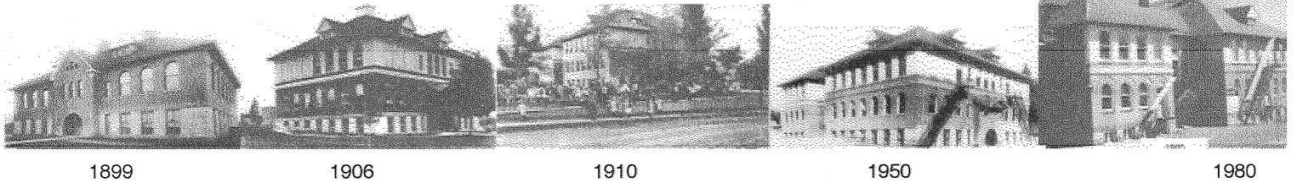


## Grant Grade School



### ALUMNI NEWS

## 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FALL LUNCHEON ON OCTOBER 19, 2017



Our Old School, where we all attended--some in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, others less years or days. Here we met our teacher who we called "Teacher" or "Miss" + her/his last name: Mabel Reed, Vera Henderson, Agnes Dempsey, Mary Lee Hoefel, Arnold Hagen, Olive Bennison, Evelyn McCray, and many others, plus Mr. Soot, our janitor, and Principals, Miss Smith and Arthur Ewy. What teachers do you remember?

Name them: \_\_\_\_\_

When we think about Grant School, we remember people, kids who we grew up with, played ball with in Grant Park, different ages and genders. Is there a person from Grant you remember?

Name them: \_\_\_\_\_

One alumnus started first grade in 1931 and walked from 14<sup>th</sup> and Perry St. to Grant Grade School on 10<sup>th</sup> and Ivory. She then graduated in January 1939, graduated from Lewis & Clark in 1943, and graduated from Washington State College in 1947 with a teaching degree. Her name is Virginia Danke. She took her first teaching job at the Charles Francis Adams High School in Clarkston, Washington in the fall of 1947 as the girl's PE teacher. One of her first students in  
(Continued on next page)

Clarkston high school was a sophomore girl, Carolee Bailly, now Carolee Nyborg. Yes, Jim's wife. We have a 1948 Clarkston Bantam annual that Virginia signed for Carolee. In the summer of 1948 Virginia accepted a teaching position at Lewis & Clark High School in Spokane. At LC she was the Girls' P.E. teacher and the adviser for the Ti-Girls. In 1950 Virginia received a master's degree from Whitworth College. She retired from LC in 1977. She has also been a walker and hiker and has hiked all her life on many continents and mountains in the world. Except for the four years at WSC and nine months in Clarkston, Virginia has lived her entire life at 1103 E.14<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Spokane. She is our friend.

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A Story from the Past

Jim had a sister, Carol, who graduated from Grant in 1943. She was a very talented pianist. She graduated from Lewis & Clark High School in 1947. She was hired as an organist at a Lutheran church in Spokane. A few years later she became the organist at Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home on North Monroe. At a funeral one day the pastor was Father Joseph Weitensteiner.

After the service was over and Father Joe walked past the organ, Carol said, "Father, I have a question to ask you. Do you have time?"

"Yes," Father Joe said, "What is your question?"

Carol asked, "Some years ago did you play roof ball at Grant Park?"

"Why would you ask me that question," Father Joe said.

"You look familiar," Carol said, "and I believe I played roof ball with you."

Father Joe replied, "Yes, I lived close to Grant Park so I have played roof ball. I still live on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue west of Perry Street. I did not go to Grant School, but attended Sacred Heart School."

\* \* \* \* \*

For 18 years the Alumni have gathered together three times a year to share memories, stories, and pictures of the good times at Grant and at the old Grant Park. Change has taken place over these 18 years as many, many people have moved away or passed away.

We will continue to meet as we look forward to 2018. Life will change, but as we have been blessed by these past 18 years, so we will be blessed as we continue to share and be blessed in the future.

**Gatherings in 2018**

Spring Luncheon, Thursday, **April 19, 11:30** at Timber Creek Grill Buffet

Summer Picnic, Saturday **July 28, 11:30** at Grant Park (under the large walnut tree)

Fall Luncheon, Thursday, **October 18, 11:30** at Timber Creek Grill Buffet

Be sure to pass the above information on to your classmates and other schoolmates!

