

April 2019

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Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

Class of 1969 Thornton Fractional Township South High School, Lansing, IL

It's Spring—

Roll Out the Ragtop!

by **Judy Gasquoine Hudoc** (California)



I am so delighted to have my '95 Mazda Miata back. There is a passion for little unpractical ragtops that some people acquire. My hubby and daughter hated it, my son got hooked.

I bought the car used in '98 and commuted in these pretty California Foothills for 14 years, putting 156,000 plus miles on it. I gave the car to our son for his 30th birthday. He only drove it 28,000 miles, and 7 years later, he gave it back to me.

I am amazed at that factory stock paint, and everything still works. I am replacing the original clutch and coil shocks.

However, my son, Monte, put in much needed blue tooth radio and new speakers

and a few hoses during his ownership. He bought a brand new 2019 Miata, and now we both belong to the Sacramento Miata Club.



The day this photo was taken was not a top-down day for the Miata Club. I'm car 10 there of 17. What a car!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 50th Reunion. Hubby says we are flying in though, no room for suitcases.

We're Getting Ready to *Celebrate!*

Your TFS 50th Class of 1969 Reunion Committee is working with great care and diligence. We have heard your concerns and desires, and at the March 1 meeting, we finalized the venue, DJ, and hotels.

Banquet Venue: Villa Cesare, 900 Eagle Ridge Drive, Schererville, IN
www.villacesare.com

Date & Time: Oct 5, 2019 from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight

Attire: Business casual

The committee surveyed classmates to ensure our efforts to coordinate this reunion would be in line with your expectations.

Your input on song selection suggestions was overwhelming and has been given to the DJ. We loved hearing your passion and commitment, which will contribute to our celebration.

A block of rooms has been secured at The Hampton Inn, Schererville, Indiana; Holiday Inn Express, Schererville; and Comfort Inn, Schererville for Oct. 3–6, 2019. If you wish to extend your stay beyond these dates, you will be able to take advantage of the discounted pricing. When making your reservation, tell them you are with the TFS Class of '69 Reunion. All 3 hotels are near the Saturday night banquet venue.

Villa Cesare is 1.3 miles from the Hampton Inn and .5 mile from the Holiday Inn Express and Comfort Inn. Uber/Lyft share rides are available to and from all 3 hotels.

A tour of TF South is scheduled for Oct. 4 at 4 p.m. Mr. Chris Roberts, Social Studies Teacher, along with current students will be our tour guides. A pre-reunion casual gathering for Friday night will follow the school tour. Details to come.

The committee will discuss optional reunion week/weekend outings at a future meeting once we have a budget and price for the reunion. We will look into several suggestions for classmates who might want to get together before and possibly after the 5th of October.

Attending the March 1 committee meeting were Carolyn “Inky” White Scofield, Alan Liptak, Marilyn Rea Beyer, Pat Wozny, Phil Stewart, Marlene Koster Taylor (via Skype), Len and Patty Rompca, Butch and Joan Porter, Bud Jenkins, John Link, Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis, and Pam Neal Pfeffer (via phone).

Our next Reunion Committee meeting will be April 12. If you have questions, email us at tfs69.50threunion@gmail.com. Be sure to follow us on our Class Group Facebook Page TF South Class of 1969 - 50th Reunion. And please share this information and our Life & Times with classmates you are in contact with. We hope to keep all our communiques through the Life & Times newsletter, Facebook, and email.

Friendships were renewed at our 40th Reunion in 2009. Now we are eager to see more relationships blossom this October as we celebrate the bonds that held us together 50 years ago!

—Your TF South Class of '69 50th Reunion Committee

A 50th Reunion Message from Our TFS English Teacher...

I'm moving to Phoenix, Arizona this summer, but I plan to return for your 50th Reunion. You were one of my earliest classes and I enjoy keeping up. Once I am settled, I'd love to spend time with local Arizona Rebels.

—Mrs. Judy Kaufer Lohr-Safcik
(retired, TFS English Dept.)



Growing Up Lansing, All in a Song



Click on the photo of Indie Americana/Country artist Brian Grilli (TFS '90) and watch for all those old familiar places as he takes you on a musical tour of *our* hometown of Lansing, Illinois.

"My Hometown" is on Brian's second album, "Deep South Symphony." The album reached Billboard's 9 spot in Independent Albums and 11 on Billboard's Country Music Album chart in December 2018. Click here [Nov. 11, 2018 Lansing Journal](#) and here [BrianGrilli.com](#) to read more about Brian.

Life & Times Heard from...

Mike Manno (TFS '71)—Class of '69, thanks for all the updates and hard work you folks do. We all appreciated it very much.

