



The Hope Farm / Greer School
Alumni Association
Newsletter



Summer 2019
Volume 12 No. 3



Honoring Greer's Staff.....and you!

It was 40 years ago that I first became an active member of the Greer School Alumni Association Committee, and I have enjoyed helping to organize our regular reunions in the ensuing years with **Jim and Isabel Morton, Doug and Mitzi Berry, Tony and JoAnn Vaz, and Peggy Sparks.**

The upcoming reunion on September 20th and 21st is going to be **different** from any of the previous reunions. While the main focus will continue to be on renewing our friendships, an important and unique **additional focus** will be on honoring the faculty and staff who served us so well at Greer.

I have a tremendous sense of gratitude for the staff at Greer who worked long hours for very little pay, and in most cases did an

excellent job to help many of us. We came to Greer because of unusual circumstances in our homes. Many of us were seeking answers to tough questions, and most of the staff did the best they could to give us positive guidance and did it with patience. I am not naïve to suggest Greer was not an effective fit for some of the staff who worked at Greer---you have that in any work environment—but I also remember the many members of Greer's staff who went the extra mile for us, and at this stage of my life, I am so grateful for their genuine concern and caring for me. They provided what my parents could not do for me, and for this reason, I wish to honor them for this priceless gift. Based on my correspondence with so many of you, I surmise many of you concur.

I invite you to come to Greer for our September gathering and join us to express your gratitude to the staff members who guided you in your life. There is, in fact, something very personally empowering when you can express gratitude for those who cared about you and were a positive influence in your life. When you have had someone who cares about you, it has the effect of communicating to you that you

have value as a person and are worthwhile. I cannot even begin to imagine where I would be without the wonderful Greer staff who took me under their wing and took an interest in me. I suspect this applies to most of us.

John Hudnor, Greer “63” and BYU “67”

Perhaps no one has said it better than alumnus **Glenn Fillman** who wrote in a recent letter that....” Your honorarium in selecting 3 Greer staff members who made a difference in my life is not an easy task. While I have selected 3 individuals, the entire Greer staff deserves honor and mention for their contribution and to the relief afforded our parents who struggled with their own issues, not the least of which was what to do with us.

When we look today at the travails in our own communities, in the daily news, in the families and institutions of those close to us, I have often mused: what the world needs is more Greer Schools. The positive influence of the Greer experience and the staff who facilitated our upbringing can never be understated, unacknowledged, or forgotten: so thank you for organizing this honorarium. Accolades and Kudos to the entire Greer staff.”

Glenn then went on to give notes of appreciation to three Greer staff. “When you anticipate “end of class” in your favorite subject LATIN, who you gonna’ thank? **Mr. Clifford Cronk.**

When you can’t shake the flu, and you need that extra care, where you gonna’ go and who you gonna’ thank? **Mrs. Bertha Packer** and the infirmary.

When you work the food truck and you’re waiting for the cottage food deliveries to be ready to go, who you gonna’ thank for the colorful off-color banter? Mr. **Jimmy Morton.** It’s hard not to say, “thank you” to the entire community of Greer staff for their efforts and memories.”

Alumnus **Rita Playfair Bourne** added this succinct but wonderful expression of appreciation: “I feel privileged to have had the education I had at Greer from so many caring staff. So many kids in care today don’t fare as well.”

Update on the “Honoring our staff” Weekend this September.

The program for the two-day gathering is coming together, and we are very excited to see you.

Friday, September 20th

1:00pm to 4:00pm—decorating the auditorium with over 300 pictures of Greer’s staff and other decorations.

4:00pm to 7:00pm—eating at a local restaurant.

7:00pm –Movie in the Greer high school auditorium.

Saturday, September 21st

8:30am to noon—registration, breakfast, and socializing in the high school auditorium. During this time, there will be pictures displayed all around the auditorium with alumni notes about each staff member for you to enjoy looking at and reading.

Noon—Lunch

12:30pm—DVD movie, “Honoring our Staff.” This movie will engender some positive memories of the staff who worked with you at Greer.

1:00pm—Program for all of us to have the opportunity to share a comment, memory, or thought about a staff member who served you at Greer. After the program, enjoy walking or riding around the beautiful campus and enjoying an Autumn day at Greer.

4:30pm—Dinner in the high school auditorium, and more activities surrounding the honoring of our staff.

Miscellaneous

1. We anticipate that decorating the auditorium and displaying the staff pictures will take quite a bit of time and would appreciate your help. Come and join us for this activity, followed by dinner at a local eatery and a movie in the evening.

2. The 4:30pm starting time for dinner on Saturday will allow you plenty of time to reach your evening destination during daylight hours.
3. Any questions—feel free to e-mail the webmaster at: tonyvaz@greerschool.org
4. Please make your checks for the meals payable to **John Hudnor** and I will pay the Fountains Culinary people out of my bank account. **The form is on the last page of this newsletter.** They would like to have the number of attendees by September 12th, so they will have time to order the necessary food and supplies to be able to serve us on September 21st. I continue to be very grateful for the Fountains staff for never charging us rental fees for the use of the auditorium and always welcoming the Greer alumni back to our campus to be able to gather together.
5. And finally, this is my last time of organizing a formal gathering of you, our alumni. I do not know what the future will be for opportunities to gather at Greer, but I sure would like to see all of you at this special chance to honor our staff as we enjoy being together.

