

Within reason the Newsletter follows this word content per single entry (Times New Roman, 10 font sizes)
New entry: Resumes/history since FSU = Twenty-two (22) words per line, Twenty two (22) lines
Second, third etc. entry..... = Twenty-two (22) words per line, Eleven (11) lines
Each Edition of the Newsletter = Four - five pages, 6.5 KB

From Claire & Dick Traynor (aka Alma Claire Essig) (59-62)

My favorite Christmas message To all of you:

*“Never a Christmas morning,
Never the old year ends....
But someone thinks of someone
Old days, old times, old friends”*

From Vince D’Autorio (USA Olympian)

”To each of you and every one of your loved ones, I wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and bright hope for your future. Enjoy family, friends, and the good food that has been provided. May each of you be thankful for the life that you have made for yourself and the love and care that you have given to others. Love, Jack thank you for keeping in touch with everyone”

I’ll Never forget, from Mike Mann (57-67)

“Remember years ago when one of us would call the others switchboard a **2am**? (We both worked as all-night clerks – for a dollar an hour - at adjacent Motels. jmm) We called two people at once: Voice # 1 – Hello?...Voice # 2 – Hello?...Voice # 1 - What do you want?...Voice # 2 - What DO YOU want? Voice # 1 - You called me.....Voice # 2 - No, YOU called me....etc. {Some of those sweet Tallahassee Lassies can get real mean at 2 A.M.....Ha, Ha...jmm} Then you would call Don Loucks and I would call someone else and we would listen in while the two of the talked to each other. I have forgotten what your beef with Don Loucks was, but anyway when I recently checked their web site Dr. Donald L. Loucks Jr. is member of the group's Internal Medicine staff. He is probably about the age his father was then and, as I recall, he resembles him a bit.

You would also call Nancy's (Nancy Troutman is a Newsletter recipient...jmm) mom, Jewel, and, connecting our phone lines, I would call Tallahassee Savings and Loan's Time and Temperature number). Jewel, “Hello!” “Save every day for that home you want at Tallahassee Savings and Loan, the time is two am and the temperature is forty-five degrees”..... She was down at TS&L several times raising hell with them about that guy calling her at 2am. I think we did that about once a month for a while. Ah, but those were the days! OBTW, TRM, that the day Leigh and Nancy got married I was working late, till noon, for someone and could not get off to go with them to Bainbridge. However, Leigh seems to have conveniently forgotten that before they would tell Jewel that they were married they came by TMH, waited till I got off, and I had to go out to the house with them. God, I can still hear the screams!”

From Jimmy & Peggy Tanaka (51-57)

“I wanted to share results of the College Judo Team I organized several years to whomever that might be interested. On Saturday, December 3, 2005, our Solano Community College Judo Team finished on a high note by defeating the mighty **NCAA Division IA** powerhouse of Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, San Jose State University, CCSF, etc. and private commercial judo schools for the **10th** time for the coveted Judo Team Championships. We finished the season, starting January 16, 2005, with a **93%** win/loss percentage. I tell my young chargers that they they do pretty good for a bunch of **"White Folks"**!

The majority of the young chargers enroll in the Beginning Judo course and compete for the first time. The students practice only on Wednesdays from 5-8PM. The majority of the Universities/College and private schools train their students five to six days per week. I have a disadvantage in that I have the students for only two years max, while the Universities/Colleges have their chargers for four/five years. Keep your FSU Newsletter rolling. You're doing an outstanding job.....Jimmy”

Ed. Note: The Solano College Judo Club (SCJC) members have been successful against varsity teams from the more seasoned and experienced four year Universities and Colleges. Solano College students have also been successful against teams from private commercial Judo Clubs/Institutions. Students are enrolled in a Solano College Physical Education Beginning/Intermediate Judo curriculum offered on Wednesday evenings from 5-8 pm.

