

FSU Gymnasts, Gymkana, Tallahassee Tumbling Tots, and Friends New-Newsletter
December 2011(Sixty-Seventh Edition)< bcudebeaton@gmail.com>

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	61 years, 62 in April, 12	Bill & Carol Beavers	43 years, 44 in July, 12
Don & Connie Holder	61 years, 62 in August 12	Dick & Susie Gutting	44 years, 45 in June, 12
Benny & Carolyn Wallace	59 years, 60 in May 12	Steven & Adriane Zindell	42 years, 43 in August 12
Ed & Jean Fernald	59 years, 60 in June 12	Wayne & Heather Thompson	41 years, 42 in January 12
Don & Patsy Rapp	57 years, 58 in May 12	Derek & Nancy Lawler	39 years, 40 in 2012
Carmine & Daneen Regna	57 years, 58 in August 12	Gail & Bill Whitney	39 years, 40 in August 12
Jim & Marlene Jackson	56 years, 57 in July, 12	Harmer & Magdalena Weichel	39 years, 40 in December 12
Sam & Topsy Bailie	55 years, 56 in June 12	Andy Anderson & Curtiss Long	37 years, 38 in December 12
Roger & Tamara Tucker Webb	54 years, 55 in November 12	Joe & Dottie Taylor	35 years, 36 in September 12
Beverley & Bill Beaton	51 years, 52 in Sept. 12	Jimmy & Janie Hanks	34 years, 35 in November 12
Yoshi & Haruyo Hatano	47 years, 48 in Oct. 12	Thom & Linda O'Conner	32 Years, 33 in May 12
Nancy Lamb & Bob Durocher	47 years, 48 in Dec. 12	Carrie Englert & Curtis Zimmermann	33 Years, 34 in 2012
Terri & Cheri Morris	46 years, 46 in 2012		
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	(Benny) & Carolyn Wallace	Were married 59 years,

Greetings to all of you this December 2011 from Beverley and from Jack, in collaboration thank goodness, once again. Our first entry was sent to me by Charlie Christian back in the fall. Jack and I felt it would be more suited to this particular issue given its first word, "Winter". In the interest of space, I had to delete most of his spacing, but his thoughts remain intact.

Charlie Christian | **55-57** | **Charlie's Musings**

"Winter,
A Reflection and a Time for Thought And it's winter before we know it....

REFLECTIONS, you know time has a way of moving quickly and catching us unaware of the passing years. It seems just yesterday I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. And yet in a way, it seems like eons ago. I know I lived them all and I wonder how they passed so quickly.

I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. However, here it is the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise. How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my babies go and where did my youth go? I remember well... seeing older people through the years and thinking those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is... retired and moving slower. I can see the great change. Age is beginning to show and now I am one of the older folks I used to see and never thought I would be. Each day I realize just getting in and out of the tub and putting on my socks is a real target for the day! Taking a nap is not a treat anymore...it's mandatory! Because if I don't on my own free will...I just fall asleep where I sit! And now as I enter into this new season of my life, unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and the inability to go and do things I used to enjoy doing. But at least I know though the winter has come and I'm not sure how long it will last. Yes, I have regret. There are things I wish I hadn't done and things I should have done. But indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime of giving it my best.

If you're not in your winter yet...let me remind you it will be here sooner than you think. Whatever you would like to accomplish in your life do it quickly! Life goes by quickly. Do what you can today because you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise you will see all the seasons of your life. Live for good today and say all the things you want your loved ones to remember.

"Life is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who follow you. Make it a fantastic one."
 LIVE IT WELL!! I wish you the best.....

