

October 2015

Richie Rebel says, "Go West, go fish, go start a business."

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# Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

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

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## How I Spent My Summer Vacation—

### Touring the American West

by Grace Demanuelle Talbot (California)

**M**y daughter-in-law Melanie has always wanted us to see where she grew up in the very small town of Clyde Park, Montana, about 45 minutes from Bozeman, Montana. My husband John and I finally decided to make it a fun family vacation. So on July 1, 2015, we got in our cars and started from Granite Bay, California, to our first stop, a four-day stay at Broken Leg Ranch, where we also toured Wild Horse Island on Flathead Lake.



#### Flathead Lake

**F**lathead Lake is the largest natural freshwater lake west of the Mississippi River in the contiguous United States. It is beautiful with many beautiful homes around the lake. At 2,160 acres, Wild Horse Island is the largest island in a freshwater lake west of Minnesota and has been a landmark since the Salish-Kootenai Indians were reported to have used it to pasture horses to keep them from being stolen by other tribes.



Rams and other wildlife, including bighorn sheep, mule deer, songbirds, waterfowl, bald eagles, and falcons, are also on the island. My son and granddaughter were blessed to be able to come really close to several rams.

## Glacier National Park

**W**hile we stayed at the Broken Leg Ranch, which was beautiful and peaceful in itself, we took a trip to Glacier National Park, which was amazing. So many beautiful waterfalls and the rugged Rockies, which are so different than the Sierras we are used to.



We drove on the Going-to-the-Sun Road, the dramatic 52-mile highway that divides Glacier Park East and West and crosses the Continental Divide at the 6,646-foot-high Logan Pass. They say the views from the trails are even more amazing. But even though we didn't walk the trails, what we saw was great!

## Yellowstone National Park

After 10 days, we started towards home by the way of Yellowstone National Park, another of God's great Creation for all of us to enjoy! We stopped at Mammoth Hot Springs and took the trail almost to the top. The sulfur formation was really breathtaking. We drove to the Lower and Upper Falls and also saw the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, which also was absolutely breathtaking. We have not been to the Grand Canyon, but I can imagine how beautiful it must be if the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone looks anyway close to it!

We stayed at the beautiful Lake Yellowstone Hotel. While relaxing in the huge sitting area, a string quartet played the National Anthem. It was great when I saw everyone stand up for the song. That song always brings tears to my eyes!



As we were leaving the park, we stopped to see Old Faithful erupt. Even though I have seen this before, I was still in awe of its power! We saw lots of bison, deer, and antelope. We were all disappointed that we didn't see any moose or grizzlies, but the beauty of everything we saw made up for it.



Our trip was a total of 12 days and almost 4,000 miles. Everyone, including the 2-yr-old and 7-year-old, did great on the road trip, and many, many great memories were made.



### **Grace's Travel Tip**

Did you know that you can purchase a senior pass (you need to be 62 or over) at any National Park entrance for a one time fee of \$10, and from then on your standard entrance fee for you and anyone in your vehicle will be free admission for the rest of your life. Sweet Deal!

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## **Classmates Connect Over Summer Vacation—**

### **Fishing for Muskies on Lake St. Clair**

by Rob Garrison (Illinois)

On a gorgeous morning in early August, **Butch Porter** (Michigan), **Rich Krilich** (Illinois),

and myself left Butch's home in Dowling, Michigan and headed for the Canadian waters of Lake St. Clair. This fishery is one of the smallest lakes in the Great Lakes system. It lies between the state of Michigan and the Canadian province of Ontario.

The boundary between the two countries falls in the middle of the lake. The shallow lake, estimated at an average of 10 feet in depth, is sandwiched between Lake Huron and Lake Erie. Lake St. Clair measures 26 miles in length by 24 miles in width, giving fishermen plenty of water to catch a big one on both sides of the border.

Thanks to the 40th TFS Class of 1969 Reunion, Butch and I discovered our common interest in the out-of-doors. We enjoy hunting, fishing, and golfing adventures with many other life-long friends, including **Bud Jenkins, Len Rompca, Paul Warn, and Dave Kats.**

This August trip to Lake St. Clair was to remove one of Rich's "Bucket List" items—Muskie fishing. Butch checked that item off of Rich's list with style. Nine Muskie and three Northern Pike, from 44 to 52 inches, were landed. A great time was had by all, and another memorable trip was made possible by the 40th Reunion.



Catching the bucket list muskie on Lake St. Clair are Rob Garrison, Butch Porter, Fishing Guides 1st Mate Gary and Captain Craig, and Rich Krilich.

## **We Remember Sue Myers Bredemann**

April 1951—September 2015

*Frank Mazzocco shares his memories of Suzie—*



She never changed. The loss of our classmate Sue Myers Bredemann is a loss that hurts, aches deeply. Suzie. It's hard not to use the name we called her in college. She was one of the sweetest creatures ever to walk the planet. Many of you will remember her from Memorial Jr. High, and most will remember her from TFS. But even though her locker was an arm's reach from mine, I didn't get to know Suzie until college.

Regardless of the school or how much time spent with her, we will all carry the same memories—a gentle kindness, a smile that radiated to fill rooms, a friend to all. She never changed.

Suzie and I shared much during our time at SIU. We were in a group that helped launch a campus radio station catering to students during the tumultuous early 70s. A small basement station, WIDB, became our lives, the real reason for going to college, and a vehicle to shed inborn shyness. Sue was the overnight, weekend host of what became a hallmark show called Pillow Talk. Nothing racy, just low key contemporary music with a host who brought warmth to crazy dorm life and to couples sharing quiet moments. To her tired, lonely, in-love, or oft-drunk listeners, she brought a deep, slow voice that was equal parts sultry, friendly, and big sister.

