our Kensylvanians, or haven't 'jived' to one of their hot tunes, then you have missed a wagonload of pleasure. Mr. Davis, as director-accompanist, arranges their music and directs the orchestra in assemblies and at tea dances. To many schools, dances mean 'juke-box' music, but not to us! Anything from "Boogie Woogie" styles of Cab Calloway to Kay Kyser.

*Choir* - At 8:15 until 8:45 in the morning in the soundproofed room known as "208", the choir with 80 picked voices, sings a capella exclusively. Their music ranges from the "Lord's Prayer", "Adoremus Te", "Minka" and "Ezekiel saw de Wheel". They sing on the radio and at student assemblies and at a good spring concert.

*Cheerleaders* - 6 girls and 4 boys are keeping up the school spirit at football and basketball games. They practice faithfully after school and before the games. The snappy red, white and black uniforms add color to the games and the enthusiasm which they throw into their cheers has made them one of the outstanding groups in the valley.

## 1943

*Band* - Here comes the Band! And they did come - the every football game and basketball game. The director was Mr. C. A. Davis the first semester and Mr. Frank Oliver, the second. They executed square turns, weaves, letter formations, counter marches and pinwheels on the field.

Competition was keen the night of the Arnold versus Ken-Hi game, but the band came through with the formation of Army Air Cops wings, and anchor for the navy and "V" for victory, while playing the corresponding marches. Although less active in basketball season because of lack of space, they play the school songs and new swing cheers. the flag twirlers, a relatively new idea at Ken-Hi, fill in the intervening minutes between halves of games. Their original and clever maneuvers received the acclaim of spectators. The high stepping drum majorettes precede the band in parades. Attired in white uniforms trimmed with red braid and "shakos", or to the on-looker, their plumed hats, they catch the eye of all. This group includes Marjorie and Ruth Lucas, Joan Smeltzer, former majorettes and this year is added Dora Sicilia and Billie De Luca, an eighth grader was added to the band. Also this year, band member John Stephens graduated, only to come back ten years later to become the band director!

*Orchestra* - For several years, Ken-Hi has been without an orchestra. When Mr. Oliver took up his duties here after Christmas, he decided to remedy the situation and with the cooperation of musically minded students, formed a small group. They held no formal concert, their principle appearances were Commencement and Baccalaureate. Mr. Oliver hopes to build the group to an orchestra Ken-Hi would be proud.

*Kensylvanians* - Our school dance band is the necessary element to bring crowds to the tea and



supper dances. They are "solid", but equally sweet. They play at assemblies, dances in school, and one outside job on New Year's Eve. They played gratis for the Friendship dance introducing Friendship week. Everything from "Mr. Five-by-Five" to "White Christmas"-from slow two-step to jitterbug-4 saxophone, 2 trumpets, two bones, one bass fiddle, a drum and piano, and this year two girls play with the boys.

*Choir* - Under the capable leadership of both Mr. Davis and Mr. Oliver, the choir has advanced rapidly. Singing anything from "The Echo Song", "Playroom on Parade" to "Aderamus Te". There was a party for Mr. Davis full of tears, jitterbugging, refreshments and everyone enjoyed themselves. The choir presented their annual Spring Concert and a radio program.

*Cheerleaders* - The cheerleaders of 1942-43 will long be remembered for the pep displayed. Under the leadership of Miss Phillips, and later, Miss Rankin, they introduced many new yells. resplendent in red gabardine outfits, they are most striking in appearance. Vibrating with vitality, they led us through pep rallies, snake dances and victory celebrations.

#### 1944

*Band* - In the first part of this year, Mr. Oliver left for the army. Mrs. Black took over and band activities ranged from football games to parades, basketball games, radio programs, the annual concert and a big choir and band party. Under her very capable direction, the band zoomed through activities for the year, ranging from football games to parades; from basketball games to radio programs; and from the annual concert to the big event-the choir and band party in May. Under the able leadership of Marjorie Lucas, the drum majorettes march down the street leading the band. They make a colorful spectacle in their white uniforms and tall feathered hats. There are three girls and one boy: Marjorie Lucas, Ruth Lucas, Dora Sicilia and Billie DeLuca, who comes from a family of twirlers. Their routines may look simple to the spectators, but only the majorettes know how many long hours of practice they need to gain snap and precision. The flag twirlers come down the field in their white skirts, sweaters and boots with a trim military appearance with gay red flags to add a touch of color.

*Choir* - We are certainly proud of our choir. Mrs. McDowell, with 80 enthusiastic members, has made this organization very successful and popular. The choir has a wide variety of music in its repertoire, and has been very active. The members took part in a few radio programs, had their own spring concert, presented the ever popular Christmas assembly. Its own big event was the choir and band party. Their daily effort to reach the school by 8:05 paid off.

*Cheerleaders* - 12 cheerleaders enlivened the 1943-44 season. There are six girls and boys on the squad, Parks, Pallone, Horton, Wilbur, Uhar, Timmons, Fritz, Woomer, Jiusti, Koperek, Anderson, and Evans. Jane Wilbur, their head is greatly responsible for the pep and rhythm.

#### 1945

*Band* - In the gym and on the field, the band provides the spirit which helps make our games a success. The new band mistress, Miss Whitacre, has the vim and vigor to put the band through its paces. Although the 1945 Commencement will remove quite a few from its ranks, we all know that the band will continue to be one of Ken-Hi's most important organizations. 7 Flag twirlers and 6 Baton twirlers, five were girls, the other was Billie DeLuca add to the enthusiasm and are always a 'hit' at every event.

*Orchestra* - The Ken-Hi, although limited in instrumentation, has progressed greatly under Miss Whitacre's capable leadership. The excellent violin section is one of the chief claims to fame. The notes issuing from 208 the third period have been anything but sour. Despite the fact that



public appearances have been few, it has provided valuable experience for those interested in music. The organization is another which helps to stimulate the spirit of American youth through the medium of music.

*The Script and the Score* - This new organization was formed to present musical production which would give students with musical and dramatic ability a chance to display their talents.

*Choir* - The Choir faithfully meets every morning at 8 o'clock. When the Christmas season drew near, the Choir donned robes, struggled manfully with white collars and successfully presented a radio program and an assembly program of Christmas music. Then in the spring, the Choir proved its versatility by presenting a concert of folk songs, Negro Spirituals, religious songs and others. The new director is Miss Emogene Whitacre.

*Cheerleaders* - With a squad of only seven, they captured and held our interest in, as well as our respect for their abilities. In their eye-arresting red and black uniforms, the fellows and girls held their own against all comers on the field and the floor. The young leaders, Aenid Horton and Agnes Uhar, along with the sponsors, Miss Pascaretta and Miss Rankin, established a hard working team. The hours of practice are plainly seen in the precision of their work.

## 1946

*Band* - Our band deserves a rousing cheer from us all. It is the leader in school spirit. This group of instrumentalist must be praised further for their versatility in the performance of concert music for band in addition to the strongly accented marches. Rehearsals started under the baton of Miss Whitacre, but Mr. Oliver, on his return from the Army, resumes his position as conductor. He organized a majorette corps of 36 girls to augment the band. This year there are two flag twirlers, three baton twirlers and one drum major. Ken-Hi's band rose to greater heights this year than has ever been achieved before. They went to the first band camp at Salisbury, PA., which is at the foot of Mt. Davis, the highest point in Pennsylvania. With the majorette corps was introduced the new addition of mascot, Beverly Salvatore. Beverly was a 4th grader, who was a spectacular addition in being able to execute difficult maneuvers.

*The Script and the Score* - Continuing its successful year, they presented the opera, "Faust" which proved popular with the audience. Using the proceed from the opera, they went to Pittsburgh, to see a professional performance. Miss Whitacre, who was leading the group, welcomed back the arrival of Mr. Oliver from the Army and make him co-sponsor.

*Choir* - Let us sing together and there shall be harmony of voice and harmony of spirit. We of Ken-Hi are proud of our choir, composed of 100 voices. Their chorals range from the highly imaginative and artistic chorales of Bach, to the best of contemporary composers. The fine work of the choir is under the capable direction of Emogene Whitacre. This popular group is busy with numerous programs throughout the years, climaxed by the spring concert.

*Cheerleaders* - Five cheerleaders lead the cheers, V. Lucas, D. Smith, H. Toohey, B. Borland and B. Jadot.

## 1947

*Band* - Under the capable tutelage of Mr. Oliver, the band rose to new heights. After two weeks spent at camp at Salisbury, the band returned and anxiously awaited for the seasonal sports to open so that they could go to work. The band has 78 members and every day in sixth period, the strains of music floated through the hall, enticing a few students to stop working and listen. In the spring and fall, they go outdoors and practice walking down Ridge Avenue. This year, the band participated in the All-Western Band with a total of 8 representatives and in the Allegheny Valley Band Festival which gave a series of four concerts. Bob Armstrong, a sophomore who



plays the trumpet, was the only member to participate in the All-State band which met in Lebanon, PA, in March.

The majorettes are led by Nellie Mae Johnson, Betty Lee Fox and Kathryn Janibagian. This group of 39 girls was newly organized last spring by Mr. Oliver. All summer long they worked diligently to achieve perfection. They spent two weeks at camp, where they practiced each day with the band. Beverly Salvatore, a little fourth grader, acted as the mascot. She made a spectacular figure on the field, executing difficult maneuvers. At the basketball games, the majorettes danced at the half, and each time they did something unusual and different, making the entertainment exciting.

*Orchestra* - Under the leadership of Mr. Frank Oliver, the orchestra has become very well trained. In the case of the

ensemble, it is not so much the number of members but the musicianship of each member.

*The Script and the Score* - Founded 1945 for students possessing musical and dramatic talents, the club affords an opportunity to combine these two art forms into an opera or operetta.

*Choir* - "I hear music-with songs of love and spring; songs of hope and patriotism". The Ken-Hi choir is one of the most popular organizations in the school. Miss Emogene Whitacre, a most capable choir leader, has produced quality and quantity from well-organized group. Many public appearances are made each year, including the radio program, with the Spring Festival as a finale.

*Cheerleaders* - The 8 cheerleaders under the supervision of Mr. Oliver accompanied the band to camp for a week. In their snappy red skirts and white sweaters, they began the season with several new cheers. The climax of the successful football season was the thrill of cheering in Forbes Field before seventeen thousand people. After the big football season, they cheered for the basketball team. They received rousing support at the welcome pep rallies under the supervision of Miss Pascarella.

## 1948

*Band* - Under Mr. Oliver, this group has had great versatility in their musical performances. After an enjoyable week at Salisbury, they returned home and waited for the season to open. They started off by playing for the Steeler-Green Bay Packer game in Forbes Field. They made such a big hit, that they became regulars at the Steeler games. This year, the group increased to 85. The band has taken several trips this year. Besides traveling to Germantown, Sharon and Vandergrift for games, they went to Pittsburgh to hear the Marine Band play. This year the band participated in the Allegheny Valley Festivals, and a School Band Festival. Five representatives-Wanda Phillips, David Ormesher, Roy Marks, Bob Armstrong and Erma Jane Raab represented Ken-Hi in the All-Western Band. They have completed their second season of performing for football and basketball fans. The girls spent one week of last summer at camp-a week of hard work under the hot sun, and then when school was in session, the corps spent one period a day practicing for the next game. The girls concluded the marching season by performing at Forbes Field on Thanksgiving Day. This year was the first year of the local band festival, which drew over 10,000 spectators and is still entertaining Alle-Kiski area fans every fall.