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**Spaghetti Dinner at Grant School**

Next Tuesday evening, October 24. Dinner is \$1 a plate, starting at 5:30. There will be a raffle after dinner (5 tickets for \$1), with the Drummers and Dancers from Grant Elementary entertaining us after we eat. Come and enjoy a good dinner and see the kids who now attend Grant Elementary School. Come early to avoid the long line. The Drummers and Dancers have been doing original African dances and the group has performed for over 40 years.

## Obituaries



### **Grant Class of June 1932**

#### **Smith, Gordon Albert Anspach, Age 99**

Entered into rest on September 19, 2017. He was born at Deaconess Hospital in Spokane, WA on May 23, 1918 to Henry A. and Bertha A. Smith.

A lifetime resident of Spokane, Gordon attended Grant Grade School and Lewis and Clark High School. He graduated from Washington State College in Electrical Engineering and remained a strong supporter of WSU throughout his lifetime. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Serving his country as a Lieutenant, he equipped new naval vessels built in Bremerton with radar fire control systems as they sailed toward the Pacific Theater. After his discharge from the Navy, he obtained his pilot's license through the GI Bill.

In 1967 he married Darlene Smith and together they had two sons. They enjoyed many years of vacationing in Cancun and spending winters in Palm Desert. He worked for his father and eventually took over his father's business at Electric Smith in Spokane. Gordon was known in the industry as a fair man. Gordon was a Scottish Rite, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Mason in Spokane and also a member of a Masonic Lodge in Palm Desert. He was a member of Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church. He was also a lifetime member of the Washington Athletic Club and served on their Board of Governors.

Gordon is survived by his wife, two sons, Ronald (Sheryl) and Steven (Diane); three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Eleanor. There was a Celebration of Life at Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church on September 29 at 2:00 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to The Shrine Hospital for children.



### **Grant Class of June 1940**

#### **ODEAN, Henry E., Age 90**

Henry E. Odean entered into rest on June 4, 2017. He was born in Spokane, WA on June 13, 1926 to Henry T. and Jennie E. Odean.

A lifetime resident of the city, Mr. Odean attended Grant Grade School and Lewis and Clark High School, graduating in 1944. Growing up he was active in the Boy Scouts of America, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout and later serving as Scout Master of Troop 55. In high school he was active in the Lewis and Clark band and orchestra. Upon graduating from high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where during World War II he served two years as a Signalman 3C as part of the U.S. Navy gun crew aboard the cargo ship, the S.S. Elisha Mitchell, hauling airplanes and bombs in the South Pacific. He graduated from Kinman Business University with an Accounting Degree in 1948, and joined the work force of the Washington Water Power Company (Avista) the same year. He retired as Vice President Finance in 1986 after 37 years of service.

In 1950 he married Donna McNabb. The Odeans would have celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on June 30th. Mr. Odean was a 50-year member of Manito Masonic Lodge, a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, and of El Katif Shrine Temple A.A.O.N.M.S where he served as a member of the Shrine Concert Band, and as Potentate of El Katif in 1989. He was also a member of the Royal Order of Jesters, and played trombone for several years in the "Gentlemen of Note", a dance band of the big-band era. He was a member and elder of Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church where he also performed in the Instrumental Praise Ensemble and the Brass Quintet.

Henry is survived by his wife, Donna, at the home; a daughter Karen Lowry (Robert) of Millwood; a son John Odean (Patricia Kevin) of Severna Park, MD, eight grandchildren, one great-grandson with three on the way; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Eleanor.

Memorial services were held at 2:30 p.m., June 10th at Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church. A private burial was held at Moran Cemetery prior to the service.

Obituaries, continued:

**Grant Class of 1954**



**STACHOFSKY, Nancy Elizabeth**  
(Age 77)

Nancy passed away peacefully on July 27, 2017 with her children by her side, at Hospice House in Spokane. She was born December 1, 1939 in Spokane, to Robert and Marguerite Rives. She was a lifelong resident of Spokane and loved her city. A consummate homemaker, Nancy was a great cook and enjoyed planting flowers and decorating her home. Friends and family were Nancy's delight. She also enjoyed traveling and playing Pinochle with her longtime friends. Nancy was a member of the Amistad Club for over 18 years. She loved to visit Hope, ID in the summertime.

