

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	45 years, in 2011
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	Steven & Adriane Zindell	41 years, 42 in August 11
Don & Patsy Rapp	56 years, 57 in May 11	Wayne & Heather Thompson	41 years, 42 in January 12
Carmine & Daneen Regna	56 years, 57 in August 11	Derek & Nancy Lawler	38 years, 38 in 2011
Jim & Marlene Jackson	55 years, 56 in July, 11	Gail & Bill Whitney	38 years, 39 in August 11
Sam & Tpsi Bailie	54 years, 55 in June 11	Harmer & Magdalena Weichel	38 years, 38 in December 11
Roger & Tamara Tucker Webb	53 years, 54 in November 11	Andy Anderson & Curtiss Long	36 years, 37 in December 11
Beverley & Bill Beaton	50 years, 51 in Sept. 11	Joe & Dottie Taylor	34 years, 35 in September 11
Yoshi & Haruyo Hatano	46 Years, 47 in Oct. 11	Jimmy & Janie Hanks	33 years, 34 in November 11
Nancy Lamb & Bob Durocher	46 years, 45 in Dec. 11	Thom & Linda O'Conner	31 Years, 32 in May 11
		Carrie Englert & Curtis Zimmermann	32 Years, 32 in 2011
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
Jon & Boots Culbertson	Were married 53 years		

REUNION DATES SET FOR MAY 19-22, 2010

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | 51-55 | All: (02/07) | “Benny is doing well but the process has drained us. We will not be able to respond to any e-mails or phone calls for several day, at least. We'll fill you in when we can. Sorry, but we are swamped.....Carolyn and Benny”

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | 51-55 | All: (02/08) | “The long and painful ordeal is coming to a close. I am home after 10 days at Mayo minus a right kidney. It was cancerous but entirely contained in that kidney. No complications expected but you never know. It was very stressful for us both because C. stayed in my room the entire time and got as little sleep as I did. We are now sleeping in short naps but gradually returning to normal. I am now concentrating on regaining my lost 10 lbs. although I have no appetite yet. I am told that I won't be up to speed until early April. In the meantime we must keep the phone line open for therapy and doctor calls but will not be able to return or receive calls or e-mails until we can get back to a normal eating and sleeping schedule. Sorry, but we're wiped out.....Cheers, BCW+!”

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | 51-55 | All: (02/09) | “Jack: I am home now and on the mend. Appetite has returned and I'm getting back some of the 11 pounds that I lost. Mayo is first class and they took very good care of me. Carolyn was given a bed in my suite and was by my side at all times. The cancer was entirely contained within the right kidney and no further problems are expected but you never know. I will be closely monitored for the next year and have a pacemaker backup. We are saddened by Connie's stroke but, like me, she's still here! She and Don loom large in our memory. He was our best man and both were our mentors. We will always honor and respect them. One small error on the marriage chart: We were married on 8 May 1953 so this coming May will give us 58 years but won't change our position on the podium (third place)!.....Cheers, Benny and Carolyn”

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | 51-55 | All: (02/10) | “Sorry if I've missed any of your phone calls or e-mails but there was a reason. Several days after the kidney removal I had internal Bleeding from ulcers in my upper intestines and was hauled away in the little red wagon to Intensive Care here at University Medical Center. I was in critical condition briefly but the bleeding was stopped (after a very painful procedure) and I was eventually released. I am now home but mostly bedridden. I am slowly gaining strength and the 15 lbs. that I lost when all of this began in early January. The recovery therapy will likely go on through April so don't expect much from me until then. We are both exhausted and keep the phone turned off. Cheers BCW+1”

(Benny surprised me with a very nice long phone call. He sounded great and I loved hearing from him. He was concerned and wanted to news about Don & Connie and apologized to all for not responding to all your phone calls emails & letters. He was proud of the fact he could finally drive his new car without being chauffeured by Carolyn. I couldn't help but compare his life with Don's where two boys from different worlds were heading into teenage trouble and found a mentor and a sport they could release all their teenage energy into... And later grew up into outstanding men. We talked of his life as a child, a young man.at Georgia Military Academy, Sports, FSU, the US Air Force, their extensive world travels, their children, grandchildren and great grand child. It is a

wonderful story and would make terrific book with two who have "Taken a road less traveled". I don't do the call much justice. I apologize. But hopefully this will open the door for dialogue for all of you to share your experiences by phone or letter to each other.jmm}

Sam & Topsy Bailie | 54+ (Iowa) | Dear Gymnastics Friends

"Next Saturday, March 12th. at 2 PM we will meet in Tucson, Arizona for a celebration of the life

of Mr. Frank Bare. We know if you can not be there in body you will be with us in spirit. The following is the Church & Host Hotel information.