*Orchestra* - Some of the most talented students in the school are members of the orchestra. They play for various school functions, dramatic productions, commencement and the baccalaureate service. Capping off the year with the spring music festival under Mr. Oliver.

*Kensylvanians* - The Kensylvanians, the school dance band, furnish music for our tea dances and assemblies. They feature jump tunes to romantic ballads, and are an essential part of the school's music program. Directed by Mr. Oliver, they bring the hit tunes of the day to the stu-



dents, who are always generous in applause and anxious to hear another number.

*The Script and the Score* - Under the enthusiastic sponsorship of Miss Whitacre, this club is designed for the gifted in music and dramatics. In March of this year the club presented "A Waltz Dream" by Oscar Strauss with Joy DeSimone, Nellie Mae Johnson and Bob Bloom singing the lead roles. Officers include President, Nita Foulkrod, Vice President, Anna Lou Alex, Secretary, Joy DeSimone and Treasurer, Erma Jane Raab.

*Choir* - Harmonious strains of music fill the air around 208 each morning. Under the fine leadership of Miss Emogene Whitacre, the choir prepares for its many public appearances. The directors and members have been complimented for their excellent performances in the school and community. The choir's singing of Christmas carols and Easter music has become traditional and the Spring Festival climaxes the activities.

*Cheerleaders* - The cheerleaders sponsored by Miss Pascarella hold special "pep" meetings where they practice the old cheers and songs and introduce new ones. They also cheerfully lead cheers at home and abroad. This year's squad included Gloria Henry, Nita Foulkrod, Jane Evans, Nancy Baumiller, Helen Greer, Rosalie Whalen, Irene Pollack, Dahn Cappel and Bob Moore.

## 1949

*Band* - At the annual outing, band camp, the Ken-Hi band had some new formations and a new mascot. Little Kenny Russell, a sixth grade student, and a crack baton twirler, became the crowd's favorite. This one week of rigid training and fun is under the competent leadership of Mr. Oliver, who prepared for them a tough schedule of performances with new formations. In all the Band performed before over 100,000 people in Pittsburgh, the Steeler-Detroit game, and all the Ken-Hi games. They also play at home basketball games, the Dispatch Band Festival, Allegheny Band Festival and All District Band Festival. A change in the Band Festival for this year is scheduled. Har-Brack, Tarentum, Springdale, and Ken-Hi bands will present a joint performance in the Ches-Arena rather than a program in each of the high schools. Bob Armstrong, a trumpet player and member of the graduating class, attended the State Band concert for two years in succession. The Majorettes are now part of every high school's band and Ken-Hi can well be proud of their high steppers. The corps the group performed at Forbes Field. Diligent practice have made the "Rockettes" well trained and precise. The senior majorettes are awarded heavy white sweaters with a majorette insignia in vivid red. In the corps there are eleven graduates who will turn in their batons at the end of the term. They are the following: Bertha Baker, head majorette, Rita Potocnak, Janice Wolfe, Audrey Etta Brooks, Ann Moyes, Shirley Ross, Dolores Hess, Betty Stanko, Lorraine Marco, Linda Johnston and Audree Perez.

*Orchestra* - The Orchestra is another one of the many musical organizations which are called upon frequently for entertainment and accompaniment. This year the orchestra practices after school, sacrificing many hours of their own time. The orchestra looks forward to the Spring Concert and baccalaureate and commencement events. This year, a new performance is anticipated when the orchestra will accompany the chorus for the operetta "Marianne". These students include a number of really talented people who will perhaps make a career of music. Mr. Oliver waves the baton for this group.

*Kensylvanians* - This group under the able sponsorship of Mr. Oliver, They have been doing a fine job and contribute immensely to extra curricular activities and occasionally play outside of school. They now number 15, but expect to increase. The student leader is Robert Armstrong.

*The Script and the Score* - As a result of Mrs. Truxal's resignation, Mrs. Jean Dreher took over sponsorship of the club. In March of this year, the members presented, the operetta, "Marianne" by Yahres and Monroe, starring Anna Loud Alex, Harriet Fadrowski, Emerson Milligram, and



Patsy Lucci. Each year the club attends an opera presented by a famous opera company. Last year, the group saw a production of "Girl Crazy" at the Indiana Teachers College, starring, Helen Faith, a former member.

*Choir* - Girls Chorus is a newly formed organization of 25 girls from sophomore, junior and senior ranks. They practice three days a week at third period. At the Christmas program they presented many excellent selections in three part harmony. Their numbers are usually semi-classical. This group which has taken place of the Girls Swing Group which was composed of 12 girls who graduated last year. Along with the band, Senior Choir and Orchestra they present the spring concert. Mrs. Emogene Whitacre Truxal trained the girls, but she resigned this year, and Mrs. Jean Dreher took over. The Choir meets at 8:15 each morning in Room 208. Since Miss Truxal resigned due to ill health, Mrs. Dreher took over. Singing at the bank, has become a tradition for the choir and at Easter, they have been complimented on their singing at the First Presbyterian Church during Holy Week. The Choir has also several radio broadcasts this year. This year memberships reached 116, with more applicants and the Spring Festival is the finale of the year.

*Cheerleaders* - Five members make up the crew - Three seniors and two juniors, Nancy Baumiller, Helen Greer, Rosalie Whalen, Irene Pollack and Margaret McCabe. They go to Boosters Camp, learn new cheers, compose new ones, hold pep rallies, lead cheers at all the games, and are guests of the School Board at the football banquet. Under Miss Pascarella, they organized Ken-Hi's first Pep Squad.

## 1950

*Band* - The band really had something to boast about. When they appeared at the Pittsburgh Steeler-Detroit Lions game in Forbes Field, they became the first band in the valley to appear on television. In those days the half-time shows were shown in full. The band helped make the Band Festival successful, appearing with Springdale, Har-Brack, Arnold, Tarentum and Plum Township, East Deer and others. On March 2, the band played at the Allegheny Band Festival and later the band and choir and orchestra performed at their own festival at the High School. To wind up activities of this year, they played for Class Day, Commencement, and last of all, they marched in the Memorial Day parade. The majorettes also had new one piece red corduroy uniforms and with 90 band members, made an impressive show. After many bake sales and contributing their own money, the majorettes were able to get these uniforms in time for the first football game. Seniors leaving the corps are Helen Farneth, head majorette, Virginia Stepek, Margaret Basta, Myrna Thomas, Janet Link, Stella Barron, Doris Graham, Betty Jane Corey, Mary Lou Corey, May Ann Starr, Donna Gallian and Geraldine Oravec.

*Orchestra* - The orchestra performed in the Band Festival.

*Ken-Hi Dance Band* - originally called the *Kensylvanians*, this group is under the direction of John Stephens, new musical director of Fourth Avenue Junior High. The group has 15 boys and give us a fine array of talented work at dances and assemblies. Miss Lucille Wright, director of music in the elementary schools, plays piano and gives much of her free time to this group.

*The Script and the Score* - Five years ago, this new organization was formed for the purpose of displaying their musical and dramatic talents. In the spring, the members presented the operetta, "Tune In", which was a huge success, with Betty Johnston and Bob Bloom in the featured roles. Each year the members journey to Pittsburgh to see a musical production, last year it was "Rigoletto".

*Choir* - Girls Chorus is under the sponsorship of Mrs. Betty Jo Wareham. This group of sophomore, junior and senior girls was organized last year to give more people further training in cho-



rus work. Last year's group numbered 25, but now has increased to 65. In the Christmas assembly, this group sang several groups of carols. They will also participate in the Spring Festival along with the Senior Choir.

*Cheerleaders* - The 1949-1950 squad was made up of five members, three seniors and two junior: Margaret McCabe, Irene Pollack, Jayne Hockenberry, Janet Myers, and Nancy Noble who transfer a lot of energy to the crowd during football games.

## 1951

*Band* - This year, the band became the largest in the history of Ken-Hi. With approximately 100 members and 45 majorettes attending the annual week of rigid training at band camp. They practiced many different music numbers and formations, and became an first-rate attraction whenever they played. They had the privilege of entertaining Pennsylvania Governor Duff, when his train stopped briefly in New Kensington during Pennsylvania week, which also was televised. They play pep rallies, assemblies, home basketball games, and marched in several parades. They entertained for the Dispatch and Allegheny band festival. Donald Boyer, Guy Wright and Lowell Zadaï, were sent to represent us at All-District Band. The Majorettes in their fifth year of entertaining at football and basketball games, participate with the band in band festivals. They go to band camp to hone their twirling, marching and dancing routines. In spite of their work, there is time for play. The corps consists of 36 girls with 5 assistant majorette and one head majorette. Senior graduating this year are Nancy Brandt, head, Helen Pyle and Pat Murray, assistants, and Rita Olivo, Andrea Renee and Marnese Watkins.

*Orchestra* - This group is a well known in school as a great accompaniment and a club that stands on its own..

*Ken-Hi Dance Band* - These musicians play for school dances and some outside engagements. John Stephens has the band practicing hard to make their music good. The student director is Richard Walter, who is also a senior with George Rapp, Judy Wilber, Lowell Zadaï and Louis Pfeiffer.

*Choir* - The Choir consists of 115 students, members are selected through exacting voice tests of range, quality and ear training. They give concerts at Christmas, in the spring and occasionally at other schools. This year representatives are going to a festival in which a staff musician with the Fred Waring organization will direct. Members attended County Chorus in Greensburg, where Louis Pfeiffer was chosen to represent the county, as well as Ken-Hi at Ellwood City. The newly formed Girls Chorus of 70 girls from all three classes, train every Wednesday in Room 208. On several occasions this group has sung for the high school radio programs. And along with the Senior Choir and Orchestra participate in the Spring Festival.

*Cheerleaders* - Made up of three senior and two juniors, the girls are known for peppy cheering at pep rallies and all games. They are Janey Myers, Nancy Noble, Margaret Mangone, Beverly Pope, and Louise Giordano. Each summer, their days are spent at band camp and many hard hours of practicing cheers in unison, to transmit pep and enthusiasm to the crowd. Miss Pascarella is the sponsor.

## 1952

*Band* - The band with its precision drilling, is under the direction of Mr. Oliver and his assistant, John Stephens. With the Majorettes they spend a busy week at Boosters Camp in Salisbury working out routines to thrill the crowd at football and basketball games. Besides the practices one period a day they participated in pep rallies, assemblies, the Dispatch band festival and numerous parades. The group selected a President, Charles Fletcher, secretary, Fred Mooney and



librarian, Frank Salvatore. A band member will receive a letter after participating one year and a sweater when they graduate. The Majorettes got new uniforms, the corps were red with white front military style and white braid. with red hats and white plumes, while the heads were in white uniforms, white hats and white plumes. 25 girls will be graduating this year and they are lead by Mildred Orris, Helga Spittka, and Rose Howard.

*Choir* - The Ken-Hi choir beside singing at our assemblies, has gone on many trips this year. Some were singing for the Kiwanis, at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh, and other trips to various high school. The senior members are given pins to display their clothing. The Choir is under the very capable direction of Mrs. Betty Jo Wareham. Co-Presidents are Paquita Harris and William Frederick, Secretary, Nancy Stanko and Librarians, Carol Devine and Lois Young. The Girls Chorus, only organized three years ago has a membership of 96. The group sang beautifully with several selections at the Annual Christmas Festival, and will participate with the band, orchestra and Senior Choir in the Spring Festival.