Charlie Christian 2008"

Barbara Sheehan Withers | 54-62 | **Exciting things do happen!**

exciting ever happens around here. I did have a visit from Chad Miles and his Mom, Nancy, as he was returning to FSU for his 2nd year. They spent the night with me here in Tallahassee (Nancy slept in your bed, Chad on the sofa downstairs) and they got Chad settled in his new digs, sharing an apartment off campus with his best friend from last year. Also, Mirek's son Patrick and his wife spent this past weekend at ShipWatch Cottage celebrating their anniversary. Sounds like things are going well with your exercises, keep them up, my friend, who knows, we may walk to the rocks again on your next visit...even jump over them...without cutting our feet. Love and hugs, Barbara" {Am trying, my friend.....bcb}

Jamile & Barbara Ashmore | 55-58 | **He says he'll try.....**

"Hi Bev, I see where you have taken the job and we all Thank you. However, I have been a bad One not ever informing you guys what the hell I am doing etc. But I now know you will be chewing me out if I do not contribute. I will keep you updated. Take care and for certain Babs will do the reports and I will direct. Jamile" {He sounds contrite. We look forward to some contributions, eh?..... bcb}

Bill & Carol Beavers | 57-61/69-70 | **New-Newsletter**

"Bev, Great job on the newsletter! Thanks so much for picking up the torch from Jack. Boy, he put some time and effort into that project, and the benefits are legion. Now, go get outdoors before you get your first blizzard! Bill"

Beverley Cude & Bill Beaton | 55-59 | **I just had to reply to above**

Bill Beavers wrote, "Bev, Great job on the newsletter! {Jack was the backbone and support for this first effort! Without him I'd have been thoroughly frazzled.} Thanks so much for picking up the torch from Jack. Boy, he put some time and effort into that project, {He's still at it, my friend, the Newsletter IS Jack!} and the benefits are legion.Now, go get outdoors : I've done a lot of that. We've had a beautiful summer and fall after our extremely soggy spring.} before you get your first blizzard!{....and THAT'S a bad word!} Bill "{Thanks for letting us know you got the newsletter, Bill..... bcb}

Jay Schwarzman | 51-55 | **Re. Condolences to Jack**

"Jack, When I received the newsletter and read about your brother Bob's passing I was shocked. I was not aware that you had a brother but I am glad you did because the way you described him and your last time with him, in many ways he sounds like you. Please accept my sympathy and condolences to you and your family on this very sad and unhappy occasion. You know we all love you and, as for me, I will for the rest of my time on earth. When I lost my brother, who was 5 1/2 years older than me, I thought that was the worst until I lost my son and wife. Now I realize that all of us will go sometime and those we leave behind have to accept it, grieve and continue on. There is no other choice. Love, Jay"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | **"Lost but Found"**

"Hi Jack, I just found this site on the web and I am thrilled to hear of reunions in Tallahassee at Alligator Point. I was a TTT from 59 or 60 with Bob May. Jim Fadigan used to say watch that pony tail fly at the Gymkana Shows. I used to work out at Tully gym and get a ride home with Dr. Price. It is the fondest memories of my childhood. All the shows we did, the parades and the people I met along the way. Joe Greene who I had the biggest crush on.

There were 5 of us top tumblers Sharon Lawson, Kitty Grubbs, Linda Hartsfield, Vicki and Twinkle Freeman. We did all the road shows and Gymkana Shows.. I had a table act that I did spotted flip flops on and a backbend to the floor, my back aches just thinking about it. I remember Yoshi Tachana I know my spelling is off here but we went to Dallas with Bob May and Kitty Grubbs to compete at Nationals only they said we were too young.

We both turned 12 at that time, it was May of 1960. We met the Japanese Olympic Team there and they gave us a pin with the Olympic rings on it. Bill and Carol help coach me at Tully along with Joe Greene Gary Kidwell that had the chair act I often got to sit in the top chair .

