

February 2019[Click here for a printable PDF
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Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

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



by **Art Banet** (Alaska)

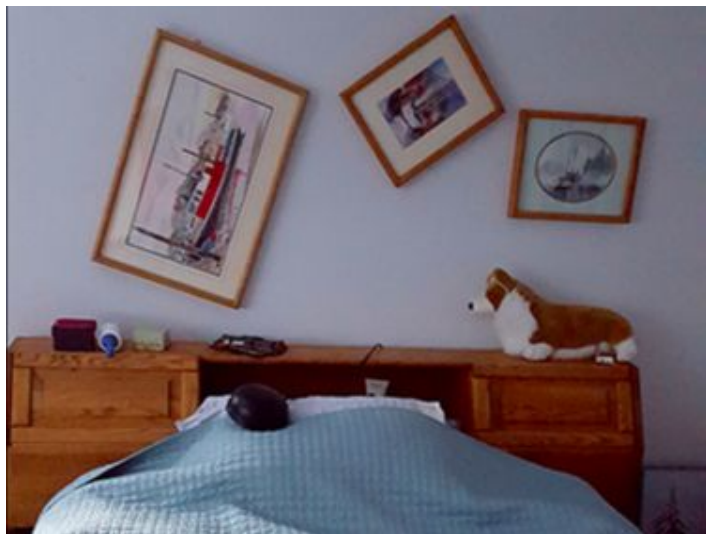
Since we arrived in Anchorage back in 1981, we have been through quite a few earthquakes of assorted magnitudes and distances from us. Most of those I considered a geologic curiosity/fact of life and educational. About a half dozen will remain emblazoned in my memory forever. Earlier in 2018 we felt a large quake. I said at that time that was as large a quake as I ever cared to feel.

As of 30 November, 2018, those words are cheap, as we made it through the magnitude 7 event centered about 20 miles north of us. We're OK...rather shaken, however. Someone described it as having a runaway freight train run through your house.



Everything happened at once—the roar, the initial pulse, and the shaking. I'd been working on a column for the Geological Society. I bolted from the PC and headed to the living room. I grabbed the globe made of semi precious stones and placed it on the floor. I got no further when the lights went out. Everything was shaking, things were falling and crashing and the house groaned from every corner. This was by far the most vigorous and violent event we'd ever encountered. I hung on to the mantle for dear life for the longest time. I feared we'd have broken windows, broken walls and foundation. The shaking lasted about 30 seconds and that seemed to be forever. A few minutes later another quake shook us in the dark. It was smaller at magnitude 5.7, but not by much.

Fortunately, we knew where our lights and lanterns were and soon found that our casualties were bookcases unloaded, smashed/crashed knick knacks, broken picture glass/frames, and a few ceramic things. The cupboards kept things intact.



The worst though was heading downstairs in the dark and hearing running water. It seems a T-fitting on the water line to the boiler for the in-floor heating had cracked, and water was spraying across a room. I first turned off all the water to the house. Then when the water kept spraying, I started turning the valves to the boiler. I also killed the gas and turned the boiler off. It still didn't staunch the water. So I rigged a screen to keep it from spraying everywhere. Then I mopped and broomed water into the floor drain for a long time.

After I took a break and checked on the neighbors and their gas lines, I got back to the boiler. By this time, we were getting some daylight and I finally found the valve which isolated the boiler. It killed the spray. I figure it was draining the whole house. I felt like Mickey Mouse in the Sorcerer's Apprentice, but it was probably closer to 10 or 15 gallons.

Without power for a few hours, we heard every aftershock rumbling like approaching

thunder before the shakings. There were several each hour following the main quake. These things really shake you up even if you know they probably aren't going to be major. We heard them even after the power returned, and of course, all through the night. Sleep didn't come easily for a couple of days.

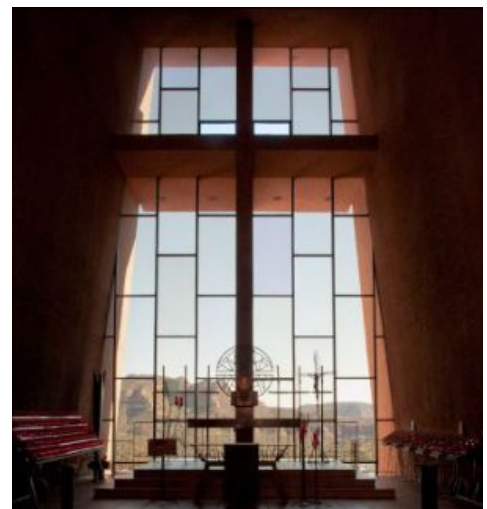
I've gotten the books re-shelved and discovered that a ceramic apple about a foot in diameter held 37.4 lbs of pennies and small change. Damage varied from room to room, but we've found no structural damage, although about 100 buildings in Anchorage were listed as uninhabitable and another 200 required a lot of work. Earthquake insurance is expensive with about \$50,000 deductible. It's still debatable whether it's worth it.

It's true that when your world reminds you of your true minuscule status in the Universe you get religion...and with every aftershock too. So far, I'm through Pastafarianism and on my way to Zoroastrianism.

A Valentine for Linda

by **Ken Hanes** (Indiana)

My wife Linda and I celebrated our 45-year anniversary in January. We celebrated our 35th year anniversary renewing our wedding vows at the Chapel of the Holy Cross on the red rocks of Sedona, Arizona. What a beautiful place.



I remember telling Linda 45 years ago before the ceremony that I didn't understand what I was to say. She said, "I do," then I said, "Yes, but I don't." Again she said, "I do," and again I said, "I know you do, but I don't." Then as she stood staring at me in amazement, it dawned on me. Duhhh. I DO! That's what I need to say.