*Cheerleaders* - This years squad was made up of three seniors and two juniors, Louise Giordano, Beverly Pope, Barbara Reiter, Lois Young and Maxine Brock. are responsible for the pep in the pep rallies, leading cheers and practicing an awful lot to the crowds.

### 1953

*Band* - Mr. John Stephens, who had just graduated 10 years ago from Ken-Hi, became the new band director. The highlight of this year was an appearance at the Steelers-Browns game, in which the band was seen on television, all over the 3 state area. Many complimentary letters were sent to Mr. Stephens from all over the area. Many former band members believe that this was the finest Ken-Hi band and majorette organization in the history of the school. Members of the band were honored with mention in the "First Chair of America", a publication that honors excellence in band membership. The majorette corps completes the band, 44 high steppers this year. The seniors graduating this year are Anna Giordano, Rosemarie Regoli, Lois Jean Fox, Loretta Lesky, Janet Lubresky, Joyce Johnston, Helen Lebert, Audrey Rosenquest, Willa Waugh, Barbara Beal, Diane Beattie and Gerry Patz.

*Dance Band* - Composed of fifteen high school musicians, they performed at assemblies, hospital shows, dances and talent shows and outside engagements under the direction of Mr. Stephens, with student director, Frank Como. The instrumental group is made up of four trumpets, five saxes, three trombones, piano, string-bass and drums and they play in a "dixieland" band style, and other types of music.

*Choir* - The choir provides the programs for a number of exchange assemblies, some as distant as Farrell High School. This year, they took an active lead in the Pep Squad. They traveled to Oil City High School where they saw the famous musician, Noble Cain who worked with the Oil City High School as a guest conductor. In order to raise funds of the trip, they sponsored a giant talent show. The Mixed Chorus, also under Mrs. Wareham's baton, consists of 55 girls from the sophomore, junior and senior class. Besides assisting the Mixed Chorus with radio broadcasts, the girls are featured at the Christmas Assembly, and Spring Festival.

*Cheerleaders* - Four Seniors, Maxine Brock, Ruth Cooper, Sue Fletcher and Lois Young and two juniors Ann McKee and Janice Miller make up this vivacious bunch. Under the supervision of Miss Pascaretta, this group explodes enthusiasm.

### 1954

*Band* - The band has had a busy year. Under the direction of Mr. Stephens and his assistant Joseph Farinelli, the Band and majorettes spent their annual week at camp in Salisbury, PA



preparing for their year, They started by parading in Salisbury, entered a competition at Kennywood Park, were invited to play a Steeler game and opening game of the Pirates at Forbes Field at the end of 1953. They have also taken part in numerous assemblies, programs, Baccalaureate and Commencement, at band festivals with other high school bands, and at Pitt Field House. Probably the most outstanding honor is being rated as one of the best musical organizations in the US. Our band was chosen one of 317 from over 15,000 bands, orchestras and choruses to be included in "First Chair or America, the 'who's who' of high school musicians. Included among the firsts are William Lytle, trumpet, Ruth Roberts, Alto clarinet, Sue Tipton, E flat alto horn, Nancy Sharkins, Alto horn, Mary Ann Gensamer, flute, Neil Haradzin, trumpet, Wilfred Russell, drums, Charles Perriello, trumpet, Bill Highlands, baritone sax, Jay DeSimone, trombone, Ikaros Kayafas, drums, Angelo Bruni, french horn, George Johnson, bass, Robert Parker. The drum major is Kenny Russell, and Beverly Salvatore, head majorette.

*Dance Band* - These musicians are always prepared for any engagement, however, the students especially enjoy the "dixieland" arrangements. They play for assemblies, hospital shows, dances, and talent shows under the direction of Mr. Stephens heads this group of 4 trumpets, 4 saxes, 4 trombones, piano, string-bass, 2 French horns, and drums.

*Choir* - One of the most outstanding organizations is the Mixed Choir. There are 118 students, run completely by student government. Honored this year by singing for the School Directors Convention in Harrisburg, and in order to prepare for this trip, there were any rehearsals. They sponsored a talent show, gave programs in Vandergrift and Parnassus and their usual fine performance at Christmas and Spring concerts. The 65 girls chorus, although handicapped by lack of rehearsal time, practice hard every Wednesday morning, also give up half of their lunch periods once a week. Both choirs are under the direction of Mrs. Wareham.

*Cheerleaders* - Four seniors, Lois Hill, Rachel Kreiger, Janice Miller and Ann McKee with two juniors, Sharon Howell and Sandy Ockner. Along with their able sponsor, Miss Pascarella, they attend all the games, go to the basketball and football banquets and are to be commended for their hard work.

## 1955

*Band* - Mr. Stephens and his assistant, Mr. Farinelli, are the directors. The band was honored again in the publication, "First Chair of America". Beverly Salvatore, who had been head majorette the past two years, would graduate after being a majorette ever since they were formed nine years ago. The achievement being that she is the longest serving member of the band. Beverly, along with her classmate, Kenny Russell, was a member for seven years of the band. These two are the only mascots that Ken-Hi has ever had-and they both came from the same class! Their last performance, at the Latrobe-Ken-Hi game they were given watches for their contributions. The other head majorettes who do a fine job are Katherine Patterson, Kay Vigrass, and Verna Jean Roys.

*Dance Band* - The Dance Band, which had its origin at Band Camp, has been very active this past year. They participated in exchange assemblies, the talent show, dances and in the spring concert. They started the year by playing the German Club dance, and was honored when Erik Henriksson, our foreign exchange student from Finland joined us on guitar. The band has 2 trombones, 4 saxophones, 3 trumpets, piano, bass fiddle and drums under the direction of Mr. Stephens.

*Choir* - Now there are four choruses! The Ken-High Choir of 109 voices; and within the choir, 2 new groups have been formed, a girl's chorus, and boy's chorus. Under the spirited and inspiring leadership of the new Choir Director, Miss Carolyn Bruno. The Christmas and Spring programs



are still most important, and this year's group has tentative plans for a Musical Weekend in New York City. The Old Girls chorus of 110 juniors and seniors participated this year. Miss Bruno has the girls singing for the Christmas and Spring programs. The New Girls Chorus is made up of 78 sophomores. This will give the girls more experience for the Old Girls Chorus this year. Boys Chorus is a new organization with 100 male voices. They sang the Christmas assembly, junior class assembly and various other events.

*Cheerleaders* - This squad consists of four seniors-Sandy Howell, Sandy Ockner, Pat Dunn, Kathleen Kane, and two juniors-Pat Tobin and Pat Phillips. Along with Miss Pascarella, their sponsor, they are invited to attend the football and basketball banquets and always cheer the boys to victory! During basketball season, they appeared in new uniforms-white skirts and red sweaters.

### 1956

*Band* - A most important part of high school life, they are seen at every football and basketball game. The band marches for many parades, spent a week at the Booster's Camp near Salisbury, PA. where they learn new drills and music to be presented at football games and got new uniforms to wear. Annually, they join 4 other bands in a concert. This year Carol Knapp, James Haddad and James Lagoon represented the school at district band group. Evelyn Elder and Louis Deerberry attended district orchestra, and James Lagoon, attended state band. Majorettes, were a welcome addition to the band for 10 years. The corps is led by John Stephens and made up of 45 girls. The "Rockettes" are applauded when they perform and led by Katherine Patterson, with by Peggy Heine, Judy Bailey and Myrna Carrop.

*Dance Band* - Composed of 15 school musicians, they play for assemblies, pep rallies, dances, and the Mixed Choir hop. Director Stephens organized the Band last summer to play a concert in Memorial Park. They held many practices at Band Camp, and traveled to Penn Township to attend the first gathering of the high school dance bands. All but Tom McKinley are members of the high school concert and marching bands.

*Choir* - Mixed Choir and now the Sophomore Choir, under the direction of Carolyn Bruno are assets to the school curriculum. The mixed choir has 110 voices and had a schedule of Christmas program, Valley Choral Festival, annual spring festival and sang for the officers of the P.T.A. The choir, sponsoring many projects, raised money for the weekend in New York City. The Sophomore choir is used as a training class for the mixed choir. Rehearsals are usually divided into singing and listening to records, or having special performances by small groups within the Choir. They made their debut at the sophomore assembly and will participate in the Spring Festival.

*Cheerleaders* - The senior cheerleaders are Sue Ames, Pat Phillips, Lois Sculco and Pat Tobin and junior cheerleaders are Carol Huth and Yolanda Tocco. This active squad began training at Booster camp in Salisbury. These spirited six, attired in red sweaters and white skirts, cheer the teams to victory. Along with Miss Hood, their sponsor, they were invited to attend football and basketball banquets. At the end of the season, each girl is awarded the large "K" placed on her megaphone.

### 1957

*Band* - After band camp at Salisbury, PA. the band has been very busy. Since the beginning of the year, the band has performed at the Indiana Homecoming game, Steelers football game, combined marching and Band Festival in Tarentum, many parades, assemblies and of course, the football and basketball games! There were four drum majors this year, R. Hajel, T. Ormesher,



T. Lasher and J. Valley. The Majorette corps were 39 strong, headed by Myrna Carrop, head majorette with assistants, Rose Marie Pecardo, Donna Kaforey and Pat Laskey.

*Dance Band* - This band, made up of 15 musicians are under the direction of Mr. Stephens. All the members, except the piano player, belong to the concert and marching bands. They practice weekly and play for assemblies, dances, the talent show, pep rallies and basketball games.

*Choir* - There are three choirs, mixed choir, mixed chorus and sophomore girls chorus. Miss Carolyn Bruno leads all the choirs. The Mixed Choir of 100 students gave a yearly program for the high school, a program for the Senior Woman's Club, and a talent show. The Mixed Chorus is a training group for the advanced choir and the Sophomore Chorus, even though they only had a short development period, sang the Christmas program and Spring Festival.

*Cheerleaders* - The vivacious cheerleaders, seniors, Carol Huth, Yolanda Rocco, Pat Sullivan, and juniors, Babe Sams, Pat Mischak and Sylvia Meyers, attend all the game attired in their red sweaters and white skirts, vociferously cheering the Red Raiders on to victory. Under Miss Pascaretta's supervision, they sponsor a yearly dance event, attend games and banquets for basketball and football and generate good spirit.

## 1958

*Band* - The band was chosen to represent the state of Pennsylvania on its dedication page in the high school band book publication, "First Chair of America". Year after year, the Ken-Hi bands and their "Rockettes" entertained large crowds at Steeler games, Kennywood, the Steelers football game, the Kiwanis Tri-State band festival, pep rallies and football games. "Here's to the Raider Majorettes, who do the cutest steps". This is what the cheerleaders sang every time the "Rockettes" presented their shows at the games. And how true it is! The majorettes are trained by Mr. Stephens and Mr. Babalis.

*Dance Band* - The Ken-Hi dance band is a very active organization. Under the direction of Mr. John Stephens, it has played for assemblies, pep rallies and the talent show. Besides practices at Band Camp, they practice once a week, so they would be ready for further engagements.

