

FSU Gymnasts, Gymkana, Tallahassee Tumbling Tots, and Friends Newsletter, September 2010

(Fifty-Eighth Edition) jackmmiles@bellsouth.net

A lifetime of bragging rights

"Once teammates, always teammates" by Charlie Christian.

Visit your Web-Sites <fsugymnastics.org><tallahassee tumblingtots.org> Mike Mann, Webmaster

(Which also includes all back copies of the FSU Gymnastics Newsletters)

FSU Gymnastics Records (<http://www.nolefan.org/summary/index.html>) Robert Perrone, Webmaster

ANNIVERSARIES

Chick & Jennie Cicio	60 years, 61 in April, 11	Terri & Cheri Morris	44 years, in 2010
Don & Connie Holder	60 years, 61 in August 11	Bill & Carol Beavers	42 years, 43 in July, 11
Benny & Carolyn Wallace	57 years, 58 in May 11	Dick & Susie Gutting	43 years, 44 in June, 11
Ed & Jean Fernald	58 years, 59 in June 11	Wayne & Heather Thompson	40 years, 41 in January 11
Don & Patsy Rapp	56 years, 57 in May 11	Derek & Nancy Lawler	37 years, 38 in 2010
Carmine & Daneen Regna	56 years, 57 in August 11	Gail & Bill Whitney	38 years, 39 in August 11
Jim & Marlene Jackson	55 years, 56 in July, 11	Harmer & Magdalena Weichel	37 years, 38 in December 10
Sam & Topsy Bailie	54 years, 55 in June 11	Andy Anderson & Curtiss Long	35 years, 36 in December 10
Jon & Boots Culbertson	53 years, 54 in June 11	Joe & Dottie Taylor	33 years, 34 in September 11
Roger & Tamara Tucker Webb	52 years, 53 in November 10	Jimmy & Janie Hanks	31 years, 32 in November 10
Beverley & Bill Beaton	50 years, 51 in Sept. 11	Thom & Linda O'Conner	31 Years, 32 in May 11
Yoshi & Haruyo Hatano	45 Years, 46 in Oct. 10	Carrie Englert & Curtis Zimmermann	30 Years, 31 in 2011
Nancy Lamb & Bob Durocher	45 years, 45 in Dec. 10		
Jay (& Ellie) Schwarzman	Were married 50 years	Karsthin (& Lennart) Malmlin	Were married 47 years
Almira (& Jack) Sharp	Were married 48 years	Claire Essig (& Dick) Traynor	Were married 43 years

Don & Patsy Rapp | 53-55/58-60 | Patsy's operation

"Jack , Since we started up here to NY we have has quite and adventure. I don't even know if Patsy told you but she almost died of a perforated Colon. Operation, then some complication and finally we got here at our camp a month late. But she is alive and well and gaining lost strength each day. Emergencies do happen and when they do you want a good emergency room available. She survived because of a good surgeon and hospital in Alexandria, VA."

Barbara Sheehan Withers | 54-62 | Re. The "Tribute" and the 57th Newsletter

"Enjoy I did, and I had a great telephone conversation with Bev - thanks again, Jack, for the Tribute and for the newsletters, I am still so overwhelmed I am lost for words. Love, hugs and all that stuff, Barbara

Harmer & Magdalena Maggie Weichel | 48-53/59-61 | Pat Signorelli

"Great photo of Pat. I did not know he passed on. As we grow older, we are saddened by the deaths of friends and relatives which occur more often than we like. However, I believe we all meet again someplace, somewhere and sometime. Like the song, "those were the days my friends, we thought they'd never end". Those days do end but new ones begin that never end. Harmer"

{jmm....I drove with Chick Cicio over and picked up Dick Gutting for our travel down to South Miami to an assembly of people who were gathering to commemorate the life of Pat Signorelli. The event was held at the former famous Parrot Jungle which has been converted back to jungle walkways through lush tropical foliage with small bridges over fish filled streams. The setting was held in the parks community center. There were many people in attendance and there was little walking or seating room within the center but there were smiles, and pleasantries all around. Mny former co-worker teachers and students were in attendance. We three older gymnasts were joined by Carmine & Daneen Regna, Joe & Carol Regna, Don & Connie Holder & their sons.....and there was picture taking all around. A wonderful buffet had been prepared by Pat's family. Pat's wife Mallory was there to greet us as were Pat's children and grandchildren. I have to say that I was very impressed by his offspring's. A very good looking bunch who were bright, articulate and full of all the proper social graces. I know Pat was very proud of them all. The buffet, I was told, consisted of all of Pat's favorite meals...Italian of course...and delicious. There were photographs all around the room of Pat alone and Pat with his family. His kids and grandchildren made us all feel like family and I shared with them some of the lighter moments in our years with PatGod Bless him....jmm}.