From Jack Miles (50-58) : I am a little confused, whenever I receive the most beautifully tender holiday email card or letter accompanied by glorious music. I get misty eyed and am put in a dreamlike state until I get to the last paragraph or two which states something like this: “If you don’t pass this along your spouse will leave you, your dog will get pregnant, you will lose your job, they will no longer accept your donation at the lesbian sperm bank, you will be remembered along with Typhoid Mary for your failure to pass this message along to at least five of your friends. If you don’t send it to them they will fry in Hell. Jay Ashmore didn’t “forward” it along and look what happened to him. We know they will be glad you sent it to them.....

.Am I missing something here? {My question is: should I “delete” or “forward”. It’s an email dilemma...jmm}

From Jimmy & Janie Hanks (52-56)

“Please visit this web page: <http://www.andiesisle.com/Mary.html> This is my special Christmas card to you all....It is a wav file and will be extremely slow to download especially if you have a phone modem.

My love and thoughts are with you in this special Christmas season. Thanks for all the laughs and smiles and beautiful thoughts you've given me during this past year, but most of all your friendship. Thanks again for being there.”

From Claire & Dick Traynor (59-62)

“ It's me again...The one who sends all those crazy e-mails. I enjoy reading them all. If I get duplicates I just delete them. {I asked for Claire's resume on her past history...jmm }

I started out with the Tallahassee Tumbling Tots when I was 10 years old (1951)... All the other kids...Mary, Brent, Karol Anne et. al. lost interest in Junior High school. I worked out on my own for another ten years learning little by little from you guys. I went to FSU 1959-1962. Did not graduate as I broke my neck (in a car accident in Miami) my last year at FSU and never went back to get my degree. I worked in a prominent law office for attorney Dexter Douglass, (12 years) , The Florida Legislature (5 Sessions) and now in Leon County government for the past 13 years

. I worked at the Tallahassee Democrat as a Proofreader in high school and my husband Dick was a news reporter at the time. He was too old for me then. {If he was too old for you then...what is he now?..jmm} I knew him three years before we ever dated. In fact, he lived in the duplex next door to Joe Gusic on Pensacola Street.

I married Dick in 1963 at age 22 and we have been together now for almost 43 years (Next February). Put me in the marriage years contest. I have just kept corresponding and visiting with Holders, Tanaka, Cicio and Gusic and a few others over the years and we have all become dear friends. Love you all, Alma Claire HAPPY HOLIDAYS “

From Benny & Carolyn Wallace (51-55)

We had a nice year and are now at home, until March, enjoying our excellent winter weather. We have days of 65 degrees and nights by the fire at, or near, freezing because of the low humidity and lack of clouds; even snow in the surrounding 9,000 + ft. Mountains.

In February we went on another cruise with friends. It didn't hurt that he was the captain of the ship! Our neighbor was widowed at age 47 and later went on a cruise and met and married the captain, a Swede. This was the third time that we have been their guests on his 2,800 passenger ship. If you like cruises, imagine being the captain's guests! Hard to return to reality. This time we went down the west coast visiting Mexican ports, Guatemala, Costa Rica, through the Panama Canal (for the third time) to Columbia, Jamaica, Caymans and docked at New Orleans, where we stayed more days for a total trip of three weeks. We're very glad to have seen the city, considering what happened later. Wonderful journey. We had bridge privileges and that was especially nice when arriving and leaving ports and in the canal. To be ten decks up and sitting in the captain's chair is a kick. He doesn't use it in the canal because the pilot takes over. No, not me, the Panamanian one!

Later we took a few car trips west of the Mississippi in an effort to see more of our own country. We then filled a big square in October when we flew to Boston, took a hotel in the center and spent ten days visiting museums, historic sites and restaurants, where we layed into the oysters and "chowdah". Wonderful city-- and the weather was good! Two years ago we spent the entire month of May driving around New England via rental car but saved Boston for a separate trip without the burden of driving in the city. Latest count: 53 countries, 34 states.