*Choir* - Each of the three vocal groups - the Senior choir, the junior mixed choir and the sophomore girls choir are directed by Miss Bruno. One of the outstanding accomplishments of the Senior choir was their appearance on WQED TV in Pittsburgh. The Juniors are an ambitious group in training for next year and have aided in many of the music department projects. While the sophomores improve their singing to become members of the other choirs.

*Cheerleaders* - "We're from Ken-Hi, couldn't be prouder" is the cheer chanted quite often by Sylvia Meyers, Pat Mischak, Norma Sams, Carolyn Bishop, and Marilyn Bishop, seniors and Barbara Waugh, a junior. Their reason is evident because they cheered on to victory, a magnificent championship football team during the 1957-58 season.

## 1959

*Band* - The band, under the wand of Mr. John Stephens, spent a week at Boosters Camp preparing for the year's performances. The band performed at Kennywood, the Kiwanis Tri-State band festival, pep rallies, football games and the spring band festival. The majorettes, as always has a spectacular drill team. They all the touch of color and school spirit to the football games.

*Dance Band* - Also directed by Mr. Stephens, the Dance Band has played for assemblies, pep rallies, and the talent show.

*Choir* - These superb groups come under the baton of the able and talented, Miss Bruno. The three groups, Senior, Girl's Chorus and Sophomore Choir represents Ken-Hi on many programs



both in and out of school. Ensembles from the other groups, ably assist the Senior choir in their programs.

*Cheerleaders* - "Let's go team!" is the familiar cry of the six girls on the 1958-59 roster. Throughout the school year, these girls lend support to our basketball and football teams. Attired in their red and white uniforms, they lead the student body at pep rallies and games. Seniors, Pat Torok, Jackie Checco Barbara Waugh, and juniors Barbara Koscianski, Sheila Frederick and Christine Onifer. Miss Pascaretta is sponsor of this group.

## 1960

*Band* - The band, under the direction of Mr. John Stephens, started its busy year's schedule with a week at Band Camp in Salisbury, PA. They performed at the Steeler game, Kiwanis Tri-State Band Festival, pep rallies, football games, and the Spring band festival. The Ken-High Majorettes have long been an eye-catching attraction at football games and parades. Decked out in their new uniforms, the Majorettes perform tricky dance routines and drills to the delight of everyone. The "Rockettes" have performed at all away football games and have gained recognition as one of the finest corps in the Valley.

*Dance Band* - The Dance Band with its 16 members and directed by Mr. Stephens, has added color to assemblies, pep rallies, and the talent show.

*Choir* - The choral department at Ken-Hi has three choirs. The Senior Choir, under the direction of Miss Carolyn Bruno, performs for school activities and civic events. To prepare students for the "Big Choir", we have girls chorus and the sophomore mixed choir. These two groups are always in the process of training for the Senior Choir and aid them in various devotional exercises and concert events. Ken-High has an excellent choral music department.

*Cheerleaders* - "Fight-Team, Fight" is the chant heard quite often from the six cheerleaders, who lead the student body in school spirit. Seniors, Christine Onifer, Barbara Koscianski and Sheila Frederick and juniors, Lorraine Kobelenski, Judy Folk and Kathy Smith, the squad does a magnificent job throughout the football and basketball seasons with Miss Pascaretta as the sponsor.

## 1961

*Band* - A fun-filled week at camp began another busy, but enjoyable year for the members of the band. Under the precise baton of Mr. John Stephens, the band performed for the Hurst band festival, the Allegheny-Kiski Valley Festival, the football games, the basketball games, the pep rallies, and the Spring Concert. The highlight of the year for many members was participation in the Westmoreland County Band Festival held at Ken-High. The ardent majorette corps practiced and performed untiringly in their dance routines and drills. They truly exhibited to everyone just how they can work together, share good times and still entertain the crowds. The head majorettes are Sandy Szoch, Lyn Stoddart, Pam Olivo and Janet Mitchell.

*Choir* - The Choral department of Ken-Hi consists of the Sophomore Mixed Choir, the Junior Girls Chorus, The Senior Girls Chorus and the Senior Mixed Choir. They take an active part in assemblies and perform for different schools and organizations. The goal of the first two choirs named is to make the Senior Choir. A senior, after three years of choir, is entitled to go on the trip to New York which is arranged by Miss Bruno.

*Cheerleaders* - Vivacious and energetic are the two words which best describe this year's Varsity Cheerleaders under the direction of Miss Pascaretta. Trying their best to further school spirit are seniors, Judy Folk, Kathy Smith, Lorraine Koblenski, Bobbie Fiscus, Jackie Waugaman and junior, Cherry Rugh. The 1960-61 varsity cheerleaders did a splendid job boosting school spirit.



## 1962

*Band* - Our band, under the direction of Mr. Stephens, contributes to the enjoyment of Ken- Hi students and area residents as the play at football games and with other high school bands and at the Band Festival. The majorettes, the "Rockettes", by both dancing and marching around the field perform with precision and enthusiasm. The colorful routines, carefully worked out in band camp, show that their time and effort is well spent. They are ably led by Patty Drew, Pam Olivo, Leticia Trzeciak and Barbara Vestrand.

*Choir* - The vocal music department, under the artful direction of Miss Carolyn Bruno, is comprised of four choirs: the Sophomore Mixed Choir, the Junior Girls Chorus, the Senior Girls Chorus, and the Senior Mixed Choir. The ambition of each choir member is to be a member of the Senior Mixed Choir which performs for many school activities and for prominent organizations throughout the area. The highlights of this year was singing with the famous Temple University Choir in our auditorium and the choir trip to New York.

*Cheerleaders* - Cheerleading is an art when done by a great squad. The 1961-1962 varsity cheerleading squad has done a wonderful job throughout the football and basketball seasons inspiring our "Red Raiders" to many victories. Sponsored by Miss Pascaretta, the Cheerleaders, Yvonne Pelino, Diane Laskey, Gerry McGarrity, Cheri Rugh, Kathy Smith and Diane Page campaigned energetically for school spirit.

## 1963

*Band* - In 1963, the highlight was marching down Pennsylvania Avenue at the famous Cherry Blossom Festival, held in Washington, DC. Weeks of work at band camp and during the seventh period really paid off. As the Band stepped down the Pennsylvania Avenue at a snappy pace, with colors flying, the activities of the year reached their high point. Months before at band camp, members began preparing for a busy year by learning new marching routines and practicing band music. The results of these long hours of practice on dusty fields and in the band room at Ken High were appreciated by the spectators at the band festival, at athletic games, and at the annual concert in the spring. The year came to a close as the Band again took part in the baccalaureate and commencement activities.

During August, at Band Camp near Salisbury, Pa, our peppy majorette corps began to learn its routine of dances and drills for presentation at football games, the band festival, and parades. As batons flashed and skits swirled, the corps thrilled crowds of spectators whenever they appeared. The climax of the year was participation in the Cherry Blossom Festival at Washington, D.C. The majorettes are led by Barbara Vestrand with Sandy Meanor, Diane Valigursky and Sallie Nolf as assistants.

*Choir* - There is always a song in the air when the choirs sing. Participation in choral music at Ken-High is enjoyed by many students through membership in the Sophomore Girls Chorus, the Junior Mixed Chorus, the Senior Girls Chorus and the Senior Choir. Each member of the first three groups work hard to become a member of the Senior Choir. Under the direction of Miss Bruno, the choral groups participate in a number of programs both in and out of school. Three highlights of this school year were the opportunities to sing at the Stephen Forster Memorial in Oakland, the colorful Spring Festival, and the annual trip of the senior members of the Senior Choir to New York.

*Cheerleaders* - "Pep, vim and vigor" describe our bouncy Cheerleaders who did so much during the 1962-1963 school year to keep our school spirit at a high pitch. At pep rallies, football games and basketball games, the girls led our students through a series of cheers which let our teams know that we were with them all the way. Under the direction of Miss Pascaretta, our cheerleaders, K. Kapeleski, M. Binger, D. Laskey, K. Smith, J. Waddell, Y. Pelino.



## 1964

*Band* - The marching lines that seem to have no end with Louis Smith, our drum major brought thrills and pleasure to those who saw and heard the performances. The band marched in new white uniforms this year. Marching down the field with all the routines that they learned at band camp, football fans will never forget the rhythmic numbers done to such music as "Peanut Vendor" and "The Twist" at the half time performances. Bright costumes and precision marching added a dash of color to the routines.

*Choir* - Under the leadership of Miss Bruno, the Senior Mixed Choir became one of the finest choirs in the valley. The choir's repertoire ranged from Broadway musical numbers to sacred selections by Mozart and Bach. Leading members represented the choir at state and district choral festivals. Highlights of the year was the opportunity for forty members to augment the prisoners' chorus in the opera, "Aida" with the Pittsburgh Opera.

*Cheerleaders* - The hearty cheer, raised to an autumn sky, that officially opened football season continued into the sport year. At every sports event and pep assembly one was certain to catch sight of a bright band of girls known as the cheerleaders. More important was the chance to hear their urgent desire for a Red Raider victory resound through the air. The girls, M.H. Binger, A Torok, J. Waddell, K. Kapeleski, J. Corey, G. Zeiler, T. Cheatham and M. Haas never fails to support the team, no matter what the score, and kept school spirit alive with their infectious cheering routines.

## 1965

*Band* - The Band uniforms have the Red Raider on the front of the new uniforms. Mr. Stephens, the director, worked with the band to make it a memorable season at performances for athletic events, patriotic parades, the Band Festival, and the Spring Concert. Mr. Stephens also conducts the Dance Band. The corps of majorettes, led by Sue Folk, Marion Krupa, Lynda Litz and Polly Fritz, led the spirit at football games and at band festivals, and they have exhibited how they can work together, share good times, and entertain their fans.

*Choir* - Miss Bruno has an exemplary choir organization. Starting with sophomore year, going into the junior senior chorus and then senior choirs, this ensemble of members are given numerous opportunities to express themselves through music. The Christmas assembly and the Spring Concert continues to impress audiences and school mates alike.

*Cheerleaders* - The wonderful cheerleaders, Kim Trojanowski, Angie Kuzmick, Lindy Lawrence, Andrea Abraham, Rise Retzer, Terri Cheatham, Millie Haas and Gail Zeiler are the school spirit during the 1965-1966 season. At pep rallies, at football games, and at basketball games, the girls let our teams know that we were with them all the way. These girls, with Miss Pascarella's help, put in many hours practicing their cheers and routines.

## 1966

*Band* - The Ken-Hi band plays an important role in the activities of the high school. The year's activities begin in August when band members spend a busy week at the Booster's Club camp near Salisbury. Here new music is practiced and the complicated marching routines are taught so that the band will be able to march as a well-drilled unit at the football games. During the school year the band plays at all athletic games, takes part in various civic parades, participates in the annual Allegheny Valley Band Festival, and presents its Spring Concert for the listening pleasure of parents and friends. The band brings its activities to close with its performance at graduation exercises. The Majorettes give the crowds a thrill as they perform their dance and marching routines. Hours of hard work at band camp and after school practice results in a fine display of teamwork. Our head majorettes are Anna Mae Resetar, Joan Sproull, Sue Krasinski and Andrea



Rupert.