Jimmy & Peggy Tanaka | 51-56 | "Oh....by the way.... I took a small trip"

"Jack, I just happen to check my "obsolete" e-mail and noted that you have been forwarding the

FSU News Letter to my discarded sbcglobal e-mail address. Please forward all future e-mails to my gmail address:

jtataka75@gmail.com. From time to time, it has been noted that you did use my gmail address.

Returned yesterday from a two months sojourn to Croatia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Slovenia, Germany, etc. Jimmy"

{POP Quiz.....jmm}

Which one of us was born in Florida, one of 13, the son of a Doctor?

And one of the first men to enter FSU (1947 Tallahassee branch of the University of Florida) aka [TBUF]

That man was on the first FSU Football Team in 1947 as a Right Half Back
 That man lettered twice as a High Bar competitor on the first National Championship team to ever come from Florida
 (1951 Gymnastics)
 That person roomed in college with Bobby Bowden and is still close friends with Coach Bowden
 This person was the FIRST Tallahassee Tumbling Tots instructor under Dr. Hartley Price's program
 That person has a PHD and retired as the Dean of Education at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock
 Prior to serving 14 years in the Miami/Dade School System (Chick Cicio interned under his leadership)
 This person retired and raises grapes and blue berries on his 18 acre property in Arkansas.
THAT PERSON IS....."BEANS STEPHENS"
 {I always wanted to find out why the called him "Beans" but was afraid to ask.....jmm}

Howard "Beans" Stephens	50-54	Re. E-mail to Web-Master Mike Mann	Hello, My name is Pam Stephens Tschiemer. My father, Howard "Beans" Stephens, was on the FSU's 1949-1951 gymnastics team. He was also on the 1st FSU football team in 1947.
--------------------------------	--------------	---	---

I found this site {FSU Gymnastics. com...jmm} looking for history of FSU's history of the athletic program. I am looking for books on the history of FSU's athletics in the 1940's/1950's. I was delighted coming across this site.

Dad went on to earn his Doctorate in athletics/education at Univ. of GA. Dad stayed involved in gymnastics/football and had directed his own gymnastics teams for years in Miami. I grew up doing gymnastics and LOVING football with my dad.

We all live in Little Rock, AR now. Dad is 83 yrs now and has retired from years at UALR.
 Are you aware of any books out there about the history of FSU Athletics program in the 1940 - 1950's? I can't find any. I want one to give to Dad.

Thank you for this site!!!!!! We are just tickled to death!!! Thanks again, Pam Tschiemer <pamt@att.net>

Howard "Beans" Stephens	47-51	Mike Mann's correspondence with Pam Howard, "Beans" daughter	"Pam - Your dad was long gone
--------------------------------	--------------	---	-------------------------------

before I got there in 1957, probably at Georgia working on the Ph D. so we have never met. I know Jack Miles is planning giving him calling him at some point. {I called and he was in good spirits and asked about many of you. Drop him a note or a call. His address is on your mailing list....jmm}

Thanks to both you and Mary for the comments on the web site. I have tried to have a little of "something for everyone" there. However, I/we don't generally hear from anyone but old team members about it. That is usually about something that I got wrong that needs fixing. Mike

At 01:49 AM 8/28/2010, Pam wrote:

Wow! Look at him!!! That is my dad!

Has dad gotten in touch with you? I plan to find my box of old photos and go through the pictures. There are a lot of pictures of my dad doing gymnastics. Maybe there are some of his team mates. I'm not sure. I hope I can find some. I will look and if I find anything I will get them to you.

