

July 2015

Richie says, "Raise your hand if you remember the 1969 TFS sideburns rule."

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## Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

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

### Classmate with a Passion—

## Photographer in Focus: Bill Hutchison

**TEAM69** is proud of our Rebel classmates who have a passion for a hobby or a career, and we'd like you to know more about them. This month in a Life & Times Q and A, **Bill Hutchison** (Indiana) answers our 12 questions.

**Q:** Bill, when did you first pick up a camera and what kind of camera was it?

**A:** I was 11 years old. It was a Kodak Brownie.

**Q:** Where did your interest go from there?

**A:** I built a pinhole camera when I was in 7th grade for the Science Fair at Memorial Jr. High. I developed the negative and printed it at the Lansing Police Station. My father was the evidence photographer for the Lansing Police Department. When I was 19, I built my own darkroom and developed thousands of images in there. I will always have a love for film photography. I enjoyed the darkroom, but I don't miss working in the dark with all the chemicals.



**Q:** Has what you like to capture changed over the years?

**A:** When I first started I photographed anything that I liked or caught my eye. While in the Navy I started to do more landscape photography. I still shoot just about anything that has interesting light.

**Q:** What special quality about you do you think enhances your photos?

**A:** Patience, eye for color, seeing things from a different perspective, observation skills, awareness of light and shadow. These are actually skills that all photographers learn and practice and are necessary if you want to improve and grow as a photographer.

**Q:** Do you have a favorite photo or photo-shoot location?

**A:** My favorites are constantly changing. That's also what I enjoy about landscape photography. Every time I return to a place, I have a chance of capturing or creating something different. The light and landscape are constantly changing.

**Q:** Do you have a wish-list photo you'd like to capture?

**A:** I'm hoping to make it to Crater Lake National Park in Oregon or Acadia National Park in Maine to shoot the Milky Way. I have yet to be in Yellowstone National Park, so that's on the list also. This country is filled with beauty from coast to coast, so it's hard to just pick one or even just a few.

**Q:** Whose work do you admire?

**A:** Ansel Adams, Eliot Porter, Alex Boyd, Art Wolfe, Cory O'Neill, Joseph Rossbach. These are just a few whose work I admire and have studied.

**Q:** Tell us about the camera equipment you use.

**A:** My main camera body is a Nikon D810. I use Nikon Lenses, and Gitzo Mountaineer tripod with a Markins Q20 ballhead.

**Q:** What are your thoughts on digital vs. film?

**A:** Even though people still shoot film there is no denying that digital is the future and the new frontier. I have always loved learning new technology and the challenge that goes with it. I started studying Photoshop in 1994 and still get excited when new versions with new tools are added. Basically the whole process is the same for me from capture to print, just in a different format. The main goal for me has always been to get it right in the camera and do as little as needed in post processing. This is still the way I shoot today.

**Q:** Do you have a preference for black and white or color?

**A:** I love both and feel each has its own place. I look at a lot of my images in both B&W and color and decide which suits the image best. That's another thing I like about digital photography. I shoot in RAW (a digital negative) so I can choose which I want to use at the

time of processing. Although I believe my best B&W have been from images I envisioned as a B&W image and purposely shot to be in B&W.

**Q:** Can we see your work on social media and your website?

**A:** I often post sample images from recent shoots on FaceBook.

[www.facebook.com/Hutch3531](http://www.facebook.com/Hutch3531)

And a catalog of my work can be viewed at my website.

[www.billhutchisonphotography.com](http://www.billhutchisonphotography.com)

**Q:** Anything else you'd like to tell our readers?

**A:** I have a love for creating images and don't limit myself to just landscape photography. There are so many interesting subjects to capture, I carry a camera almost all the time. I was also lucky to have a father who was a photographer and was willing to share his knowledge. I always wanted to be a professional photographer but when I was younger I didn't think I could make a good living at it unless I did weddings and portraits. I never enjoyed doing either of those and still don't. So I just continued photographing as a hobby. Sometimes I wish I would have just followed the dream and seen what happened.

*Oak Creek & Cathedral Rock, Arizona. Photo by Bill Hutchison*



© Bill Hutchison Photography

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## Three Grade-school Friends Reconnect

by Jerry Fritz (Virginia) and Marilyn Bee Boyer (Massachusetts)

by **Jerry Fritz** (Virginia) and **Marilyn Rea Beyer** (Massachusetts)



Memorial Jr. High friends **Jerry Fritz**, **Ginger Grundler Chinnici** (Washington, DC area), and **Marilyn Rea Beyer** found their paths intersecting once again.

Marilyn and Ginger were the most inseparable of grade-school pals through Coolidge Grade School and Memorial Jr. High. Even after Ginger moved soooo far away to Florida in her TFS sophomore year, Marilyn and Ginger kept in touch. When Marilyn and her husband Rick Beyer were in DC to promote Rick's latest book, *The Ghost Army*, Marilyn arranged for Ginger, who had recently relocated to the DC area, and Jerry Fritz to meet for dinner. After a few rounds of Facebook messages, emails, and phone calls—Voilà! this trio was finally seen together again. According to Jerry, "It was a delightful night glossing over adolescent foibles and smiling at sepia-colored memories."