*Dance Band* - The Dance Band, which is composed of sophomore, junior and senior boys who have indicated a real interest in dance band music, has been active for some years. Each week, the band room resounds with the popular music of the day as the boys practice the latest hit numbers under the direction of Mr. John Stephens, our high school band director. The Dance Band is ready willing and able to perform at any school function where dance band music is desired.

*Choir* - The Senior Choir of the New Kensington High School, under the direction of Miss Bruno, is one of the leading musical groups in the valley. Composed of talented students from the sophomore, junior and senior classes, the choir's repertoire ranges from popular Broadway tunes to Bach and Mozart. As in past years outstanding choir members represented our school at district and state choral festivals. The choir again participated in a Pittsburgh Opera Company's production and performed nobly in the chorus of the opera, "Don Carlos". The other choirs, the Junior-Senior girls chorus, Sophomore Girls Chorus and Boys Chorus, are the corps from which the Senior Choir will be taken, when the seniors graduate.

*Cheerleaders* - An important feature of the sports season was the hard work of the cheerleaders. Directed by Miss Pascarella, they led the fans in cheering at pep rallies, football and basketball games. Their routines helped develop fine school spirit and let the various teams know that the student body was behind them. R. Kristofik, B. Carney, R. Retzer, M. Szajna, S. Giorgio, V. Rowe, C. Mc Laughlin and A. Lawrence are the squad this season.

## 1967

*Band* - The talented band members dazzled the crowd with its musical talent and routines on the field, Led by Don Antal, Ken-Hi's 1966-1967 Drum Major and their Color Guard and band corps are an asset to the high school experience. The majorettes, led by S. Rieke, A. M. Resetar, A. Rupert and J. Yobp smile, dance, strut and twirl their way into the hearts of the audience in the stands.

*Choir* - Four separate, yet distinct choirs entertain fellow classmates and audiences who flock to the concerts and festivals that are held during the year. Miss Bruno outdoes herself every year, and the Senior, Junior-Senior Girls, Sophomore Girls and Boys Chorus singing is enjoyed by everyone.

*Cheerleaders* - Our eight cheerleaders, R. Kristofik, L. Perry, R. Cameron, B. Carney, V. Rowe, M. Koval, S. Giorgio and D. Trojanowski let loose with cheers to get the crowd going and our boys on the field happy knowing that they are there.

## 1968

*Band* - Changes aren't always good. This year our name changed. It wasn't Ken-Hi anymore! Now we are the Valley band and Mr. Socash is head of the band. The majorettes are led by Peggy Figorski, Barb Oliver, Phyllis Pipman and Macy Polcsak.

*Choir* - Miss Bruno is still with us, we have her direction, but it is all so strange to be the Valley choir. We still have the Senior, Junior-Senior and Sophomore choirs and still have wonderful music.

*Cheerleaders* - The cheerleaders get new uniforms with the word "Yell" on white uniforms in a shape of a megaphone and the seniors are Kathy Deveck, Betty Fushofer, Michon Koval, Cathy Mason, Jeanette McDew, Kim Newingham, Debbie Trojanowski, and Marilyn Sobolak.

**Goodbye, Ken-Hi, hello, Valley Vikings!**



# WE REMEMBER MR. OLIVER

*A truly inspirational man and teacher*



*Frank Oliver, died on October 23, 1997 after a long illness. He had so many accomplishments and his presence in the lives of Ken-Hi graduates will never be forgotten.*

Mr. Oliver graduated from Derry High School, and received a BA in music education from Indian State College and a MA from Carnegie Tech. Then he did graduate work at New York University and administration education at the University of Pittsburgh. He served in the Army during World War II, in the African and European theaters in Italy. He had to leave Ken-Hi to serve, but returned to his job as music supervisor and teacher. He joined the Arnold Public Schools at teacher and music supervisor in 1931, organized the first band and majorette corps at the school. Then, in 1942, he became choral and band director for the New Kensington Public Schools, where he organized the first band camp in the country at Salisbury, PA. Mr. Oliver also organized the Allegheny-Kiski Valley Band Festival. In 1952, he became assistant to the Superintendent for the New Kensington School District and in 1954, was named Principal of Ken-Hi. And in 1964, the American-Italian Civic League named him, "Man of the Year". He held a number of administrative and teaching positions at Arnold and The New Kensington-Arnold School District from 1931-1970!

In 1975, he retired as Superintendent of the New Kensington-Arnold School District. He found time in his retirement to work on the parish council of St. Mary's of Czestochowa parish; The New Kensington-Arnold School Board; People's Library School Board. He was President of the American Association of Retired Persons and was an executive board member of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association. He also belonged to the New Kensington Musical Society, New Kensington Eagles, Hillcrest Country Club, and The New Kensington Kiwanis. He directed the Arnold Fireman's Band for five years and American Legion drum and bugle corps in New Kensington. He also directed the New Kensington Fireman's band and organized the St. Margaret Mary's church choir.

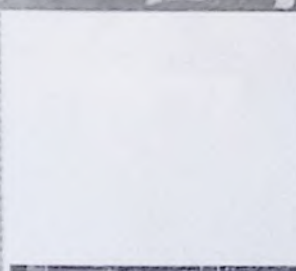
His grandniece, Anura Flynn said of him, "He taught everyone. Anytime I would tell someone that he was my great uncle, they knew him and respected him". A former student, Dom Flocker, said, "He was a gentle man, very considerate of the fellows who came under him. He had time for everybody". Kenny Russell, who eulogized him at the funeral said "If your path crossed with Mr. Oliver, your life was more rewarding".



# Music











## Band Camp Memories



*Some band camp  
photos courtesy  
of Nancy Brandt  
and Bob Dudek*















# Sports

*Were you in anyone of these fine sports organizations?*

Intermural Badminton

Intermural Basketball

Intermural Gymnastics

Intermural Tennis

Intermural Volleyball

Intermural Wrestling

Junior Varsity Basketball

Football Managers

Golf Team

Swimming Team

Track Team

Tennis team

Varsity Baseball

Varsity Basketball

Wrestling Team



# History of Sports at Ken-Hi

*By George Guido*

The sports legacy at Ken-Hi was enriching to many lives for both participants and spectators. Athletics were an integral part of the community since the first known football game took place in 1906.

According to research by Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association historian Dr. Roger B. Saylor, Ken-Hi was shutout in its only two 1906 football games – a 14-0 loss to Apollo High School and a 6-0 setback against Sayers Business College. There were such few high schools playing football at the time that many games took place against postgraduate schools, college football junior varsities and community athletic associations comprised of adults.

The school did not sponsor football in 1907. However, four students, the Campbell brothers, Fred Shields, and Dan McCarthy tried to fill the void by organizing a team. Superintendent Terrill got word of the effort and told the boys the school would not recognize the team. Undaunted, the youngsters organized a scrimmage against Parnassus.

In 1908 Ken-Hi began a football sponsorship that, except for the World War 1 year of 1917, ran continuously until 1966. Schedules in the early days were arranged just before the season started and often games were added on an impromptu basis, such as a Christmas Day game against Kittanning in 1915.

The 1908 season did not start out well as Ken-Hi was overwhelmed by Butler, 55-0. But the following week, Ken-Hi won what would be the first of 249 football victories, a 13-0 decision over Aspinwall. By 1910, the football team had a place to call home as Orchard Field was constructed along the riverside at 15th Street. Ken-Hi responded with its first winning season, posting a 4-2-1 mark.

## ***Basketball added***

In 1909, Ken-Hi organized a basketball team which played its home games at the old YMCA gym. The facility held about 50 spectators and was illuminated by gas lights. The YMCA conducted a lecture course the same night as basketball games were scheduled. Because of the noise generated by players and fans, the YMCA withdrew permission to use the floor and basketball was discontinued for the 1912-13 season.

## ***Beat Parnassus***

The historic football rivalry with Parnassus started in 1909, where the first of 20 gridiron meetings took place between the two schools. Ken Hi won the first battle, 9-0 and shut out Parnassus in 12 of the 20 games, establishing a 13-5-2 all time record against Parnassus. The rivalry grew in intensity before the final game between the two schools in 1930. Fights, strikes, and general rioting often preceded the game, usually played on Thanksgiving Day morning or during that particular weekend. In 1919, the Mt. Vernon area of New Kensington began parceling out residential lots, allowing Ken-Hi to become the much larger school. The record showed



as Parnassus won just one of the final seven meetings against Ken-Hi.

In the final renewal of the Ken Hi-Parnassus rivalry, the game had a huge buildup. Four Parnassus youths were arrested attempting to paint Herr Stadium the night before the game. They planned on blaming Ken-Hi students for the vandalism. Although the game took place during the Prohibition Era, published reports indicated "fans came to the game in a salubrious state".

On Friday afternoon, November 27, 1930 Ken-Hi blanked Parnassus 13-0 on touchdowns by Nelson and Steele, with Steele scoring on a conversion run worth just one point at the time. After the game, Parnassus Police stopped Ken Hi fans who came on the field to try and take the goal posts. Ken-Hi fans returned that night and removed the goal posts to their high school grounds along Ridge Avenue. How big was the Victory? Ken-Hi school officials gave the students a day off from school the following Monday.

### *Entering the big time*

A significant day in Ken-Hi sports history occurred on January 10, 1919 when the old, multi-sport Alle-Kiski league was disbanded. Ken-Hi along with Vandergrift, Ford City, Kittanning, Parnassus, Apollo, Tarentum, and Oakmont all were admitted to the WPIAL.

The early days were never easy. Even though athletic departments expenses were nowhere near what they are today, Ken-Hi and Oakmont had the same school colors, allowing the two schools to use the same uniforms. Oakmont played their games on Thursdays and Ken-Hi played on Fridays, allowing the switch to take place. That arrangement ended in 1927 when the schools started playing each other.

In 1925 Ken-Hi and Har-Brack began one of the most storied rivalries in WPIAL history with a 0-0 stalemate.

The early 1930s saw major expansionism for both the municipality and the school district in New Kensington. Voters in 1930 chose to have New Kensington and Parnassus boroughs consolidate. The first football game involving the new school resulted in a resounding 73-0 victory over Falls Creek, a school now part of the DuBois Area system. The 1913 team posted a 7-1 record, with the lone loss coming against Beaver Falls. Ken-Hi got even bigger in 1931 when the school annexed part of what was then Lower Burrell Township. The areas included what is now known as the Valley Heights and Martin School areas, swelling the high school enrollment to 1,771 in the top three grades for the 1931-32 school year.

### *Basketball soars*

Ken-Hi's first WPIAL championship came in basketball in 1930 as coach Carl "Dutch" Glock piloted the team to the section crown, followed by four exciting playoff victories at the Pitt Pavilion, a 4,000 seat court located beneath Pitt Stadium. That season Glock rarely substituted for the starting lineup of Uhlan "Babe" Dayoub, Harold "Whitey" Wilson, Billy Ames, Don McCandless, and Phil McLaughlin. The quintet was dubbed the "Five Fighting Fools" by fans.

Ken-Hi tied Har-Brack for regular season honors and won a one-game tiebreaker before an overflow crowd at Tarentum High School. At the time, only the outright section winners advanced



to the WPIAL tournament. In the first round of the WPIAL playoffs, Ken-Hi defeated McKees Rocks 27-14 followed by a 22-21 nail-biter against Aliquippa. The semifinal game against Uniontown turned out to be one of the longest in WPIAL history as Ken-Hi needed *four over-times* to defeat Uniontown 23-22. Wilson's shot with 30 seconds left in the fourth extra session lifted the school to a title game berth against Duquesne. Ken-Hi brought home the crown with a 38-34 decision over Duquesne.