On your site I watched a video from the 50's with a young man working with girls in gymnastics. He is spotting & instructing them. If I squint my eyes it seems I am young again and watching myself and my father working out together. We did the exact same thing years ago. That could be us. I can't tell you how that made me feel...I have tears just remembering. It seems like yesterday. I love everything on your site! I still can't believe the site is there & I found it!!!

I'll let you know about the pictures. Thanks again, Pam Howard"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye	50-58	Monkey Food	I have a tropical problem coming on. I have about ninety bananas repining on a tree on the bank of the canal in my back yard. They're the smaller type which taste like a cross between a strawberry and a banana. The problem is I always let them ripen on their own....that's when they are the sweetest and doing so I have to cut off the whole bunch at one time. Then they totally ripen in less than a week. That means coming up soon. I will have to eat a ton of bananas and share them with the neighbors. {Gave a hand each to four of my nearest neighbors. One gave me Mango's in return. The balance I froze after peeling them - makes for great Milk Shakes....jmm}
-----------------------------------	--------------	--------------------	---

Charlie Christian	55-57	Tables & Chairs Gymkana act	"Mike, I opened "The Spirit of Gymnastics" home page. It looks great and I'm sure everyone will enjoy it tremendously .
--------------------------	--------------	--	---

Unfortunately I couldn't open the indexed items as they are too many kbs for my meager dreaded dialup.

Tables and Chairs: I cannot verify it but I understand I was the only one to use ALL seven chairs stacked in the act, either before of since. I only did it as a challenge when someone said, "No one has been crazy enough to try", I couldn't resist". If the stack had ever collapsed I probably wouldn't have survived

I doubt anyone remembers this but me! I did part of the act when we were on a road trip to Griffin, GA. This time it was only with three stacked chairs which were balanced on four Coke bottles. The amazing part of the act to the audience was that one of the rear bottles, which actually was not critical, could be removed and replaced with no problem.

PROBLEM: Whoever it was that usually removed the CRITICAL bottle wasn't on the trip. You can guess..... When he grabbed the bottle all my weight was on I loudly whispered, NO!!!" Too late.....!!! Talk about LUCKY!!! On the day down I was fortunately able to do a front flip, ended on my feet leaning forward, did a forward roll and the spectators thought was part on the act.

That was the only time my Father attended the show and witnessed my only failure. He said he almost had a heart seeing me fall and told me I was crazy too! Fond memories of a crazy guy, huh? Charlie"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye	50-58	You say Tomato I Say Tamata
-----------------------------------	--------------	------------------------------------

Sometimes one of you writes, "Gymkhana" instead of Gymkana....Gymkhana is a horse show. Gymkana is us.

Don & Connie Holder	51-57	"High Diving Horse"
--------------------------------	--------------	----------------------------

"Jack, We subscribe to Netflix. Received an interesting movie called "Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken" concerning a young girl that aspires to be the horse rider that jumps at the Steel Pier at Atlantic city, NJ. Supposedly based on a true story. We were wondering if this had anything to do with Annie? Don".....{The film story/film is fiction but does have a small view of what the act was like. The actual originator of the act was "Doc Carver", Sharp Shooter, with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Circus. Doc's daughter, Lorena Carver, was the rider at the outset. Years passed and as an old lady Lorena managed the act at the Steel Pier where my ex, and FSU Gymkana member, Annie, rode the diving horse for several summers. (Jim Fadigan, who was also one of the divers in the water show at the Pier, introduced Annie, who had trick horse riding experience, to Geo. Hamid Jr.(a Tumbler in his youth) who owned the Steel Pier and the act Interestingly, Annie's given name was Lorena as well. The most fascinating rider to me was one of the girls who although blind rode the diving horse for several years before Annie. Annie & I visited that girl/woman one day at her home and had a nice interesting visit as we talked about the Diving Horse Act. Annie lives in Little Rock now and is retired as a former costume designer and seamstress, and make-up supervisor for NY Broadway Show, "Cats".....Smiles to you.....Jack }

Bruno Klaus	Founder and Owner of the International Gymnastics Camp
--------------------	---

{I am attaching an article that shows how far your sport has traveled thanks to people like

Bruno Klaus... Bruno had been a freshman gymnast at FSU but transferred out and continued on to national acclaim....ie. \$10,000 prize for winning FirstAll-around in the Visa Championshipsjmm }