HOTEL: Viscount Suite Hotel For reservations call: 1-520-745-6500
4855 E. Broadway refer to: Frank Bare Memorial for the group rate of \$115.00
Tucson, Arizona (15 to 20 minutes from the airport)

CHURCH SERVICE: 2 pm at Christ Presbyterian Church
6565 E Broadway Blvd.

NOTE: This will be followed by a reception at:

Lodge on the Desert in the Palm Room
306 N Alvernon Way ... Not far from the church Hi All ...

When you make your reservation please email us or Frank Jr. so we'll have a

count for reception etc. Bailie ... samtopsi@msn.com Frank Jr. ... bareman@aol.com Thanks ... Sam Bailie

{Frank Bare among other wonderful life achievements was the first President of the United States Gymnastics Federation.....jmm}

Don & Connie Holder | 51-57 | (02/08) Connie's progress

"Jack, Squeezed enough time to peruse your great news letter.

Connie is in intensive therapy at least twice a day. The responses as

you would expect are miniscule, however, we are grateful for the tiniest. We (family) have received so many cards, flowers and phone calls, all of which are so encouraging to say the least.

I'm having a very difficult time taking over all Connie's duties (paper work, bills), should have been more aware years ago. I took it for granted and that was my mistake. Carolyn Wallace must be having a difficult time as well, but I would guess she would be handling the chores better than I.

The closeness all we Gymnasts have makes me believe that we all did not just join a team or club, but were indoctrinated into a loving family, one which perpetuates year after year. Lets hope in never ends, Don

Beverley Cude & Bill Beaton | 55-59 | Re. Connie & Don

"Jack, I read this latest newsletter with bated breath. Your

introduction gently prepared us for the further frightening news of

learning of the crises of yet two more of "ours". I never did know Benny Wallace, but of course had heard about him. To be told to expect a full recovery is such a relief for him and his wife.

As for Mike, I had no idea he has been so ill recently. Reading that list of what he has endured made my stomach crawl. I just hope he continues to improve, and to enjoy the good food and drink he describes at the end. I'm going to send him a note as soon as I push "Send" to you. Fran is amazing...like Don. Their support has to be so appreciated by Mike and Connie. Of course that applies to Benny's wife too.

Thank you, sir, for your clearly compiled information about these scary illnesses facing our friends. You have informed so many people who otherwise would be unaware, and you have done so in a sensitive manner while managing to add bits of humour from time to time. You lift people's spirits with some needed lightheartedness.

I was amazed, and pleased, to read that Connie has actually been helped to her feet to move through the parallel bars. Being asked to wipe a table top in circular motion is interesting. I wonder what similar activities are designed to develop her motor control. She seems to be in the care of a most competent team of therapists. That Don has lost so much weight doesn't surprise me with the tremendous stress he's under. I'm glad that he is now able to return home to sleep from time to time. Oh, how I hope Connie can continue to improve her movements and speech. In the card I sent, I asked Don to take care of himself as well as taking care of Connie. I hope he is able to do that.

Again, thank you for your newsletter. Would that all are aware that without your hard work and the trust we have in contacting you, we'd know next to nothing.....Love 'n hugs, eh? Bev"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | Now that's a lovely bunch of Coconuts

(While attending one of the Internationally Famous Horse Jumping Shows in Wellington Florida, my

wife and I were sitting on a grassy hill watching the riders jump the hurdles on the arena area below. It was a beautifully sunny spring-like day with a slight breeze when all of the sudden there was a thunderously loud crash....all the spectators turned and looked straight at Nancy and me. We were sitting in the shade of a large sixty foot tall Royal Palm tree which had just dropped a twelve foot long large Palm frond/branch smashing into the ground.... the heavy end passing Nancy's head and face literally by inches. Several people ran to help us if we needed it. With another man's help, he and I lifted the heavy end of the frond and drug it out of the way. It weighed at least 60-70 lbs. It made me think of how many people in the world are killed annually by falling Coconuts. Man, that was a really close and all day we talked about how lucky Nancy and we were...Somebody was reminding us that I hadn't sent in our weekly Tithe to the church....Yes, that's it. I think I'll put in a few bucks more next time.....jmm}