Rich Dust (President, Dist. 215 Board of Education)—I hope you have a great reunion.

Sandra Fritz Zaborski (Illinois)—Tim and I celebrated our 42nd Anniversary on February 27th. Though many health issues, we're both still here taking a day at a time!

Marlene Koster Taylor (Texas)—Another great issue! [March 2019] Can't wait for the October Reunion! My grandson arrived home for a 2-week leave after spending 8 months deployed to the Mediterranean Sea. It got me wondering, how many of us have children or grands in the military?

Chris Cooper (Illinois)—Can't wait for spring to go after the big brother to this guy at Shadow Lakes in Wilmington, Illinois, fishing off my dock. In August 2018, we bought a Park Model on the water. We are "trunk slammers." Sunday night we load up the trunk with our stuff, then slam it shut and head home. It's only 45

minutes back to Mokena.



Happy April Birthday!

Donna Woods Tadd, Bob Guadagno, Robert Ranfranz, Patty Diebel Kwasny, Kenneth Jayne, Donna Nigohosian Magro, Dave Ervin, Alan Danaher, Tom Novak, Dave Mellendorf, Dennis Knoerzer

Classmates Celebrating April Wedding Anniversaries

Terri & **Jack Yauger** (Indiana)—33 years

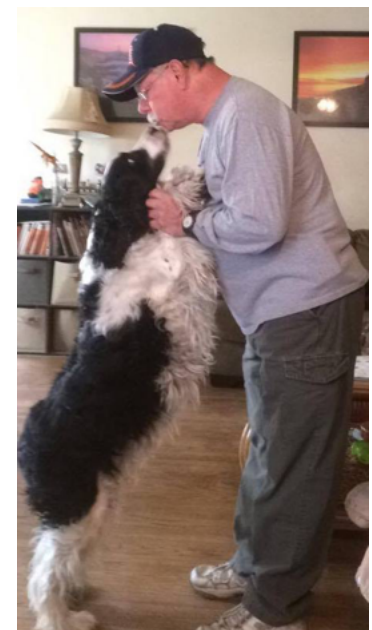
Tim & Linda Kuechele Wells (Indiana)—47 years

Congratulations!

Deb Ruth Mazzocco (Minnesota) retired from The St. Paul Pioneer Press in March. Deb began her journalism career as co-editor of the Rebel Rouser in 1968. She graduated from the University of Illinois in 1973 and has wielded a mighty pen (and more recently a computer) ever since. We wish you well, Deb, as you turn the page to new adventures!

A Loyal Companion

Dakota, a beautiful English Springer Spaniel, was an honorary Class of '69 mascot. Her soulful gaze and tolerance for being posed in silly headgear frequently illustrated TEAM69's Facebook holiday greetings. Dakota left Dave Dickinson's family in March at the age of 13. She was loving and loyal and would endlessly race after a tennis ball. Those of us who have lost companions understand the indelible pawprints they leave on our heart.





We're Always Looking for Classmates

We've lost touch with some of our classmates. Please help us find them. If you are in contact with anyone listed below, or if you know where missing classmates are or you are forwarding the newsletter to a classmate, let us know at TFSouth69@gmail.com. We'd like to invite him or her to subscribe to the Life & Times.

Wayne Brumm
Jim Stevens
Cindy Stelzer
Anne Stamper Martin
Barb Sroka Carlson
Scott Southard
Adair Simmons

Angie Schurman
Karen Schultz
Bob Rossman
Jim Robbins
Bill Rosenthal
Jim Roesel
Linda Rodiguez

Stay in Touch

Help us keep our Class of '69 database current. Send changes in your phone number and email and snailmail addresses to TFSouth69@gmail.com

AND...Our 229 classmates and friends of the class stay in touch by subscribing to our free monthly newsletter. Not subscribed? You can get 'er done at our website tfsclassof69.weebly.com or with an email to TFSouth69@gmail.com.



Share Your Vista

Send a photo of where you live and tell us what you like about the place you call home. Email your photo to TFSouth69@gmail.com

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Editorial: TFS TEAM69 Communications
Photos: Monte Hudoc, Judy Lohr-Safcik,
Chris Cooper

Send Your News to the Life & Times

We love hearing from you and about you. Email us TFSouth69@gmail.com or message us at our Facebook page [Tfsouth Classofsixty-nine](https://www.facebook.com/TfsouthClassofsixty-nine)

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 [Our Website tfsclassof69.weebly.com](http://tfsclassof69.weebly.com)

Mission of the TFS Class of 1969: To promote and grow our network of TFS

Class of 1969 friendships by sharing information and planning reunion events to keep the spirit of the 40th Reunion alive and vibrant.

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