### Trinity Lutheran School

## 50th Reunion a Success for 13 Trinity Alumni

by **Ron Schultz** (Illinois)



On June 6, 2015, the 1965 grade school graduates of Trinity Lutheran School reunited at their 50th reunion at the Lansing Knights of Columbus Hall. From the left are Davton

Williams, Brent Brinkman, Ellen Stole Cluver, Michelle Hasz, Nola Neubauer Moore, Gail Allen Poe, George Gussman, Gladys "Jeannie" Horgeshheimer Schwingendorf, Jerry Ogborn, Ron Schultz, Bruce Millis, Ken Conrad, and George Vincent.

Twelve of the 21 graduates reconnected along with one surprise classmate, Dayton Williams. Dayton was part of the class through 7th grade and then moved to Ohio. He now ministers to the deaf and lives in Evergreen Park, IL. Most of these returning Trinity classmates are also members of our TFS Class of '69. Kudos to Jerry Ogborn for his persistence in putting together a great reunion. A great time was had by all!

Sunday morning following the reunion, these classmates attended Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansing—Jerry Ogborn, Ron Schultz, Gail Allen Poe, Ken Conrad, and Nola Neubauer Moore.



## Ask Richie!

Hey Richie, Whatever happened to classmate Patrick Sassone?

**Richie Says:** Funny you should ask, because we failed to find Patrick for our 40th Class Reunion. But just this past month, Patrick, who had to leave TFS early in October 1968 because his too-long sideburns were non-compliant with the TFS dress code, (Sounds pretty weird today, doesn't it?), found us at our website and got in touch with **TEAM69**. Oh yes, Patrick Sassone, we do remember you—our Original Class Rebel!

### STUDENT OPINIONS VOICED

## Sideburns Dispute Hits South

Little is the fact that Pat Sassone was ordered by Dean Flopper to remove his sideburns, he refused and bowed the consequences. The extreme discipline suggested him while the discipline was the first time also suggested to the school.

The administration bases the firm stand on the Student Code of Ethics and Subchapter 10.2010 in the CONFERENCE, IT'S ABOUT CALIBRATION. Let's go to the level of 1969. He took a 4-10 discipline of being non-compliant in discipline.

On the sideburns issue school "Boys shall be clean shaven and well-groomed in neat attire and hair cutting."

More six a few students from South Alabama on Pat Sassone, that fact, and the sideburns issue.

A note is called "never." It's obvious "I have that same and I'll still have and sideburns were the last thing I wanted the school right now, but when the thing school kids that aren't the same."

If he isn't he might as well just leave." Carol Macaulay "I think there is a strong sense of communication between administration, faculty, and students. The whole situation

Here's Patrick's email to us all:

*I stumbled across this site and thought I'd drop a line. I don't know who remembers me, I'm Patrick Sassone and was part of the class of 1969.*

*I was the boy who had a dispute with the Dean over my sideburns in my senior year. I also attended Reavis and Memorial JH. After I withdrew from school I managed to finish by home schooling the rest of my senior year. I*



*moved to Arizona in 1977 where I had a great career in law enforcement (retired) and continue to have a great music career. I just wanted to let you know that I have very fond memories of Lansing, school, and all of my former classmates. I truly wish I could have graduated with my class, but my situation at the time dictated another course. I'm glad I did what I did, but I missed you all none the less. I will sign up for the newsletter and will definitely keep in touch.*

*All the best, Patrick*

[www.patricksassone.com](http://www.patricksassone.com)

## Car Repair Is on the Air

Listen to Rebel radio personality, Your Car Guy **George Vincent** (Illinois), every Saturday morning at 9 am Central on WJOB 1230am and streaming on [wjob1230.com](http://wjob1230.com). George says, "After 44 years, if I haven't fixed it...well, you know." You can also find George on his Facebook page.



**Do Catch Ron Hanchar  
Singing Doo-Wop. Aug. 21**



Classmate **Ron Hanchar** (Maryland) is back singing with his old *a capella* doo-wop group, Harbor Lights. They'll be in concert at the Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Rd., Munster, Indiana, at 7 pm, Friday, Aug 21. You can hear their fun tunes (and sing along too!) at the Harbor Lights website: [harborlightsdoo-wop.com](http://harborlightsdoo-wop.com). For tickets to the Harbor Lights Tribute to Doo-Wop Aug. 21, go to [www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com](http://www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com)

### **TFS School News**

## **MLB's Curtis Granderson Gives Back to the Athletic Dept.**



This past school year, NY Mets All-Star Curtis Granderson (TFS '99) donated sports equipment to TFS through his Grand Kids Foundation. Curtis's foundation aids positive youth development through education, physical fitness, and nutrition.

