



Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

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

Touring Alaska by Sue Taylor Hasse

My husband **Fred Hasse** (Kentucky) asked me if I would like to go to Hawaii or Alaska. Alaska was my immediate answer. This was one of the things on my "Bucket List." I had been to every state except Alaska.

I'd heard so much about how beautiful it was up there, so on May 10, 2015, along with Fred's sister Susan Hasse Korona (TFS '65) and her husband, we boarded the Princess Cruise Line's *Ruby Princess* and off we went.



Fred and Sue



We went to Juneau, Skagway, and Ketchikan. We witnessed the orca whales and calves and a few humpback whales. Beautiful eagles were flying everywhere. They were so plentiful with dozens of them flying over the ship and the towns. It seemed to be a bit early for the bears and

other wildlife to be coming out. It was exceptionally warm there, but the bears have a distinct hibernation period.



After two days of sailing, we entered Tracy Arm, a fjord near Juneau that led to our first glacier. It was colder than all get out on this river, so naturally we each had to go purchase a coat...on the ship, no less. The ship literally turned itself around in this river. That was amazing to watch. One way in and one way out.



Our journey then led us to Juneau. It was a little warmer there, so off came the coats and on came the lighter jackets. In Juneau, Susan and I boarded a seaplane to fly through the mountains to see five other glaciers.

The glacier shown here is one of five that is growing. The other four have been melting in the past 20 years, but have stabilized now, and their predictions are that they will start growing in size within the next few years.

Glacier from the airplane



We also took the railway train to White Pass. It was an amazing trip. We wound around all the mountains into White Pass, an old diamond and gold mining mountain. It was a little struggle coming back down that mountain on a train with electric brakes. I kept asking if they had ever lost their brakes going down that mountain. Funny, I never did get an answer. But I had to laugh about it because it seemed to make the commentator a little nervous with me asking. It was great fun and we had lots of laughs.

The people in Alaska were extremely nice. The food on the ship was phenomenal and service was excellent. We went to all the shows on the ship and did a lot of shopping. The trip was fabulous. I would do it again in a heartbeat. I recommend that you see Alaska if you have never been there. It is breathtaking to say the least.



Sue's Travel Tip: *I really get seasick, so, if anyone would like the answer to this problem, it's ginger. A small bite of ginger each morning does the trick. At least it did for me.*

Living in Alaska

by Art Banet

Thanks for this opportunity to share some thoughts on living in Alaska. It's amazing to me that I've been here since 1981. I guess we've all come a long way since graduating from TF South.

Having successfully transitioned from worker to Free Range Geologist, I can appreciate just how fortunate I have been to have worked all over this state. There's been quite a few adventures in being in remote places. However, there have been some great adventures in and around Anchorage.





We get moose coming through every month or so. They spend a few days, lounging around.

Then they eat the garden and flowers at their leisure before moving on.



Generally they are pretty docile. However, one almost trampled me as I stepped out of my garage one morning. Big hoof prints and skid marks in the back yard lawn suggest it had something to do with rutting season.

Lynx have been known to come through too. I've found fresh bear dookey in the yard also.

I've also ridden my bike up a hill only to encounter a brown bear coming up the other side. I don't know how we didn't collide or how we both turned tail and headed off the ways we'd come, respectively.

Anchorage is about the right size town to live in. Of course we regularly get high winds, and we've gotten volcanic ash dumped on us a few times. And we've had earthquakes regularly. Some have been real attention-getters too!



Winter is a lot like Chicago's used to be, just a little colder, a whole lot longer, and dark almost all the time. Luckily there are miles of lighted ski trails all over town. Halloween is typically colder than a well digger's petunia patch.

Summer has midnight softball and golf. I like that. And I can say I've survived cold and wind during the kids' baseball and softball games. But that's summer; gone and done all too quickly. And I can't say enough about the great scenery and access to trails right outside of town.

This is home. I got married here. We reared two kids—one of each. They both attended college down south. Now one's in the middle of South Carolina, and the other is in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Visiting is fun. Summers are warm there, however. At least it brings me through Chicago, and I get to touch base with some people with whom I grew up. I cannot figure out why I stay here. I guess the shoe fits.



Photos of Art's Remote Alaska



Dredge on the river
and Art's canoe for
commuting to
Alaska's remote
areas

Fishing camp at
Elephant Point,
Alaska



Bears at the
Trans-Alaska
Pipeline System



Musk ox crossing
a river

Art's Wildlife Tip: *Take it from me...when you're out in remote areas, don't waste your time with a warning shot. It just makes bears curiouser and bigger!*

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