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | **57-67** | **Mike's hospitalization** "Well, it was pneumonia. I heard a "pneumonia might be trying to start in lower left lobe" after my ER X-Ray but never got a definitive diagnosis from anyone later. From Mike {Mike is home now a appears fully recovered.....Thank You, Lord.....jmm}

Alice Englert | **(Carrie's Mom)** | **All about mother and daughter** "{ There was a great Picture of Alice Englert, Carrie's Mom in the FSU Alumni publication commending her on her work on behalf of FSU Alumni's...she's as pretty as ever. While at the same time her daughter, Carrie *Englert Zimmerman*, took up half of the front page and the whole page of the insert in the Tallahassee Democrat commending her achievements' and her life's work in the business world. Tallahassee' finest family.....we are proud of them.....See following Email.....sent by Mike Mann.....jmm}

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | **50-58** | **Quotes of the day** {"Have always been forgetful or is this just a part of the process????".What was the question?.....jmm} {From Bill Beavers to Mike Mann,"Thanks for the e-card on my birthday! No matter how hard I try, I can't seem to get as old as Jack! Bill"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | **50-58** | **Bruno Klaus Gathering** I just returned from a wonderful meeting with some old friends. **Dick Gutting, Chick Cicio** and I took a four hour trip over to Placida on Florida's west coast to a gathering arranged by the ageless & modest Bruno Klaus. {Hall of Fame, NCAA High Bar & Vaulting champ, Founder of the world renowned, *International Gymnastics Camp*, & Coach at East Strousberg University Pa.}. Bruno arranged to meet us at a predetermined spot and then we would proceed to his home. We came to that location and I noticed that there were many cars parked in rows along a long road. At first I thought it was a church gathering, but it wasn't Sunday. When we arrived there was Bruno with another guy on a Golf Cart. He told us to park and climb aboard. After shaking hands, laughter and greetings I learned that the other guy, was Dick Albershardt Bruno drove us over to a water-front dock and drove right onto a small ferry - along with other Golf Carts and a few cars. It was a short trip to a large island. We disembarked next to a row of many personal golf carts and continued the drive on to Bruno's house which was on this Private Placida Island with eighty-seven homes of which twenty percent were lived in year round while the others were owned by "snow-birds" who lived up North and flew down for the winter. The winding roads all over the Island were not hard top paved. Instead they were of white beach sand and shells. The Golf Cart was perfect for the job. All the big beautiful homes were on two story high stilts to evade any tidal surge or hurricanes. Bruno's beach front home was newly built, modern and beautiful. Below and housed in the middle of the stilts were two doors. One opened to a stair case and the other opened to an elevator. We all took the stairs to show our ageless vigor. Going up the stairs and the last to enter the first floor I saw this view best described as magnificent complete with first class furnishings & décor. The far wall extended the whole width of the house and was all glass with sliding glass doors opening to a balcony/deck which faced the crystal clear blue Gulf of México. With white sand and sand dunes as far as the eye could see left or right. Similar to the view from Barbara Withers "Reunion" home on Alligator Point. On the second floor of his house all four corner bedrooms had two walls of glass to take in the tropical view. There to greet us was **Gregor Weiss** {'64 Olympian & U.S. Hall of Famer, originally from Newark NJ and retired coach of the Air Force Academy whose son is Michael Weiss, Ice Skating Olympian , Hall of Fame, and performer in numerous present day televised Ice Skating shows....jmm}, **Don Tonry** {Olympian, NAAU All-Around Champ, Hall of Famer, retired Coach at Yale} and **Abie Grossfeld**, {Competitor or Coach on seven Olympic teams & five Pan-Am games with an Encyclopedic memory, retired Coach at Southern Connecticut...plus being an exceptional athlete with awards, records, & honors received in Boxing, Roller Hockey, Swimming, Diving, Track and Field... One of the Sports Illustrated "Fifty greatest American Athletes of all time" - and as a sixteen years old dove into the ice filled waters of the Harlem River saving the life of a five year old by pulling him to safety} also there was the aforementioned, **Dick Albers**, {'56 NCAA Trampoline Champ, Ed Sullivan Show and performer of his famous Trampoline act for twenty seven years in Las Vegas}.