In 2011, Curtis was honored at TFS as the second player to have his TFS baseball jersey, No. 14, retired. The first retired jersey is No. 22 belonging to Curtis's coach, Mr. Bill

Anderson. You can follow Curtis on Twitter @cgrand3 and visit his Grand Kids Foundation website [www.thegrandkidsfoundation.org](http://www.thegrandkidsfoundation.org)

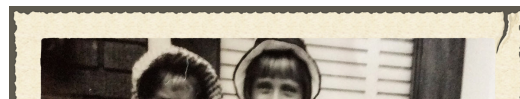
### **And More TFS School News**

## **Your Brother Tim is Proud of You, Coach Wells!**

Our classmate **Tim Wells** (Indiana) is the brother of Mike Wells (TFS'66). Tim wants us to know that his brother Mike has devoted much of his professional career to TF South. For more than 35 years, Mike was called "Mr. Wells" by the students in his TFS history classes and "Coach" by the freshman and varsity baseball players. Mike retired to Arizona, but the Padsen brothers, Tom and Bob, brought him back to Illinois and TFS to help coach varsity football. Tim says, "I'd like to acknowledge my brother for the 43 years he's been involved at South. I am proud to be his brother."

## **Lansing Centennial Memories**

**Sherry Nondorf Bingham** (Indiana)



pulled this 1954 Lansing Centennial photo from her albums to share with us. Wearing dresses Mrs. Nondorf stitched up for the celebration are Sherry's sister Nancy Nondorf Kopf (TFS '68), cousin Sandra Wolff Gangolf (TFS '67), and Sherry.



Visit our Gallery page of photos at our website  
[tfsclassof69.weebly.com/gallery.html](http://tfsclassof69.weebly.com/gallery.html)

## TEAM69 Heard from...

**Rich Krilich** (Illinois): Great job keeping the spirit of the "Class of 69" Alive! Nice articles and pics from the Classes of 1965, too!

**Jerry Fritz** (Virginia): The 50th Junior High edition was excellent. A shared path is comforting since, for no other reason, it doesn't need to be described and lost in the translation.

**Marilyn Rea Beyer** (Massachusetts): We have had such a wonderful history of friendships, haven't we?

**Kathy Prondzinski-Dugovich Fabanich** (Pennsylvania): So much fun to read. You all do a great job! Keep them coming!

**Michael J. Sanow** (Illinois): Great to see the Mancino's of Lansing on Sundays remarks in [the June issue].

**Nykky McCarly-Cameron** (President of the Northwestern University Alumni Club of Phoenix, Arizona): I grew up not too far from Lansing in Gary, IN. It's marvelous about the work you've done with reinvigorating the connections shared among your class. Congrats! I saw some of your newsletters when I visited your website. You guys are having a ton of fun!

## Making Connections

**Mike Sanow** invites all TFS graduates and current and former teachers to Mancino's Pizza & Grinders, 3300 Ridge Rd., Lansing, every Sunday at noon to meet, chat, grab a bite to eat, and support a Lansing business. Get more info from **Michael J. Sanow** on his Facebook page.

**Barbara Homans Schwarz** (Michigan, Florida) would enjoy having a Florida mini-reunion of classmates. Barbara can be found on her Facebook page.

## Help us find classmates

These classmates have dropped off our radar and are not subscribed to the *Life & Times*:

Gregg Abell, Jim Behrens, Chrstie Beres Bis, Jeanette Burnson, Beverly Burton Harry Barrett Mike Costello, Sandy Crawford, Debbie Denier, Linda Dommer, Lawrence Emery, Sanda Goddard, Tom Harrington, Sarah Hepler, Jim Jansma, Sandra Janson, Betty Kaprczyski, Diane Kegebein, Liz Kersten.

If you can help find them, please let us know, or send them to our website to subscribe to our newsletter.

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



## Happy July Birthday!

Robert J. Murray, Glenn Wierzbicki, Jack Wiers, Al Greenfield, Dan White, Rob Garrison, Deb Ruth Mazzocco, Nancy Horvatich Tschischik, Bob Hanink, Mark Feigenbaum

## Celebrating June Wedding Anniversaries

Rick and **Marilyn Rea Beyer** (Massachusetts)—29 years  
Emma Sue Taylor and **Fred Hasse** (Kentucky)—15 years  
Carol Lei Bendell (TFS '70) and **Jack Weirs** (Hawaii)—9 years

Photo credits: Bill Hutchison, Jerry Fritz, Ron Schultz, Patrick Sassone, George Vincent, School District 215, Sherry Nondorf Bingham  
Technical assistance: Bill Hutchison  
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### You Can Follow These Rebels on Twitter Too!

**Kathy Orban** @OrbanKO  
**Dennis Knoezer** @dennisknoerzer1  
**Becky Eck** @EckEck1  
**Marilyn Rea Beyer** @marilynreabeyer  
**Diana Steinweg Plese** @DianaPlese  
**Frank Mazzocco** @MazzoccoPhoto and @MazzPuck  
**Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis** @Dutchlady10  
**Deb Ruth Mazzocco** @debmazzPiPress  
**Pat Walsh** @WalshpatWalsh  
**Rene Starhenc** @ReneStarhenc

Bill Hutchison @hutch3531  
Harry Smith @HarrySmith  
Mike McNary @comeridethwhale  
Curtis Granderson @cgrand3  
Pierre Thomas @Pierre\_Thomas  
Thornton Fractional HS @tfd215



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***Our Mission: 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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