Those were the days, I would love to be added to your group and if you have the emails for Joe, Gary, Bill and Carol I would consider it an honor if you would pass them along to me I have thought of them often through the years. I spoke with Jim when I lived in Indiana and he is Chicago once or twice. After leaving Gymnastics I went on to dive with the recreation Park at Levy pool and actually met Nancy Lamb in Moultrie, Ga at a meet, I spent many a summer up there at the pool. I have rambled enough, Nice to see that everyone is still around and kicking. Sharon Lawson Waldron, 3881 Macks Road, Century, FL 32535 850 327-6166/ cell 850 324-5112. Email sunshinegrangran@aol.com . I have a daughter that went through TTT and did quite well for herself. She is now 43 years old. I have survived. Ron Galimore was on the Team with my daughter, Karen Redding. I kept in touch with Bob up until about 5 years ago. sadly he was unable to write anymore.Fond Memories, Sharon"

Jim & Arlene Fadigan | 52-56/58-62 | **Reference to above**

"Wow! Is that a gush of great memories to add to the many memories of those great years. I remember Sharon and so nice to refresh the memory. Jim"

Claire Essig (Mrs. Dick) Traynor | 59-62 | **Claire remembers!**

"I remember TTTs Sharon, Kitty, Linda, Vicki and Twinkle. I was out of high school but remember all the Gymkana show people over the years. They may not remember me. Alma Claire to them. Doc and Aunt Billie spoke of them often. Small world, isn't it? Thanks for sharing! Clare" {I hope you hear from them, Claire....bcb}

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70** | **Bill remembers Sharon also**

“Sharon, Great to hear you are alive and well! I remember your great tumbling and acrobatics. I also

remember the trip to Nationals at Dallas. Joe Taylor, Joe Gusic and I were in another car, but I remember having a roadside picnic lunch with your carload somewhere in Mississippi or Texas. It was an honor meeting the Japanese team and even more of an honor competing with them. One of the highlights of my career was beating a couple of them in compulsories, although I did not fare as well in Optionals. Hope to see you at next year's reunion. Bill Beavers”

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70** | **More for Sharon**

“Sharon, I am so sorry you have RA. I can only imagine the pain and suffering you have gone through. I only have minor problems from my

gymnastics injuries, but they are so discouraging when I want to "do the things I used to do".

I think you have my name "Bill" intertwined with my friend Milt McGowan, and his wife Carol. (Coincidentally, my wife's name is Carol. But, she was not a gymnast, but rather an intelligent, loving and highly competent non-athlete (is that possible)

Carol and Milt were active with the TTT at the time of your experience there. But I still remember you and the fantastic things you did.

Carol and Milt are in Arkansas, and have had very successful careers and are still together. (is that compatible with a gymnastics background?)

Carol McGowan was very special. She was a pioneer in exercise and fitness for Women. She would walk from Tully Gym to her home way out past Lake Jackson, and was frustrated with all the people who would stop to offer her a ride. She did it for the exercise!! (and probably because they didn't have an extra car or scooter) She also used to bike the way home, and the same thing happened!

Milt was a co- worker with me at the Dept of Ed and Social Security Disability Determinations section in Tallahassee after graduation.

I think Joe Taylor (the guy that did the still rings show in Gymkana in gold glycerin covering) and I encouraged him to apply for the job after he graduated. Milt was my tennis partner for several years . At coffee breaks, we would often comment that whatever Carol was doing, we should invest financially, since fitness for Women (and Men) became such a big thing after the 60's and 70's.

For several years they ran a summer camp for young people that was very successful.....Again, I hope to see you at a future reunion. Bill Beavers”

Joe Greene | **59-61** | **But you're so far away!**

“Can you believe the years have passed so quickly!! I am back in CA..

Couldn't take the heat in Gainesville. Went back to do change over in the rental house, and for the first time in 18 years, I have one person in the house, instead of four, and that is only for the 1st semester. Looks like it is time to sell. Enrollment dropped 5K, and more degrees are gotten on line.”