Nancy is survived by her children, Kim Stachofsky, Spokane, WA, David Stachofsky, Portland, OR, Susan Stachofsky, Snohomish, WA and Lisa Lovsted, Mercer Island, WA. Nancy is also survived by seven grandchildren, Heather Lanning, Rob Stachofsky, Mary Stachofsky, Anne Stachofsky, Jamie Stachofsky, Kate Lovsted and Matthew Lovsted. She loved and adored each and every one of them! The family held a private service in Spokane on August 17. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Spokane at 121 S. Arthur St., Spokane, WA 99202, or the Spokane Humane Society, at 6607 N. Havana St., Spokane, WA 99217.

**Janice Edna BUECKERS(1941 - 2017)**



**BUECKERS,**  
Janice Edna  
(Age 76) **Grant Class of 1955**

Janice went home to be with the Lord September 9, 2017 at her home in Loon Lake, WA, which has been in the family for over 50 years. She was born January 20, 1941 in Boise, ID to Virginia and Vernon Allen. She spent her childhood going between Spokane and her grandparents' home in Plummer, ID where she created many memories with her Uncle Claire. She met John Bueckers, her husband of 52 years in college where she took business classes. They spent many years going between their house in Spokane Valley, and cabin in Loon Lake where they lovingly raised two children: David Bueckers of Loon Lake, and Holly Bueckers Ross. Holly is married to Bruce E. Ross and they have a son Bruce J. Ross, of Arizona. Janice is also survived by two nieces: Gina Collins of Tehachapi, CA, and Kendelyn Meyers of Lake Mason, WA. Her most valued accomplishment, besides taking care of her friends and family, was being a Sewer Commissioner along with Joan Easley and Roger Arleth and raising the grant money needed to install the sewer system at Loon Lake for only \$500 per household. She also volunteered at the Loon Lake Loon Assoc. for 35 years. Janice also had passion for genealogy where she traced her family heritage back to the 1600s which allowed her to become a member and volunteer for Daughters of American Revolution - Spokane Garry Chapter, DUVCW 1861-1865 - Lizbeth Turner Tent #4 (Civil War), Daughters of American Colonists - Spokane Falls Chapter, US Daughters 1812 - Spokane House Chapter, Kelsey Kindred, NS Colonial Dames, and Eastern WA Genealogy Society. She also spent many hours helping other ladies complete their applications for these organizations as well. Donations may be made to the Loon Lake Conservancy, PO Box 153, Loon Lake, WA 99148. There was a remembrance celebrating Janice's life Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

The **Grant 1956 class** recently had their 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary celebration. They honored the following members who are deceased:

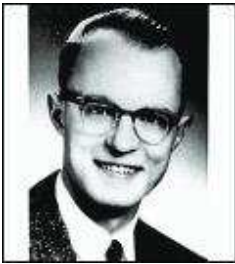
Barbara Veach  
Gill Faire  
Carmen Short  
Connie Wendle  
Denny Rodstrom  
Dixie Bond

Gary Moritz  
James Anthony  
Jerry Ivey  
Joyce Allen  
Kay Higgins  
Ken Beebe

Linda Buettgenbach  
Linda Jones  
Loretta Gray  
Noreen Horton  
Paul Smith  
Ron Webster

