

**May 2017**

Richie Rebel says, "Friends, like wine, get better with age."

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## Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

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

**Fine Wine & the Lake Michigan Shore—**

# **An Exquisite Summer Festival**

by **Pam Neal Pfeffer**



If you think Michigan is not the place for fabulous wine, you'd be thinking wrong. If you like wine and are looking for summer fun, come and experience Michigan wine country.

My husband Mel (TFN '66) and I live near the shores of Lake Michigan in Bridgman, Michigan. We moved here in June 1993 with our two daughters. We found a wonderful home on five acres, three of which are covered with grape vines. We learned a great many things about the vines

from some remarkable people who were gracious enough to share their knowledge.

During our early years here, wineries began to pop up in the area. They soon came together to start the [Lake Michigan Shore Wine Trail](#) consisting of a dozen wineries and tasting rooms within a short drive of each other.



Initially, during a two-day event, visitors could visit all the wineries up and down the shores of Lake Michigan tasting and trying food made with local wine. This was very successful and made for a fun weekend, but it soon became apparent that there were too many wineries to visit in just two days.

As a result, the wineries created the [Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival](#). For one day each year, all the wineries come together in one location so the public can sample more wine without the hassle of driving to all the different wineries.

The festival is held at Weko Beach, which is right next to Warren Dunes for those of you who remember going there the day after our TFS prom. The continued success of the festival over the years brought more and more wineries in to join the fun. There are now more than 20 wineries participating in the festival.

Mel and I have been volunteering for the festival for many years now. We're first on duty when the gates open to the public. In the beginning, we helped [Domaine Berrien Cellers](#) pour the different wines they brought to the festival. However, for the past few years we have moved over to selling tickets for the actual tasting.



If you attend this year's festival **Saturday, June 17, 2017**, let me tell you what to expect when you arrive.

As you drive into Weko Beach, you come up over a small hill, and the first thing you see are the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan.

As you look to your right, there are the trucks that house all

of the wine, ice, and supplies, and next to them is the giant tent for all the wineries that are already set up and ready to go.

Parking is free, but there is not enough parking at the beach for everyone. However, there is additional parking at many of the nearby businesses, and free shuttle buses are available for those having to park farther away.

The festival does charge an admittance fee, but with the fee you get a wine glass that you will use to taste as many of the available wines that you wish to try. After paying the admittance fee, you may see Mel and me along with other volunteers at a nearby table selling tickets for the tasting. Each ticket costs a dollar and the average taste is around three tickets. A full glass of wine could cost between seven and eight tickets, depending on the winery.

Bottled water is also available for a dollar and food is cash only. There are several food vendors to choose from, and entertainment is provided throughout the day and night by several bands. Closing time is 10 pm since the festival is held near a residential area.

It is an exquisite setting for a fun day as you walk the beach with a glass of merlot in hand, salute the lake boats with a chalice of chardonnay, or sway to the music as you sip a local pinot noir. Mel and I hope to see you there!

Michigan Shore Wine Festival at Weko Beach will be held **Saturday, June 17, 2017, 1 to 10 pm EST.**

Each year more than 4,000 wine and sun lovers enjoy the Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival, which is usually held the Saturday before Father's Day.

[lakemichiganwinefest.com](http://lakemichiganwinefest.com)  
[miwinetrail.com](http://miwinetrail.com)



## Rebels Remembered Wall of Honor Dedication

Saturday, May 27, 2017

Everyone is invited to the unveiling and dedication of the **Rebels Remembered Wall of Honor.** This display of names honoring our fallen classmates and those who

served with Rebel Pride has been a multi-year TFS student project under the guidance of TFS Social Studies teacher, Mr. Chris Roberts.

The dedication will be held **Saturday, May 27, 2017, at 11 am in the TF South Grand Lobby.** The TF South Band and Choir will perform.

## Ask Richie—

**Hey Richie!** I'm confused. Am I an alumni or an alum of TF South?

**Richie:** Let's unknit your furrowed brow and figure this out. *Alumni* is plural. It's a group of male or a group of male and female graduates or former students. But since



we're talking Latin, there's more.

An *alumnus* is 1 male. An *alumna* is 1 female, but get a group of just gals together and you've got *alumnae*. Seriously.