Four more section titles followed in consecutive order, culminating with another WPIAL championship in 1934. The star player in that era was Buddy Jeannette, who later became a coach and executive in professional basketball. Jeannette is a member of the National Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA.

Between the 1928-29 and 1933-34 seasons, Ken-Hi compiled an incredible record of 136-23, a winning percentage of .855.

### *The night the fog came*

It can be argued that the strangest sporting event in Ken-Hi history took place on January 21, 1938. Ken-Hi was playing host to Arnold in a basketball game at the old Ridge Avenue gym. The gym's windows were opened so fans in the capacity crowd could feed a play-by-play to those not lucky enough to get seats for the game. An unseasonably warm layer of air was sealed by a flow of cold air in the upper atmosphere, causing a fog to envelop the town. Condensation resulting from the fog seeped into the gym toward the floor, which was constructed of rubberized cork. By the end of the first half, the floor was extremely slippery. New Kensington school officials scattered some resin on the floor at halftime and ordered the windows closed. Now the fog was trapped inside the gym and the damage was done. Players had trouble keeping their footing in the third period. At the quarter break, Glock conferred with game officials and, after a 10 minute huddle, decided to call the game with Ken-Hi leading 23-18. Administrators from both schools declared the game would be made up only if it would help decide the section title. Har-Brack won the section by two games and the "**Great Fog-out**" was never made up. The game was later featured in "*Ripley's Believe It or Not*".

### *The Fletcher Era*

Following an 0-8 season in 1938, Ken-Hi lured coach Don Fletcher from Windber High School to take over the football program. It started a streak of five of seven winning seasons for Ken-Hi, which used Herr Stadium after Parnassus was consolidated. Because it was below street level, the field was slow in drying after a rainstorm. After Vandergrift sustained a disappointing loss in 1934, the Lancers staff referred to the field as a "Duck Pond". The name stuck as Ken-Hi fans used the term to affectionately describe a home-field advantage. Fletcher had been a standout player at Ohio's Massillon High School and at Carnegie Tech. Ken-Hi gained national prominence as Fletcher became a legendary coach.

It didn't take long for Fletcher to turn around Ken-Hi's fortunes, logging a 6-2 record in his first season. As the school officially adopted the nickname "**Red Raiders**", the school would see just one losing season in Fletcher's first 12 years as head coach. The 1945 season saw Ken-Hi embark on a 31-3-1 run. After the '45 season opened with a loss to North Catholic, the Red Raiders reeled off seven straight victories and earned a spot in the WPIAL title game against Donora. The Dragons won their second consecutive WPIAL crown with a 38-6 victory, but *the*



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*best was yet to come for Ken-Hi.*

The 1945 season also marked the start of a memorable era for another reason, Fletcher had acquired the use of a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp near Mt. Davis, Somerset County for pre-season practice. Numerous friendships were made and the team bonded in the annual secluded setting.

In 1946 Ken-Hi won the first of two straight WPIAL football titles. The Red Raiders went 8-0-0 and won the championship by acclamation since they were the only undefeated and untied team in the highest enrollment classification. The Red Raiders shared the spotlight with neighboring Springdale and East Deer-Frazer high schools, which won WPIAL titles on the field of play. It marked the *only time three WPIAL titles were won by geographically contiguous school districts in the same season.*

After the 1946 campaign, the ugliness of the 'Jim Crow' South reached New Kensington. The Red Raiders were invited to play at Miami's Orange Bowl Stadium in a postseason game against another high school. However, Orange Bowl officials informed Coach Fletcher that the team could not bring its two black players because Florida law prevented integrated teams from appearing in the state. Fletcher declined the invitation and McKeesport headed to Miami instead.

It was a special start to the 1947 season as *Ken-Hi opened Memorial Stadium*, a world-class facility on September 6 as the Red Raiders defeated Central Catholic 20-6. Vince Pisano scored the first touchdown in the stadium, a 9-yard run three minutes into the game. Ken Hi continued to ride the positive wave all the way to the WPIAL title game at Forbes Field against Har-Brack. Oddly enough, officials from both schools decided to let the heated rivalry cool a bit and did not schedule a regular season game between the Red Raiders and the Tigers. But Ken-Hi prevailed in a 27-0 victory at Forbes Field. The 1947 team was selected the **best all-time** in Alle-Kiski history in a 1989 Valley News Dispatch Readers' poll.

It looked like a third consecutive WPIAL title was a possibility late in the 1948 season. But after a hard fought victory at Ambridge, Ken-Hi's 24 game *winning streak* came to an end against Vandergrift.

A remarkable total of eight players from that 31-3-1 run matriculated to Michigan State University, where they helped the Spartans win the 1952 national collegiate championship.

Fletcher's *last undefeated team* came in 1957. It was the first year of the new high school and the football season was eagerly anticipated since the Red Raiders won the final three 1956 contests. After opening the season with victories over Vandergrift and Johnstown, a deadly strain of the Asian flu was circulating throughout Western PA. Three consecutive games were postponed as hundreds of student athletes fell ill. Ken-Hi didn't play its third game of the season until October 25 when the Red Raiders defeated Har-Brack. After the flu dissipated, large crowds followed Ken-Hi both at home and away games. Fueling up was no problem since there were 32 gasoline stations in the City of New Kensington in 1957. The regular season was supposed to end at Latrobe on November 8, but the Red Raiders won subsequent make-up games against Hempfield and Turtle Creek. A make-up game against Greensburg loomed but a victory there



and a WPIAL title game would have forced Ken-Hi to play 4 games in 12 days, an unappetizing predicament for school officials.

Fletcher retired after the 1959 season and turned over the reins to Dick Brown, an assistant and former Red Raiders player. Brown responded to the task by leading Ken-Hi to a share of the All-West Conference title in 1960. Brown would be Ken-Hi's last head coach. The final Red Raiders football game took place on November 4, 1966 at Plum where Ken-Hi came up a winner, 40-7.

### *For the books*

Here are some miscellaneous Ken-Hi football records:

- \* All time record: 249 wins, 206 losses, 38 ties
- \* Opponents: Ken Hi played 89 different high schools and 13 schools such as Mooseheart (IL), Carnegie Tech freshman, and a variety of business schools and trade schools
- \* Success: Ken Hi won 218 games against public schools and 31 against other schools such as Shady Side Academy
- \* The Rivals: 14-19-5 vs. Har-Brack; 26-6-2 vs. Vandergrift; 14-1-2 vs. Arnold; 9-12 vs. McKeesport; 9-14-2 vs. Tarentum
- \* Most points scored in a game: 73 against Falls Creek in 1931
- \* Most points yielded in a game: 72 against Kiski Prep in 1918

### *Hardwood rulers*

After the 1934 WPIAL title, Ken-Hi won section championships in 1937, 1940, and 1945. A losing record in the 1945-46 season was Ken-Hi's first in 18 years.

Glock coached varsity basketball for 22 seasons, with only two losing campaigns. Glock compiled an incredible record of 334-112.

Kenneth Slosky was appointed basketball coach in 1948 and won a section title in his first season. Slosky followed that up with section titles in 1954 and 1956.

The final first place basketball season for Ken-Hi was 1959 when the Red Raiders finished in a tie atop the Section 1 standings. Har-Brack won the tiebreaker game and reached the WPIAL playoffs. The final postseason basketball victory was over Monessen in 1954.

The school began playing home games in the current Valley High School gymnasium during the 1957-58 season.

### *Diamond notes*

Baseball was played at Ken-Hi from the 1923-25 seasons on an informal basis under the coaching leadership of Glock. After a hiatus, baseball resumed informally in 1937 and Ken-Hi joined the WPIAL baseball ranks in 1939. A section title was won in the second season in 1940.

As what often happens in scholastic sports, success of talented athletes carries over to other sports. That was the case with Ken-Hi which compiled a 33-10 baseball record between 1946-49 under coach Al Dunn. Section titles were won in 1947-48. Dunn headed the WPIAL Baseball Steering Committee and Herr Stadium often was used as a playoff site. The stadium



got its name from Benjamin Herr, long-time school director from Parnassus. Dunn led Ken-Hi to the 1955 WPIAL baseball finals. After winning the section title in a tiebreaker over Har-Brack, the Red Raiders defeated Elders Ridge, Shaler Township and Beaver Falls before losing the WPIAL title game to McKeesport at West Field in Munhall.

### *Adios, Ken-Hi*

The final athletic event in Ken-Hi history was a 4-2 baseball victory over Arnold on May 21, 1967 at Valley Camp Field. The event passed without notice since it was still uncertain when the merger between Ken-Hi and Arnold would officially take effect.

*George Guido is a Scholastic Sports Correspondent for The Valley News Dispatch. His father, the late William S. Guido is a Ken Hi Graduate Class of '42 (Vocational)*





## WE REMEMBER COACH GLOCK

*"The Flying Dutchman"*



*His vast knowledge of sports gained through years of coaching and participation made Coach Glock a man without peer. He was Director of Athletics and scheduled Ken-Hi athletic teams. He was proud of his teams and sought to improve the athletics programs. And he was an inspiration to all who came in contact with him.*

Carl C. Glock was born in Reynoldsville, PA. in 1896. Shortly after his birth, his family moved to New Kensington, where he attended school. There was so high school baseball in those days, but he did play for the Ken Hi varsity, basketball, football and track teams. After his graduation, he attended Shady Side Academy and the University of Pittsburgh. Oddly enough, he did not play or coach during college, because studies came first and foremost for him.

When he graduated from Pitt, he returned to New Kensington where he began teaching and started his illustrious coaching career.

Carl "Dutch" Glock began his coaching career at New Kensington in 1914. He dropped out for a few years but came back in 1918, filling the double role as head coach and head basketball coach. His teams played at the Wear-Ever Park on 18th street. He remained as head basketball coach until 1921 and was reappointed to the job in 1927. During the ensuing 19 years, New Kensington became a WPIAL power under the reign of Coach Glock. In that period of time, Ken Hi had just one losing season as he lead the Red Raiders to a phenomenal 321-102 record. Glock, the master of the fast-break style of offense, took his team to eight section titles! His 1930 ballclub, on which fellow Hall of Famer, Buddy Jeanette was a member, won the WPIAL championship. His 1934 team won another WPIAL crown.

Although basketball was a specialty, his record as football coach is nothing to scoff at either! Handling the Red Raider gridiron teams in 1918-1919 and from 1927 to 1938, Dutch's club posted a 67-40-12 record with only two losing seasons.

He also coached the first baseball team ever at Ken Hi in 1923 to 1925. The sport was then played on an informal basis and records were not kept.

Especially in his years as athletic director did it become evident that Glock was a "Pioneer of good high school sports". He constantly strove to better training techniques, game conditions and the way the game was played. For a time, he operated a senior boys camp in New York State and trained boys to perform in all types of athletics.

On a personal basis, Dutch was a good golfer and an avid tennis player who completed as an amateur in this area. He served as a football official from the mid 30's to the mid 40's. And was considered to be a top quality after-dinner speaker. His successor, Mr. Al Dunn, sums up the general sentiment concerning this man. "Dutch was a fine coach-there's no doubt about that. And he was a warm person...He's share his knowledge of the game with bitter rivals...He was a pioneer of good high school sports". He was posthumously inducted into the Alle-Kiski Valley Sports Hall of Fame and he earned his way into the Hall through his inspirational qualities.