Profiles of some of Greer’s staff that we have received from you.

Mrs Dorothy Schafenacker 1955-1965



Dorothy seemed to be everywhere at Greer. She taught music classes, taught individual's how to play the piano,

played the piano for the music for all the theatrical plays, was in charge of the choir and glee club and played the organ for the services each week in the Chapel-of-the-Child, and helped the Junior YPF and Senior YPF meetings each Sunday evening. The following comments of appreciation concerning Dorothy were received.

From Harry McCandless: She encouraged my participation in Choir, and Harry still wears the cross he won for his choir participation award he received at Greer. She was easy to get along with, and was one of the best choir directors I have ever had, and I have been in choirs all of my life. Last of all, she could explain things very well.

From Diana Munzer: She took a group of us scruffy, awkward kids and had us singing beautiful songs. For example, she taught those in the choir songs they had never heard before. Some were from the Messiah and some were in Latin.

From Penny Klyce: I wrote a hymn and Miss Schafenacker put it to music for me.

From Kristin Beskeen: She taught me to play the piano and I still play it all these years later. She would always take time to chat with me at Greer cottage, and I appreciated her willingness to talk with me.

From Armin Ali: She taught us songs and musical instruments, and my pals were impressed when I would correct them that a saxophone was actually a woodwind instrument, much like the Oboe and bassoon. Not many teenage boys like to sing, but she made us sing the classics that I fondly remember to this day.

From Joseph Delisle: For teachers who had the most profound effect, I'd have to go with Miss Schafenacker. From her I got an appreciation for music, especially classical, that has lasted a lifetime. I remember her playing classical music while she read a story, and to this day I cannot hear Scheherazade without thinking about Aladdin and the Arabian Knights. I will always appreciate her dedication and enthusiasm to instill in us love of music.

From John Hudnor: She played us all types of music: Classical, light classical, broadways tunes and had us sing many of these tunes as well as other songs.

My appreciation of all types of music is a credit to her. She also gave piano lessons to students (I believe for free), and I wish I had taken advantage of this. She was just a first-class person!

From Maureen Meyer: I appreciate her introducing all of us to classical music.

Mr. Garold Berry (1950's)

Garold Berry was the Industrial Arts (shop) teacher at Greer and also was the barber at Greer during the 1950's.



From Bob Jenkins: Mr. Berry, as Greer's shop teacher taught me skills that I still incorporate in and out of my home.

From Joe Delisle: Joe said that under the guidance of Mr. Berry, Joe developed a love for wood working, and because of his teaching, I made most of the furniture in my home.

From Doug Berry: My father was not only the shop teacher and school barber, but he took an interest in the students. Unknown to them, he was an advocate for them and made many things happen for them that they were unaware of. Without mentioning any names, he spoke up for them to the administration and became their advocate. He got

along well with the other staff members, knowing that they too wanted to see the students excel. He had a great fondness for Greer and always spoke highly of the school.

Sad News

We have received terrible news that Edward Nathaniel Martin (Class of 1962) passed away recently. No further details are available at press time.

Hopefully, that is all the sad news for now.

Greerschool.Org Web Site Update

I recently had a computer catastrophe in which my computer required a "reset" and all applications that were not part of the original configuration were deleted. Many of the e-mail addresses were lost as part of my using Windows Live Mail and I am in the process of restoring them with the help of John, Sandy, Mitzi and Peggy. You may or may not receive an electronic copy of this issue, but it will not be due to the lack of trying. A modified version of this newsletter will be uploaded to the Greerschool.Org web site very soon assuming I can get my uploading software reloaded.

Tony Vaz – Webmaster Greerschool.Org
Greer Class of '61 (Honorary)

In addition to reporting any change of address to Peggy Sparks, you can contact me at tonyvaz@greerschool.org

Send newsworthy articles to:

John Hudnor - \

Sandy Hudnor ->tonyvaz@greerschool.org

Peggy Sparks - /

or "snail mail" them to the return address on your hard copy envelope.

Here is John's mailing address for sending checks for reservations for lunch and/or dinner:

E-mail tonyvaz@greerschool.org for contact information.

Here is the registration form:

Please detach and send this form to John Hudnor

2019 Greer School Alumni Association Reunion Registration Form

Saturday, September 21, 2019

I, _____ will be attending the Greer School Reunion
with _____ guests.

Lunch:	Cost/Plate	# Eating	Total
	\$15.00	_____	_____
Dinner	Cost/Plate	# Eating	Total
	\$22.50	_____	_____
		Final Total	_____

Please make check payable to: John Hudnor