\* \* \* \* \*

Obituaries, Continued



**CHAPPELL, Gary E. (Grant Class of 1951)**

**December 1, 1936-  
September 30, 2017**

On a cold December day in 1936 Gary was born at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane with little pink toes and 7 lbs of baby fat. Because he was an only child he pretty much ruled the home of his parents, Elbert and Geneva Chappell, until mom would step in and call a strike out when he was naughty. Because his parents were very talented musicians and played for many dances around the Spokane area Gary was also very talented. He played piano and organ but finally settled on the drums. He was in the Lewis & Clark High School band, and graduated from Lewis & Clark June 6, 1955. He then attended Washington State University, graduating with a Bachelor's of Science in psychology in February 1961. When he started at WSU, he met the dance band members and was told "his reputation preceded him". Because finding work in Spokane was difficult in 1961 he found employment at the 1962 World's Fair and was asked to play with a country rock group and they became known as the Clark Brothers Trio and later with The Coins. They then traveled around the southwest for the next ten years. He returned to Spokane a married man with four children and found employment helping the economically disadvantaged, and later with the Department of Corrections until retiring in February 1994 leaving many, many friends at DOC. Especially "The Broadway Broads" and the Snicker Bars. Since retiring he became very active in the Covenant Church as a Bible teacher and drummer. Gary leaves behind his wife Lana, his first love, and his two stepchildren, David Ault (Gina), and Tia McInerney (Rob). Services were held at Hazen & Jaeger Valley Funeral Home, 1306 N. Pines Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99206 on Saturday, October 14th at 2:00 PM. In lieu of flowers or plants, please give to [your favorite charity](#) or the 1st Covenant Church in the memory of Gary E. Chappell.



**LEMLEY, Robert Carroll (Grant Class of 1954)  
(Age 77)**

Was born March 21, 1940. He passed away September 30, 2017 in Spokane, WA. He is survived by his three sons Robert, Richard, and Randy; nine grandchildren Robert, Jared, Riley, Claudia Jean, Adam, Angelina, Alicea, Mei, and Ema; and his two sisters Betty and Carol. He was preceded in death by his parents Carroll R. Lemley and Frances Buerck, and his baby brother James. After graduating from Lewis and Clark High School he served 4 years in the US Air Force as a Ballistic Missile Analyst Technician with the 567th Strategic Missile Squadron. He was a member of the Spokane Astronomical Society and Spokane Swing Dance club. He had an exceptional talent for wood working, especially in helping with several winning pinewood derby cars for his children and grandchildren. He had a love for genealogy and was very proud of the more than 120,000 names in his Lemley Family database. Funeral Services were held at 10 AM on October 9th, at Heritage Funeral Home, 508 N. Government Way. Interment following the service was at the Spangle, WA Cemetery.

*We need a "replacement" for Bob Lemley. He used his computer to send out the notices to remind those who had e-mail when a luncheon or the picnic was coming up and when a message needed to be sent to the alumni.*

## 1998 Alumnus

*Our last Alumni News had an article about Grant alumnus, Briann January, who plays in the WNBA (women's professional basketball) for the Indiana Fever team. She recently tore some cartilage in her right knee and had to miss the final two weeks of the season. Briann will be an assistant coach at her alma mater, Arizona State University in Tempe. Jim sent a letter to her, but she has not yet responded.*

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## Trivia

A question regarding Grant Park. Behind the long roof where we played roof ball there were several large swings. Toward Ivory Street there were rings and bars to swing on that were six feet off the ground. You had to jump high to get a hold on the rings or bars. It wasn't until TV came and Summer Olympics that we learned as we watched the gymnastics what people could do on the bars and rings. Did you see anybody in Grant Park swing on those rings and bars?

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

## Remember

When it was winter, and there was a good snowfall, we sledded down Ivory Street from 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue almost to Newark. Harold Swenson, who graduated from Grant School in 1918, was the person who would build a large fire on 14<sup>th</sup> and Ivory. The fire was a good place to warm up when sledding. Some liked to put a potato wrapped in foil into the fire to bake—yum!

Did you know that Harold was also responsible for the wading pool—keeping it clean, changing water, and adding water as necessary? He was around Grant Park a lot. Joanne King ('51) told me that, in her youth, when there was water in the wading pool (one end was shallow and the other end deeper) kids would line up in the deep end and swim across it. Oh, what fun it was to swim in the park.

Another story about the pool. A father who enjoyed tennis decided he would teach his young daughter how to play tennis. There were tennis courts near the wading pool. As she learned to hit the tennis ball, it didn't go over the tennis net, but over the fence alongside the pool. After the father got several wet tennis balls, learning was put on hold until his daughter got older and could hit the ball over the tennis net—not the fence.

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Remember our web site: [www.grantschoolspokane.org](http://www.grantschoolspokane.org).

Stan has put this year's issues of the Alumni News on the website. If you know of anyone who did not attend the luncheons or picnic this year, tell them they can read the Alumni News on the website.