## WE REMEMBER COACH DUNN

*"Mr. Baseball" and the 1955 WPIAL Baseball Game*

*by George Guido*



Tuesday, June 7, 2000 marked the 45th anniversary in Ken-Hi's appearance in the WPIAL baseball finals. IT was June 6, 1955, the Red raiders dropped a 5-0 decision to the McKeesport Tigers at West Field, Munhall. Little did anyone know at the time that it would be the last Ken-Hi team to make a WPIAL final in any sport! There were many other great sports teams to follow before the school was merged with Arnold in 1967, but none would make it the WPIAL title game.

To understand what the 1955 Red Raider accomplished is to understand how competitive high school baseball was in the area during that era. At least one local team made the WPIAL finals every season from 1948 to 1959, except 1953. "It was a good competition", said John Regoli, a junior second baseman on the team. "Not only in high school, but you played against each other in sandlot ball in the summer. Baseball was at its peak; there were so many good college and high school players."

Ken-Hi was coached by Al Dunn, known to everyone as "Mr. Baseball". Besides his duties with the high school team, he chaired the WPIAL Baseball steering committee and operated a morning instructional league at Herr Stadium in the Parnassus section of New Kensington. "Not only was Al Dunn a good coach, I admired him because he said it was more important to be a good citizen than a good baseball player." Regoli said. "I really liked Al Dunn, he was a great coach and a great guy." said senior third baseman, Jerry Miller. "on rainy days. we'd go into the locker room and he talked baseball for over an hour. He really stressed fundamentals; they could use that in the major leagues today!"

In those days, a team had to win its section title before it could qualify for the WPIAL playoffs. Many teams often had to go through Freeport to win a section title, and Ken-Hi was no different. On May 3, the Red Raiders scored four runs in the fourth and seven in the sixth inning to break open a close game and defeat the host Yellow jackets, 15-4. Six days later, more than 1,000 fans, and incredibly high total for high school baseball in the regular season saw Ken-Hi



blank Har-Brack, 3-0. "Times were different then," Regoli drove in the only run the Red Raiders would need with a second-inning single, and sophomore Dick Hutchison threw a on-hitter as Ken-Hi forged a first place tie with Har-Brack. On the final day of the regular season, Regoli went 3 for 4 and junior Bob Lambermont pitched a strong game as the red Raiders defeated Tarentum, 10-6. However, Har-Brack earned a 7-4 victory over Arnold, forcing a one-game playoff for section honors. Hutchison pitched a five-hitter, and Miller drove in a run with a sacrifice fly ion the first inning as Ken-Hi blanked Har-Brack 5-0 at East Deer Field. After a resounding 13-1 playoff victory over Elders Ridge in the first round of the WPIAL playoffs, the Red raiders had little trouble with a solid Shaler Township team, winning 9-23. That set up a semifinal battle with Beaver Falls at West Field, Ken-Hi was trailed by one going into the seventh inning. rick Febbraro singled and went to second on an error. Regoli bunted Febbraro to third and pinch hitter Don Camp bounced to second to score Febbraro and send the game into extra innings. "We didn't have a (Mark) McGwire:, Miller said. "We'd use a lot of hit-and-run and that helped in low-scoring games". In the 10th, Regoli's sacrifice fly scored Justin Makowski with the first of three runs as Ken-Hi prevailed, 6-3. In the championship game, McKeesport's Ron Maser threw his fourth consecutive shut-out in the playoffs as the Tigers broke open a close game in the late innings to secure a 5-0 victory. "He was probably one of the best pitchers I ever played against," Regoli said of Maser. "I don't think he threw a ball above the knees. We just met our match."

*Mr. Dunn was inducted posthumously into the Alle-Kiski Hall of Fame in 1973*



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# WE REMEMBER COACH FLETCHER

*A truly inspirational man*



Mr. Fletcher was fond of saying, “**you get out of football exactly what you put into it**”. That bit of homespun wisdom made all the boys who turned into men with his example know that he was one exceptional person. Besides teaching Mathematics and History, he was the football coach—and what a football coach he was!

Just look at the record:

## *Coach Fletcher's Accomplishments from 1939-1960*

*Undefeated Seasons 1945, 1946, 1947, 1957*

*WPIAL AA Championship 1947-1947*

*Alle-Kiski Hall of Fame*

*Pittsburgh Hall of Fame  
(Curbstone Coaches)*

*Westmoreland County Hall of Fame*

*Pennsylvania Hall of Fame*

*National High School Coach of the Year 1947*

*Dapper Dan Coach of the Year*

*Coach of the Year, Champion Products*



# Ken-Hi Athletic Record

## Football

Year	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach
1905	4	1	2	no coach
1908	2	1	0	no coach
1909	4	2	2	W. Sweeney
1910	4	1	0	L. Long
1911	4	2		George P. Peckham
1912	5	4	0	George P. Peckham
1913	no record			J. Luffy
1914	5	2	1	J. Luffy
1915	3	3	1	W. D. McCord
1916	3	3	0	B. Empfield
1917	no record			
1918	3	2	1	Carl C. Glock
1919	4	3	1	Carl. C. Glock
1920	no record			
1921	no record			
1922	5	3	0	J. W. McIntyre
1923	4	5	0	J. W. McIntyre
1924	5	5	0	Dent Moon
1925	2	4	2	Dent Moon
1926	4	3	2	Dent Moon
1927	5	4	1	Carl C. Glock
1928	7	3	0	Carl C. Glock
1929	4	4	1	Carl C. Glock
1930	5	3	1	Carl C. Glock
1931	7	1	0	Carl C. Glock
1932	6	1	2	Carl C. Glock
1933	7	2	0	Carl C. Glock
1934	6	1	2	Carl C. Glock
1935	5	3	1	Carl C. Glock
1936	1	3	3	Carl C. Glock
1937	7	1	1	Carl C. Glock
1938	0	9	0	Carl C. Glock
1939	6	2	0	Don Fletcher
1940	6	2	0	Don Fletcher
1941	4	5	1	Don Fletcher
1942	6	1	1	Don Fletcher
1943	6	1	1	Don Fletcher
1944	4	3	1	Don Fletcher
1945	6	1	1	Don Fletcher
1946	8	0	0	Don Fletcher**
1947	10	0	0	Don Fletcher**



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1948	6	1	1	Don Fletcher
1949	6	1	1	Don Fletcher
1950	4	2	2	Don Fletcher
1951	4	4	1	Don Fletcher
1952	4	5	0	Don Fletcher
1953	2	5	1	Don Fletcher
1954	6	2	0	Don Fletcher
1955	5	2	1	Don Fletcher
1956	3	6	0	Don Fletcher
1957	6	3	0	Don Fletcher
1958	7	0	0	Don Fletcher
1959	0	9	0	Don Fletcher
1960	4	5	0	Don Fletcher
1961	5	4	0	Dick Brown
1962	6	3	0	Dick Brown
1963	3	6	0	Dick Brown
1964	6	2	1	Dick Brown
1965	1	7	1	Dick Brown
1966	4	4	1	Dick Brown
1967	2	6	0	Dick Brown
1968	3	5	0	Gene Collodi

\* Designates the years in which teams participated in the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League Class AA playoff.

\*\* Designates the years in which the teams won the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League Class AA Championship.

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<b>Basketball</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Coach</b>
1911-12	8	3	
1912-13	1	1	(sport discontinued, no floor)
1913-14	no record		
1914-15	1	6	Carl C. Glock
1915-16	no record		Blair Sheers
1916-17	8	6	Homer C. Wright
1917-18	no record		
1918-19	12	4	Carl G. Glock
1919-20	7	5	Clyde Armstong
1920-21	10	5	Clyde Armstrong
1921-22	2	6	Clyde Armstrong
1922-23	7	11	Clyde Armstrong
1923-24	12	6	Dent Moon
1924-25	10	7	Dent Moon
1925-26	9	5	Dent Moon
1926-27	28	4	Carl C. Glock



1927-28	12	15	Carl C. Glock
1928-29	24	4	Carl C. Glock
1929-30	22	3	Carl C. Glock**
1930-31	19	3	Carl C. Glock*
1931-32	23	4	Carl C. Glock*
1932-33	14	3	Carl C. Glock**
1933-34	16	3	Carl C. Glock**
1934-35	20	3	Carl C. Glock
1935-36	13	11	Carl C. Glock
1936-37	18	6	Carl C. Glock*
1937-38	18	5	Carl C. Glock
1938-39	10	10	Carl C. Glock
1939-40	15	3*	Carl C. Glock
1940-41	14	4	Carl C. Glock
1941-42	15	7	Carl C. Glock
1942-43	10	7	Carl C. Glock
1943-44	16	4	Carl C. Glock
1944-45	14	3*	Carl C. Glock
1945-46	7	15	J. A. Gibson
1946-47	15	7	J. A. Gibson
1947-48	12	9	J. A. Gibson
1948-49	17	4	K. W. Slosky*
1949-50	14	6	K. W. Slosky
1950-51	9	10	K. W. Skosky***
1951-52	18	4	K. W. Skosky***
1952-53	7	12	K. W. Skosky***
1953-54	16	4	K. W. Slosky
1954-55	14	8	K. W. Slosky
1955-56	19	3	K. W. Slosky
1956-57	13	8	K. W. Slosky
1957-58	15	9	K. W. Slosky
1958-59	17	8	K. W. Slosky
1959-60	10	1	K. W. Slosky
1960-61	11	10	K. W. Slosky
1961-62	15	8	K. W. Slosky
1962-63	15	6	Mike Rice
1963-64	15	6	Mike Rice
1964-65	14	8	Mike Rice
1965-66	13	9	Mike Rice
1966-67	14	8	Mike Rice
1967-68	19	3	Mike Rice

\* Designates the years in which teams won the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League sectional championship.

\*\* Designates the years in which the teams won the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League Championship.

\*\* Winner of Alle-Kiski Varsity Tournament



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**Baseball**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Section Standing</b>	<b>Coach</b>
1941	3	5	Third	Al Dunn
1942	3	5	Fourth	Al Dunn
1943	3	5	Fourth	Al Dunn
1944	7	5	Second	W. Jefferson
1945	8	4	Second	W. Jefferson
1946	6	3	Second	Al Dunn
1947	11	2	First*	Al Dunn
1948	8	3	First**	Al Dunn
1949	8	2	Second	Al Dunn
1950			Fourth	Al Dunn
1951	6	4	Second	Al Dunn
1952	1	8		Al Dunn
1953	5	3		Al Dunn
1954	5	5		Al Dunn
1955	12	2		Al Dunn
1956	no record			Al Dunn
1957	6	5	Al Dunn	
1958	5	5	Al Dunn	
1959	5	3	Second	Al Dunn
1960	8	0		Al Dunn
1961	2	5	(1)	Al Dunn
1962	8	3		Al Dunn
1963	9	4		Al Dunn
1964	7	4		Al Dunn
1965	2	8		Al Dunn
1966	6	6		Al Dunn
1967	6	6	(1)	Al Dunn
1968	no record			

\*The team won the sectional championship but was defeated in the second round of the play-off series.