{Can your motorcycle get you back to Tallahassee for the next reunion?bc}

{Joe mentioned to me in a past email that he plans on attending the next May's reunion. That would be great....jmm}

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | **50-58** | **Out of the past**

I was watching the TV show the “Hoarders” and later the show” Obsessive Animal Fears” The lead young female Doctor of Psychiatry of the show

looked so familiar to me. I said to my wife that she looks just like a grown up version of one of my top gymnasts named **Robin** Sichel, who moved with her parents to California. When the credits flashed on the screen the Dr's name was **Robin** Zasio and a computer check showed that she lives in Sacramento, Cal.. I wrote her a short letter of inquiry. See the next New-Newsletter for her response – if any.

While another of my former gymnasts found me through Mike's Web-Site and Bruce Davis. It turned out that this was the first boy gymnast I trained when I arrived in Ft. Lauderdale in the early seventies even showing him how to wood carve.. He was 12-13 years old then and as smart as a whip in school and very handsome....all the young girls on the team had a crush on him..

We were very close for many years especially since his father was so busy in his profession that he had no time for the boy. Every week-end the whole team, boys & girls went to the beach with a mini-tramp and a big canvas boat and played all day together. Years passed and I lost track of him. When I received his email I was very shocked because I had been told decades ago that he had died in a car wreck. At that time I was very very sad hearing the news.

I suspected that the email was a scam and I replied asking for his father's and brother's name and where we trained. He responded with the correct answers and continued to send emails from Europe where I learned he been traveling throughout for over ten years with his wife. His emails where astounding containing the many things I had said to him as inspiration back then to a young boy who was thirsting for guidance. His last email indicated that he and his wife were boarding a transoceanic liner and returning to the States.

The internet is connecting us with our past and “Lost but Found” persons who knew us when.

His name is Joel Scott and I should be hearing from him soon upon his arrival in the States. I'll report to you the result of our meeting. I am eager to meet with him as a middle aged man.....jmm

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70** | **“I Saw You,” he says! To Barbara Withers**

“Barb, I know you are bummed about the outcome of the game, but FSU played well

against the #1 team. A few breaks here and there would have made the outcome different. However, look out for Clemson! They look good. I did see you on National TV! After one of the FSU scores, the field cam panned behind the bench and there your were grinning and cheerin. Love, Bill & Carol” {I saw that game, but missed Barbara. We don't get many, but when we do, we watch.... bcb}

{I too watch the TV screen closely to see if I can see Barbara seated 50 yard line behind the FSU team. I also look for my son, Chad, I thought I saw Barbara once, but it went by so fast. I am not sure. We have to see if we can get her to paint herself in Gold..jmm}

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | 57-67 | **Gymkana vs. Cirque du Soleil**

“Actually, I am not sure that Hartley could have ever, even in his wildest, dreamed this one up.

Cirque du Soleil, "Dralion" show, will be performing in the Civic Center from September 28-October 2.

On October 1 the Tallahassee Symphony will perform Cirque de la Symphonie in the evening and again in matinee on October 2. Playing Berlioz's Roman Carnival Overture, Bizet's "Toreador" from Carmen, and Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade while aerialist and acrobats from Cirque perform on stage to the music. Checking ticket prices, if we can afford it we will be at both, the symphony for sure. Mike”

Beverley Cude & Bill Beaton | 55-59 | **Lions' costumes were dazzling!**

Wow! Hartley's "ultimate dream" for sure, Mike. I've seen "Dralion" in the original tents in Montreal's Old

Port... super production (was there ever one which isn't???) To see the Symphony and the Cirque together will be fascinating for sure. Each of the Cirque's shows that I have seen has drawn me in completely, and I always leave with such a feeling of excitement and elation. Cannot seem to settle down once home. What fun!