And that was Suzie. She always brought the charm and warmth of her native southern Illinois home of Hurst to all of us in Lansing, Carbondale, and her long-time home of Indianapolis. She never changed.

It was at SIU that Sue Myers met Ray Bredemann, another Radio-TV major. He was a news producer for over 30 years at an Indianapolis TV station. I don't know anyone of our generation as deeply devoted to a boyfriend and husband as Suzie was to Ray. In SIU circles, her love for Ray was legendary.

Sue passed away Saturday, September 26. Ray in 2011. We wonder about a broken heart. Her daughter Amanda's Facebook post says Sue battled a disease and its complications. Sue has a son Steve, a daughter Amanda, and three grandchildren. After looking at photos recent and old, one thing is obvious. She never changed.

**Bobby Murray Announces New Online Apparel Company—**

***Brizoo!***

I just opened a new online apparel company by the name of Brizoo Apparel & Swimwear with my daughter Rachel. I was in the apparel business for over 20 years before I started doing mortgages back in 1996. I have opened and created over 12 stores in my apparel career, so this new venture into the online world is now taking my experience worldwide.

We are very excited about our bright future of this new venture. The company was named after the Greek Goddess Brizo. who was the Goddess of fishermen and sailors. Our business will be comprised of about 30% swimwear, so Brizoo, which is pronounced vreez-OH because it is Greek, seems to fit perfectly. We added the extra o at the end to own the dotcoms that go along with our website [www.brizoo.com](http://www.brizoo.com) .



However, I am not giving up my day job as a Senior Mortgage Banker at CBC National Bank, where I currently do loans in all 50 states. My bank is the 43rd largest mortgage bank in the United States with over \$10 Billion in production starting back in 2007.

Say hello to everyone for me as I am alive and well.

**Robert J. (Bobby) Murray**  
(Georgia)

The Entrepreneurial Murray family—Bobby with (from left) daughter and business partner Rachel, Max, Gabrielle, and Toodie

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### ***Happy September Birthday!***

(Oops...We missed these September birthdays last month.)

Judy Gasquoine Hudock, Keith Gardner, Len Rompca

### ***Happy October Birthday!***

Mike McNary, Sally Steeb Harvey, Bill George, Alan Liptak, Henry Sterk, Jeri Kazen Morgan, Cheryl Ridder Woldhuis, Ruth Percak Patterson, Kathlene Dyrzcz Orr, Laurie McVicker Norris, George Grote, Eston Ellis

## *Celebrating September Wedding Anniversaries*

Dave and **Darlene Barzda Snell** (Indiana)—46 years  
Toodie and **Bobby Murray** (Georgia)—17 years  
Greg and **Kathy Neumann Smith** (Indiana)—34 years  
Cindy Gobberg (TFS '73) and **Dennis Knoerzer** (Missouri)—39 years



Cindy and Dennis, 1976

### *Welcome to the World!*

**Carolyn (Inky) White Scofield** (Illinois) and husband Dave have a beautiful new grandson. Austin Bradley was born in August.

Carol Stanhope (TFS '68) and **John Jones** (California) are "finally grandparents" with the arrival of Dylan in August.

Tim and **Sandra Fritz Zaborski** (Illinois) have another beautiful baby girl grandchild. Lisette Victoria arrived in September.



**4th Annual Lansing Autumn Fest Oct. 9, 10, 11**



For info, visit the Autumn Fest website:

<http://www.lansingautumnfest.org>

For a short YouTube video, go here:

<https://youtu.be/IYba5Lk2Ns>

To watch an interview with Autumn Fest chairwoman, Debbie Waitekus, click here:

<https://youtu.be/edyP4SAnFu4>

While at the Lansing Autumn Fest, look for TFS History teacher Christopher Roberts, who heads the TFS Rebels Remembered Veterans Project. Mr. Roberts and his crew will be collecting donations for a permanent TFS veterans' memorial. More about the Rebels Remembered Veterans Project in the upcoming November *Life & Times*.

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## **TEAM69** Heard from...

**Patrick Sassone** (Arizona): Thanks for including the video links [*Life & Times*, Sept. 2015]. We are working on new videos, and a new album is due out in the spring. I am so glad I reached out. I feel like I have made a long lost connection. All the best.

**Len Rompca** (Indiana): Great work on the newspaper. I could not imagine that it could be better. So many people you have reached out to. I truly enjoy reading about everybody, including those that I really did not know well previously. Thanks to you, now I know them a little bit better, including their spouses.

**Christine Nelson Haro** (Indiana): I look forward to each month's newsletter. Will have to forward some pics of the family!

**John Link** (Illinois): **Mike Wright** (Colorado) certainly has an eye for great scenes and the talent to capture its beauty through photography [*Life & Times*, Sept. 2015]. I'm impressed Mike!! It's great to have the newsletter and read about classmates. **TEAM69** is doing a great job. All the best.

**Darlene Barzda Snell** (Indiana): Love the newsletter! Will add something soon. Thanks for taking the time out for us.

**Glenn Wierzbicki** (Illinois): Very Nice.

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**TEAM69** is looking for classmates and their second and third generations who serve or have served in the military so we may honor them in our November *Life & Times*. We'd also like to know if we have

classmates who were military spouses.  
Message us on Facebook or email us,  
TFSouth69@gmail.com. Have a photo to  
share? We'd like that too!



## Help Us Contact Our Classmates

These classmates are not subscribed to the *Life & Times*. If you are in contact with them, please invite them to subscribe at our website [fsclassof69.weebly.com](http://fsclassof69.weebly.com). You can use the **Forward** button below to share the newsletter with classmates, family, and friends.

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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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