\*\*The team won the sectional championship but was defeated in the semi-final round of the playoff series.

(1) ties



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**Track**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Coach</b>
1946	0	4	Robert Chegwidden
1947	1	5	Robert Chegwidden
1948	1	6	Robert Chegwidden
1949	4	4	Robert Chegwidden
1950	5	2	Robert Chegwidden
1951			
1952	0	8	Mr. Armstrong
1953			
1954	0	5	Robert Chegwidden
1955-68		(No records found)	

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**Cross Country**

1947	0	7	Robert Chegwidden
1948	2	6	Robert Chegwidden
1949	4	4	Robert Chegwidden
1950	4	4	Robert Chegwidden
1951			
1952	4	0	Robert Chegwidden
1953			
1954	5	0	Robert Chegwidden
1955-68		(no records found)	

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**Tennis**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Coach</b>
1937	2	6	Harry Hadden
1938	4	2	W. Lee Vorlage
1939	4	5	W. Lee Vorlage
1940	5	2	W. Lee Vorlage
1941	4	0	W. Lee Vorlage
1942	2	1	W. Lee Vorlage
1943	discontinued		
1944	discontinued		



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1945	discontinued		
1946	5	0	W. Lee Vorlage
1947	2	8	W. Lee Vorlage
1948	1	9	W. Lee Vorlage
1949	2	8	W. Lee Vorlage
1950	1	4	W. Lee Vorlage
1951	1	8	W. Lee Vorlage
1952	3	7	W. Lee Vorlage
1953			
1954	0	10	W. Lee Vorlage
1955			W. Lee Vorlage
1956			W. Lee Vorlage
1957	second place		W. Lee Vorlage
1958	0	3	W. Lee Vorlage
1959			W. Lee Vorlage
1960	4	6	W. Lee Vorlage
1961			
1962-68	(No records found)		

---

### Golf

Year	Won	Lost	Tied	Coach
1937	3	3	0	R. A. Artman
1938	1	8	0	R. A. Artman
1939	0	7	1	R. A. Artman
1940	1	4	0	R. A. Artman
1941	4	6	0	R. A. Artman
1942	0	4	0	Daniel Wolfe
1943	discontinued			
1944	discontinued			
1945	discontinued			
1946	0	7	0	J. A. Gibson
1947	discontinued			
1948	2	4	0	J. A. Gibson
1949				
1950-68	(No records found)			











# Sports









# Sports









# Sports





# REUNION BOOK ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

## *Edited by*

*Dana Shiarella Bogany (1962)*  
*Mary Ann Gensamer Justham (1955)*  
*Francine Bartolacci Costello (1965)*  
*Kenny Russell (1955)*  
*Kathy Pater, Costello's Printing and Graphics*

## *Sports Stories*

*George Guido*

## *Typists:*

*Carol Farina Corchia (1962) , Katherine Kersten Patterson (1956)*  
*Dana Shiarella Bogany (1962)*

## *Website:*

*Jimmy Jones (1962), Dana Shiarella Bogany (1962)*  
*Dennis Gianotti (1968)*

## *Additional Help from:*

*All the Taleokens*

*"New Kensington High School, 1900-1950"*

*New Kensington, PA.*  
*The Eagle Bindery, Butler, PA.*

*"Celebrating a Century of Progress"*

*New Kensington, 1891-1991*  
*A Commemorative Documentary*  
*Costello's Printing and Graphics*

## **OUR SPECIAL ALUMNI CONTRIBUTORS:**

*Joy Berg Campbell, Judy Bogardus Wagner, Attorney Robert Key,*  
*Bob Powers, Ross Walker Sr.*

## **COMMERCIAL CONTRIBUTORS:**

*Babe's Cafe • Burrell Rentals • Clarion Hotel • Comcast Cablevision*  
*Dunkin' Donuts • Eat n' Park • King's Family Restaurant • Laidlaw Bus Company*  
*Memory Lane Flowers • Outback Steakhouse • Parkvale Savings Bank*  
*Super Bowl (portable sanitation) • Tees 'n Tops*

*And our biggest contributors — — all the Classmates*  
*who sent in Contributions, Class Memories, Photos and Items of interest*



## KEN-HI 2000 REUNION COMMITTEE

<b>Co-Chairmen</b>	Kenny Russell, Anthony Farina
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mary Ann( Gensamer) Justham
<b>Reunion Book</b>	Dana (Shiarella) Bogany
<b>Ken-Hi Field</b>	Charles Specht
<b>Memorial Park</b>	Kelly Gasbarra
<b>T-Shirts</b>	Pauline (Clark) Arnold, Bea (Clark) Krider
<b>Behind the Scenes</b>	Ron Lovic

## CLASS CONTACTS – KEN HI 2000 REUNION

1935	Shuff Bitar	1952	Pauline Arnold
1936	Don Sprowls	1953	Maxine Brock
1937	Jenny Hrivnak	1954	Marshall McKallip, Eileen Smith
1938	Paul Davis	1955	Mary Ann Justham
1939	Garnet Adams	1956	Katherine Kersten, Janet Frazier
1940	Claire Bongiovanni	1957	Patricia White
1941	Peg Shields	1958	Kathy Jacobs
1942	Ed Murtha	1959	Charles Specht
1943	Kelly Gasbarra	1960	Mary Alice Serafini
1944	Ruth Armor	1961	No class contact
1945	Ree Scherf	1962	Dana Bogany
1946	Mary Ann Vestrand	1963	Yvonne Pelino
1947	Patty Phillips	1964	Judy Shields
1948	Hugo DeFelice	1965	Andrea Baldwin, Toni Kosheba
1949	Beverly Tipton	1966	Fran Pugliese
1950	Tony Farina	1967	Keith Bitar
1951	Ed Probel	1968	Ellen Carabin, Beth Link, Dennis Gianotti



## The Dream That Came True —Ken-Hi 2000

In 1950, when Mr. E.T. Chapman, the Superintendent of the New Kensington High School, suggested an "Alumni Night" in the year 2000, a few people were lukewarm to the idea. They couldn't see that far into the future to make it a reality. But in the fall of 1998, two Ken-Hi alumni, Tony Farina (class of 1950) and Kenny Russell (class of 1955) *decided to make this dream come true.*

At first it was planned to be a mixed gathering of Alumni who would assemble around the old school building on Ridge Avenue. But, as early responses came back, it was apparent that this idea would grow into a much bigger event! The first committee meeting was held in March 1999 at Tony Farina's house. Twelve alumni showed up and they decided on the event being called "Ken-Hi 2000". Ten of these alumni remained for the duration of the Ken-Hi 2000's planning. In spite of the many negative comments in the early stages of Ken-Hi 2000, that "*this thing is never going to happen*" and "*the committee will never raise enough money*"—this only made committee members more dedicated to make sure it would happen!

With approximately 7,000 alumni names gathered in June 1999 (from mailing lists) the committee started the long process of notifying Ken-Hi alumni about the upcoming party planned for the 2000 (and we don't mean the millennium parties!) But with no money available, committee members took on the initial expenses and were quickly in debt. But within ONE MONTH after early responses, the Ken-Hi 2000 finances were in the black, and from that day on, *money was never a problem again.*

As interest grew, so did the attendance at the monthly committee meetings. Attendance averaged 40 to 50 alumni from the fall of 1999 and meetings were held at the Sons of Italy, First Methodist Church and later the First Evangelical Lutheran Church. Early response was very strong from August to January and the committee was receiving about \$1,000 a week. The banquet (that some thought was never going to be) sold out before the end of the year. All the people who thought, "I can wait to send in my tickets and reservations" were sadly disappointed. The Ken-Hi 2000 dream was going to be very special. The working committee grew to 20 members and attendance at the meetings averaged 60 to 70 a month through 2000. The group set a goal of \$80,000 in reunion costs and expected alumni at about 2,500 people. But, as the community became more aware of Ken-Hi 2000, it became the talk of the town.

As we all know, Ken-Hi 2000 was a terrific success. And we owe a lot to Dr. Chapman, Tony Farina and Kenny Russell for their foresight, dedication and interest in Ken-Hi. But the TRUE SUCCESS of this historic event was due to the great support of the Alumni of "Old Ken-Hi". The thousands of donations received both big and small really proved that "THE SPIRIT LIVES ON". Committee members fed off the spirit showed by the alumni and the alumni fed off the dedication showed by the committee and the result was one great memory.

**YES, Alumni of Ken-Hi, a dream DID come true, and  
YOU WERE PART OF IT!**

*The next alumni party will be in heaven, will we see you there?  
We'll save a place for you.*



# SCHEDULE FOR THE REUNION WEEKEND

## Thursday, August 10

Ken-Hi 2000 Office opens in Room 101, Clarion Inn

## Friday, August 11

- 8:30 Band Camp Bus leaves from Valley High School
- 9:00 Golf Outing, Oak Lake Golf Course
- 12:00 Class Of 1938, Luncheon for classmates
- 7:00 Pizza Party at the Clarion Hotel, all classes
- 7:00 Class of 1954, Party at Wildlife Bowling Lanes
- 7:00 Class of 1955, Party at Hillcrest Country Club
- 7:00 Class of 1956 and 1957, Party at #3 Firehall, Lower Burrell
- 7:00 Class of 1960, Party at Alcoa Lab Social Room
- 7:00 Open for all Classes, given by Class of 1966, at Veltri's
- 7:00 Class of 1967, Party at Falcon's Nest

## Saturday, August 12

- 11:00 WELCOME ALUMNI PARTY, Football Field  
**Music DJ, Charlie Apple and other guests**
- 6:00 Alumni Banquet at the Clarion  
**(Musical surprises and guests)**
- 9:30 Open Party for all classes at Big Al's
- 9:00 Class of 1944, Brackenridge Country Club
- 9:00 Class of 1945, Hillcrest Country Club
- 9:00 Class of 1965, Falcon's Nest

## Sunday, August 13

- 11 AM, Church Services, Memorial Park
- 11 AM to dusk, "A Day in the Park"  
**Special musical guest, Buddy Lee Orchestra**



*A Very Special*  
***Thank-You***

*to*

**Dana Shiarella Bogany**

*for*

*your efforts and dedication to this book!*



**The 2000 Reunion Committee**



## Autographs



## Address and phone numbers

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Phone number—home	work		
fax number	e-mail		
notes			

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Phone number—home	work		
fax number	e-mail		
notes			

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Phone number—home	work		
fax number	e-mail		
notes			



# ATTENTION ALL ALUMNI

## Valley, New Kensington & Arnold

For a good way to keep in touch with your hometown doings,  
fellow alumni and friends

*Join Your Fellow Alumni in the New  
Kensington, Arnold Alumni Association*

Send in the Alumni Questionnaire to:

**Frank Link, Athletic Director**

Valley Director High School

Stevenson Boulevard

New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068



or e-mail the answers to the questionnaire to:

[flink@nkasd.wiu.k12.pa.us](mailto:flink@nkasd.wiu.k12.pa.us)



visit our website at

<http://nkasd.wiu.k12.pa.us/>



# New Kensington-Arnold Alumni *Questionnaire*

Graduating Class \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Activities: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Position/Employed by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*If your spouse is a graduate, copy this page and have him or her send in their  
own information*

Cut here



**For Reference**

Not to be taken from this room





*The Spirit Lives On...*