If you go, and I hope you do, maybe you could write a short review to add to this???? Enjoy yourselves!!! Bev {aka bcb}

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | **Hershey Bars**

My wife, Nancy, loves a little chocolate in the evening. So I buy a Hershey Bar and cut it in half to share while still in the wrapper.. Have you ever

noticed that if you cut a bar in half one half displays in big print. “HERS”? Naturally that's her half. Sorry, Now I have done it.... you will always think of us when you buy a Hershey Bar from now on. Miles' tid-bit of useless knowledge.....jmm

Bill & Carol Beavers | 57-61/69-70 | **Keep on kayakin'!!!**

"I am in Gainesville (what a hell hole) to compete in the Silver River race tomorrow in Ocala. It is the first race of the year for the

Florida Championship series that ends in November. I won the Florida State Championship for the over 70 group in an Olympic sprint boat, but was unchallenged (except for a couple of races) so it was meaningless. I brought a different boat for the start of the new season so I can at least have some competition in a different class. Probably the best I can do is 2nd as there is a guy older than I am who whips everyone in our age group. (and younger) It will actually be an honor to be second to him, he is that fit and good. At least I am still moving! Bill" {Bill's paddle is shaped after a Beaver's tail.. That's why he is a champion,,,,,jmm}

{You keep at it, and I'll bet you'll beat this "older guy". Gymnasts have that winning desire and you show that, methinks. bcb}

Jamile & Barbara Ashmore | 55-58

“Bev: Just a little confused. The season is on us and I will be happy when it is over. Have a Great Holiday and hoping to be able to make the next reunion.

Jay & Babs” {A couple of forwarded emails led to a “little confusion” as Jamile so aptly describes it. All got sorted out :-} and look! It even led to the hope that Jay and Barbara will join us at the next reunion!.....bcb}

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | **We missed Wayne Thompson**

Hi Wayne, Beverley and the New-Newsletter have been waiting for some response from you. Are you OK? How about sending her an email? Have a fun-filled day...Best of regards.....Jack {Thanks, Jack for the inquiry..... bcb}

Wayne & Heather Thompson | 58-62 | **& that explains it!**

“Jack & Beverley, Just after I met Bev on the internet, my computer died forever. My son bought me this new one a week ago. It's very different and I'm having trouble getting used to it. “ {Good luck with it, Wayne.....bcb}

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | **Response to Wayne above**

Hey Buddy" (To use one of your favorite greetings), I can really identify with your computer challenge. I can't recall how

many "crashes" I have been through with my computers. I'm "having trouble getting used to it" could be my very words. I have changed programs, computers, monitors, crashes and all of the devastating losses when all my works disappeared. How did we get so dependent on these electronic animals and mouses with attitudes? About a year ago when my computer died also, a friend of mine gave me his old one to use & keep. Then it too crashed. I was seriously contemplating doing away with using them forever. \$1,200 later

I was back into the froand addicted. Well, whenever you are able contact her. Beverley will be there eager to please - which is her wonderful nature.

Have fun with your new computer. It was good to bring you back into my mind's frontal lobes. Have a fun-filled day tomorrow ... Jack {To Beverley, Speaking of sons my oldest, David, is now 60 years old and my youngest, Chad, is 19.....WOW.....isn't that insane?.....jmm}

2011 | **TO ALL THIS HOLIDAYS** | **2011**

A Merry Christmas greeting

Plan to attend the 2012 reunion (Part or all)

Friday May 18, Saturday May 19 and Sunday May 20, 2012

At Barbara Withers' Alligator Point Beach Home

Don & Connie Holder | **51-57** | **Connie's post stroke progress**

{Spearheaded by Dick Gutting, Chick Cicio, Dick, and myself two or more of us have been making trips to visit Don &

Connie, On our trip yesterday we discovered that Connie has been coming along well, albeit very slowly. She said our names and said, thank you” when we complimented her on her good progress. It is a huge gallant challenge full of love for Don. It is a 24/7 task and One of his escapes is email and phone calls. He appreciates your e-messages. Ducky52@bellsouth.net Phone calls (305-271-8368) Many times he has said how grateful they are for you being such great lifelong friends.....jmm}

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | **51-55** | **Obituary**

{The following items in this edition of the New-Newsletter are all in reference to the passing of one of us...Benny Wallace..... Bob Perrone FSU, Athletics’

Historian had requested an Obituary. In the absence of one we created a write up with the aid of Benny’s wonderful daughter , Debbi Wallace. After it was completed it was sent to Bob Perrone and Mike Mann. Mike has beautifully created and entered it into our Web-site complete with pictures of Benny in uniform and Carolyn. The Obituary can be accessed by bringing up the following linkrespectively.....bcb & jmm}.