Still confused? Then go ahead and use *alum* and *alums*. They're gender-neutral and more casual. But as long as long as you put **TFS** in front, it sounds good to me! Go Rebels!

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## TFS TEAM69 Heard from...

**Scott Tatje** (Arizona)—Great April article by **Mike Wright** about "The Story of Photo 1198" [*Life & Times* April 2017]. Keep up the good work!

**Donna Torgerson Clark** (Illinois)—WOW! I loved the story of **Mike Wright's** "awakening"! ["The Story of Photo 1198," *Life & Times* April 2017] Your photography is amazing, Mike, and thank you for sharing your personal epiphany! I believe!

**Patricia Bain Mansker** (Illinois)—I believe the newsletter gets better each month. Romance in February, theatre in March, and photography and spirits in April! What interesting lives we have! I always look forward to the newsletter! And I'm looking forward to the 50th!

**Mr. Chris Roberts** (TFS Social Studies teacher, History Club Sponsor)—Thank you for all that you have done! The TFS Wall of Honor unveiling at 11 am on Saturday, May 27 is open to the public. Anyone interested may attend. Please pass along the information to former service members.

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## Happy May Birthday!

Marlene Koster Taylor, Wayne Wilson, Kathy Urban, Tony Perovich, John Link, Pat Link Cox, Christine Markiewicz Paryl, Becky Bonnar Eck, Kathy Prondzinski Dugovich-Fabanich, Donna Torgerson Clark, Alan Eckhardt, Paul Warn, Christine Nelson Haro, Barb O'dell Johnson, Norma Albertson Koch, Bud Jenkins, Patricia Walsh, Maxine Hinze Rogers, Anita Harris O'Dell

## Celebrating an April Anniversary!

Terri & **Jack Yauger** (Indiana)—31 years

# Congratulations!

Classmate **Roger Yochem** (Illinois) and three *Life & Times* subscribers, Richard Dust (TFS '65), Mike Manno (TFS '71), and Maureen Grady-Perovich, stepped up to serve the Lansing community and were elected to public office April 4, 2017.

Roger and Richard were re-elected to their seats on the District 215 Board of Education. Mike and Maureen were elected to the Village of Lansing Board of Trustees.

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## Help Us Connect with Our Classmates

Help us locate our classmates with whom we've lost contact. Invite them to get in touch and to subscribe to our monthly TFS Class of 1969 *Life & Times* e-newsletter. Classmates can reach us through our website [tfsclassof69.weebly.com](http://tfsclassof69.weebly.com), email address [TFSouth69@gmail.com](mailto:TFSouth69@gmail.com), or on our Facebook page.

Here are the classmates we're looking for this month—

Ron Carlson  
Linda Campbell  
Ken Burse  
John Burnetsky  
Tom Brunke  
Marvin Brown  
Brent Brinkman

Carol Brauer Sherby  
Bill Bramowicz  
Darlene Bos Fennema  
Kathleen Bolek McKay  
Linda Bolda Talesky  
Rosemary Bieda Tomko  
Tom Beswick



Click here to forward the Life & Times to classmates, family, & friends

## Stay in Touch!

Our 205 subscribers stay in touch through our monthly e-newsletter, the *Life & Times of the Rebels of '69*. Send us your comments, news, photos, classmate re-connections, questions, stories, story ideas, and reflections on the past, present, or future to [TFSouth69@gmail.com](mailto:TFSouth69@gmail.com) or message us through our Facebook page [Tfsouth Classofsixty-nine](https://www.facebook.com/TfsouthClassofsixty-nine).

## Subscribe

Get the monthly *Life & Times* directly into your email inbox by subscribing for FREE on our website [tfsclassof69.weebly.com](http://tfsclassof69.weebly.com) or by sending us an email or a Facebook message.

## For the May *Life & Times*

Photos: Mel & Pam Neal Pfeffer, [lakemichiganwinefest.com](http://lakemichiganwinefest.com), [miwinetrail.com](http://miwinetrail.com)

Editorial: Patricia Walsh, Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis

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## Need to Update?

Have you changed your email address? Let us know by clicking the update link at the bottom of this newsletter.

Help us keep your snailmail and email addresses and phone number current in our class database. Send changes to [TFSouth69@gmail.com](mailto:TFSouth69@gmail.com) or message us on our Facebook page.



 **Tfsouth Classofsixty-nine**

 **@TFSTeam69**

**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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