"I DO."

Our wedding was January 12th, 45 years ago, and the magic is still here. Happy Anniversary and Happy Valentine's Day to my lovely wife and partner.



A 50th Reunion Message from Marilyn...

When people talk about class reunions, college chums, etc., I tell them about our great class, that I have no friends from college but many from high school—and that our class has a monthly newsletter. The response is always the same: "WHAAAAAT?!?!" We've gotta' be extraordinary, if not unique.

I am so excited for the 50th Reunion! Is this the universe telling me that Rick and I made the right decision with our move to Chicago in January? Yes! It will be wonderful to reconnect with so many dear friends in The Region.

—Marilyn Rea Beyer (Illinois)



SAVE THIS DATE!

TFS CLASS OF 1969 50TH REUNION PARTY

Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019

at VILLA CESARE Schererville, Indiana

There will be Friday & Saturday activities, too.

Watch for hotel info in your email inbox next week!

TFS '69—50th Reunion Committee Report Looking for a Little Help from Our Friends

The 50th Reunion Volunteer Committee is rolling along and gaining speed as we approach Oct. 2019. It sure could use a few more wheels to keep it going. No need to be in town, because you can help remotely in this digital age.

Send an email to the 50th Reunion Committee if you can help with the details for our 50th Reunion or if you will attend the next committee meeting March 1.

tfs69.50threunion@gmail.com

Hey Class of '69 Rock 'n' Rollers!



Dust off your vinyls from the 60s to early 70s. Your 50th Reunion Committee is compiling your record requests for our DJ to throw into his mix at our 50th Reunion party Oct. 5th, 2019.

Tell us your faves from our years together. Include ARTIST AND SONG! Please try to limit your faves to 10 songs and send them before Feb. 20 to tfs69.50threunion@gmail.com

What's in Your Vista, Lee?



Lee Fetscher recently moved from the Great Northwoods of Wisconsin to Indiana. Lee sends his new vista and a message about his new home.

Hello my 69er friends. Just to update my info, I moved. I left my dream house in Wisconsin and moved to Plymouth, Indiana. It's another lake home, and it's closer to my family and granddaughter. The commute went from 7 hours to an hour and a half to see the family. It was a good decision and everyone is happy. It's fun being closer to old friends and the old stomping grounds, too. —**Lee Fetscher** (Indiana)

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

Happy February Birthday!

Art Banet, Denise Steinberg Johnson, Carol Mizanin Zenk, Bill Hutchison, Bonnie Van Kley O'Connor, Chris Cooper, Marcia Yuskowitz Irvin, Vita Klos, Glenn Armstrong, Chuck Roseen, David Kats, Lee Fetscher, Bob Collins, Michele Linn Robins, Dennis Walton, Fred Hasse

Classmates Celebrated January Wedding Anniversaries

Linda & **Ken Hanes** (Indiana)—45 years
Ken & **Maxine Hinze Rogers** (Nebraska)—47 years
Maureen & **Bill Hutchison** (Indiana)—13 years
Doug & **Sherry Nondorf Bingham** (Indiana)—45 years

Classmates Celebrating February Wedding Anniversaries

Karen & **George Grote** (Illinois)—28 years
Mario & **Christine Nelson Haro** (Indiana)—30 years
Lee & **Larry Valent** (Illinois)—32 years
Larry & **Ruth Percak Patterson**—49 years
Juliana & **John Hansen** (South Carolina)—46 years
Susan & **Jim Wagner** (South Carolina)—35 years

Life & Times Heard from...

Scott Tatje (Arizona) Thank you for another great issue! Yes, I am planning on going to our 50th class reunion! Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Robert J. Murray (Georgia)—Happy New Year from Atlanta. Alright everyone, time to start working out, get healthy & be ready to Party Like Rock Stars. The 50th Reunion is right around the corner. Glad to still be Alive!

Ruth Percak Patterson (Indiana)—I would like to thank everyone involved in the newsletter. We may not always express our thanks and appreciation, but we feel it each time we read a communication. I would like to add my 49th wedding anniversary on February 21st to the list for me and my husband Larry. This is an accomplishment I am most proud of, especially in today's world. Thank you all.

Sue Mullen Kotur (TFS '70)—I love reading your newsletter. Seeing that you're having a 50th class reunion is making me a bit jealous. The Class of 70 hasn't had one in almost 15 years or more.

Lee Fetscher (Indiana)—Thank you guys for the wonderful job you do keeping us all informed and a close knit Class of '69. We couldn't be happier and luckier to have you guys.



We're Always Looking for Classmates

We've lost touch with some of our classmates. If you are in contact with anyone listed below, or if you are forwarding the newsletter to a classmate, please invite him or her to subscribe to the Life & Times through our website TFSClassof69.weebly.com or by contacting us at TFSouth69@gmail.com

Barbara Witke Fendrick
Rene Winterhoff Knight
Wayne Wilson
David White
Owen Watterson

Carol Washburn Racek
Margie Ward Pokin
Larysa Wanshula
Jayme Walton Kennedy
Hank Vlietstra

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 227 classmates and "friends of the class" stay in touch by subscribing to our free monthly newsletter. Not subscribed? Sign up at our website tfsclassof69.weebly.com or email us at TFSouth69@gmail.com.



February 2019 Life & Times

Editorial: TFS **TEAM69** Communications
Photos: mapsoftheworld.com, Art Banet,
BillHutchisonPhotography.com, Ken
Hanes, Marilyn Rea Beyer, Lee Fetscher

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or message us at our Facebook
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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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