{As Dick Gutting would say, Miles can't hear so good, but he can sure talk a lot...so I did...and...they did...and.yes... Dick did. Bruno waited on us hand and foot serving up drinks and a steak for each of us from his deck Barbecue - cooked to our taste ...and later chocolate cake and other deserts to finish it off. It was a glorious time to reminisce, chat , laugh and joke and have a all around good time. We enjoyed six hours of Bruno's hospitality and then drove the four hours back home again..... As memories go "It was a "Keeper" {It would be an enjoyable read if you ever decided to do it, Just pull up each of the names above, on the internet...ie. "Chick Cicio, Gymnast" and read their bio's. Everyone one of their stories is very interesting reading, Thanks to writers, Bruce Davis, Larry Banner, Abie Grossfeld, and clips from Mike Mann's FSU Gymnastics website....jmm}

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | **57-67** | **FSU & Jasmine** "My granddaughter, Jasmine, was in Tallahassee today for an audition with the FSU School of Music. She rode up with a friend, with the friend's mother driving, who was also auditioning. We were able to meet and have lunch with them. The friend's audition was scheduled for 2pm, Jasmine's at 4pm. She just posted this on Facebook!"Jasmine Wheeler, So my audition for the college of music at FSU went really well... the horn professor even told me afterwards that she was definitely putting me on her list!"

Don & Patsy Rapp | **53-55/58-60** | **Patsy**

{ Just had a good news talk with our resident Juggler, Don Rapp. In December Patsy had her life threatening operation (mentioned in the September Newsletter) at the Cleveland Clinic and everything turned out just fine. She is now jogging and working out in the gym. They recently traveled to Orlando to be with their children who came down from Pittsburg. While in the Orlando area they hung-out with Jim & Arlene Fadigan and had a great time. They wanted to thank all those who sent their well-wishes.....jmm }

Jon Culbertson | **64-66** | **Email correspondence to Jon**

“From: Shane Cummings [mailto:scummings9@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:38 PM

To: Culbertson, Jon.....Subject: FSU Club

Jon, I had no idea you attended Florida State and were on the men’s gymnastics team. I saw this website:

<http://fsugymnastics.org/Personal-Pages/Culbertson,-Jon.htm>

I am actually trying to start a Men’s Gymnastics club here at FSU. I am a student here now. And someone who was interested in joining e-mailed me, saying he is the son of Jack Miles. He then showed me this website and that’s how I found you.

Anyways, I thought that was interesting. I hope everything is well in California! – Shane “

Jon Culbertson | **64-66** | **Response to above**

“Shane: Actually I was on a post-doctoral position at FSU in the mid ‘60’s, and they let me coach and compete for the Gymkana club team. Quite a lark. I’d even

beat the rope climber specialists at the Peachtree meet which was conducted in the Georgia Tech dome which also had the suspended high bar. Another era.

And what is really freaky was when I judged a meet out here in California a few weeks back someone asked how many years I had been judging. The answer (54 years) kind of blew them away so they wanted to make an announcement. In the mean time some guy Google’s my name and puts pictures of me on the gym wall – pictures which covered high school, college, and my time at FSU (I was on pommels in that one).....Jon”

Jon Culbertson | **64-66** | **Later added email to Shane**

“FYI - And while I am doing this it also very briefly mentions what I said I was going to inform you about (the second paragraph). It is always such

a small world when things like this happens. Who would ever think that when I am judging a relatively small meet out in California there would be a picture of me in the Tully gym for public eyeballing.Jon”

{I personally got a kick out of this exchange. My son Chad being involved that is, etc.....It is indeed a small world Jon....jmm }

**Well Benny is recovering, Mike is home and better, Connie is home and making progress,
Patsy is working out.....
And all making progress with their loved ones.**

REMINDER

REUNION DATES SET FOR MAY 19-22, 2010