(<http://fsugymnastics.org/Contemporary/Benny-OB/Benn-OB.html>)

Debbi Wallace | **51-55** | **Obituary**

To all who knew my father, Major Benny C. Wallace, USAF ret.,

I know this is not the best way to do this, but it is probably the quickest and in some cases the only way to get the news to you. My dad passed away Saturday morning, Sept. 24, at 7:30 in his own bed, with my mother lying by his side and his family around him. It was peaceful--his breathing was easy, and then just.....stopped. Although the beginning of this process was hard in many ways, for all of us, the end was a surprisingly good experience. The family had already gotten to visit with him, each of us in our own way, before his mind began to slip. The Hospice people made sure that, through medication, he was pain free and calm, and that we had support as well. Mom is holding up as well as can be expected. No one can be prepared for the loss of their lifetime companion, and should not be expected to take it lightly. We will all be here for her, but ultimately she must walk through this in her own way.

The hospice program has an affiliation with the VA, and they sent a representative to present my dad with a plaque honoring his service to his country. Although by that time he was no longer with us, the family received the plaque on his behalf. We used this time to talk about our thoughts regarding his service, and our memories (sort of in lieu of a memorial service, I suppose). I believe it was an important time of sharing for us all, and, though he did not want a service of any kind, I am sure that my dad would have been very moved.

Dad had willed his body to the U of A College of Medicine Willed Body Program (so has Mom). They were called, and came to pick him up. It took a little time, so Mom had a while to spend with him and say some goodbyes. The young man who came was very sensitive and professional, and we were very grateful. Pat, Beth, Mom and I said Goodbye to Dad and he was wheeled out the front door for one last time. Our neighbor Karl, also a retired military officer, lowered his flag to half mast for a final tribute. The only thing missing for me was Taps. As a musician, I had always sort of wanted to be the one to play taps for my dad. Maybe I will someday, in my own time.

The house has been filled for a while with lots of noise, people, dishes on the counters, shoes by the door, and all those various signs of people gathered together and sharing. I have felt surrounded and lifted up by my children and family and friends. I hope my mother has, as well. I fully expect it to continue, because we all intend to drop in and visit, and stay for a while, and be a loud and happy family. Pat and Steve have discussed yard work, Beth is planning to bring Amerie (her 4 year old), Andee would like to come and spend a week at a time throughout the year, whenever her schedule permits. Perhaps this has been my dad's best legacy--that we have been able to come together.

Because we have received letters and emails from those of you who were unaware, we felt it would be best to contact everyone we could. We have tried to phone many of you, but were unsuccessful in some cases. So I do apologize, but I am grateful that we can at least reach you this way. Understand that my mother is fragile right now, and may not respond immediately to your calls, letters, emails, but know that she appreciates you all and will need contact in the coming months.

Please continue to stay in touch as you feel movedSincerely, Debbi Wallace, proud daughter of B.C.on behalf of my family

We all spent a wonderful Thanksgiving with my Mom, and I think she really felt surrounded by our love. Although my father would never have allowed it, I know my mother wishes he could have enjoyed just such a family gathering with us. I hope that in some way, he was there with us in spirit. I will send along a picture of us. Actually I will have to send two, since my daughter Andee and I took turns with the camera! This group is me, my mom, my two daughters, my son, and my granddaughter. Hope you had a nice holiday, and thank you again for writing up my dad's obituary for us.

Debbi Wallace "Debbi" <panda103080@frontiernet.net>