I had to pace myself a bit because of the lingering effects of my surgery last year. I was at mayo clinic to have my blocked right carotid artery cleared but it went very well and the 9 inch scar on my neck has all but disappeared among the wrinkles. Even so, a part of my lower jaw remains numb because of the severed nerves. I'm told that it may take a long time. The rest of me may go numb first! Don't you just love to hear about old people's health?

I completed 30 years of retirement last April and weigh only 5 lbs. above my FSU weight although, sadly, the cargo has shifted. Haven't done a back flip since I fell off of a bar stool in Thailand during the Vietnam War. Didn't spill a drop and scored 9.8 -- I think -- but lost on a technicality; I puked.

The newsletter has been a joy and we all are indebted to Jack for his efforts. Best wishes this season to him, his family and to you and yours. I've not met many of you and possibly never will, but we have a common bond.

Feliz navidad y prospero ano nuevo.

Los ancianos de tucson,

BENNY Y CAROLINA WALLACE {Now there's a couple that knows how to live. Have fun you guys. Jmm}

From Merik Ceska (55-57)

“Frohe Weihnachten und ein gutes neues Jahr” Merry Christmas & lots of good health and New Year wishes to you and to your family.” “Hoping to see you next year in Tallahassee” {Merik visits his daughter who lives in Tallahassee. jmm}

(11/14) From Gale Jacoby Petronis (?)

“I was glad to hear from you. I talk to Stu Goldberg and Jim Fadigan....Jim doesn't live far from me. I would love to get the Newsletter. We will be heading to Orlando Nov. 21 for the winter. We spend summers at our house in Maryland on the eastern shore.” {So happy to have Gale joining in with us again. Welcome to the fold. Love to you and your family Gale...jmm}

From Mike Mann & Fran Millian (57-67)

Leah is a retired elementary teacher from Ames, Iowa who also owns a home around the corner from Posey's in St. Marks. Saturday I had an e-mail from her asking if we would like to join her at the Riverside Cafe that evening to have Grouper sandwiches and watch the parade or boats with their decks and rails adorned with Christmas lights and figures. We had missed the announcement of the parade in the paper, were thankful of the reminder, and agreed to meet her along with our next door neighbor Terri.

We had agreed that we probably needed to get there early in order to secure riverside tables to be able to have good seats for the boat parade. One report said it would start from the St. Marks Yacht Club at 6:00 another said 6:30. In either case we felt we would be there a little before five to get a good table. We all agreed that we would just have to force ourselves to drink beer, and snack on fried Dill Pickles and Smoked Mullet dip until it was nearly time for the boats and to order dinner.

The St. Marks Yacht club is actually located on the Wakulla river north of where it merges with the St. Marks to flow on out to the gulf. As we sipped and snacked the first boat to pass was the sheriff's skiff with its flashing blue light headed down stream toward the yacht club. Later a couple of others limped by enroute from their St. Marks river berths to the yacht club starting point. It finally was dark somewhere near 7:00 and the sheriff's boat reappeared going upstream this time followed by other boats separated by about fifty yards or so. There were only about ten boats; one fairly large one, a couple of mid sized ones and one small cabin cruiser. The rest were fairly small, a couple not much bigger than our kayaks. Believe it or not, the parade lasted for over an hour. The boats first went up the St. Marks and then down again, then repeated the circuit about ten times before giving it up for the night. So don't let anyone tell you that the people of Wakulla county don't really know how to whoop it up and celebrate the Christmas season. { I got a kick out of the comparison of annual boat parades. Here in Ft. Lauderdale our awesomely extravagant boat parade is nationally televised. And after we peons see how the "real" people live, I drive home and paddle my fiberglass canoe in the canal behind our house. jmm }

(11/17) From Bob Christians (55?)

"What a great surprise to hear from you. Thanks for calling. Saw Stu a year ago at a show for Club Med in Miami. Jim Jackson is a dear friend of a neighbor here in Port St. Lucia and talked to him recently. Ran into Dave Carmolli (trampoline 58-59) sometimes back, will look for his address. Rick Miller and I still keep in touch, likewise Jim Fadigan. Super sending your newsletter, will take time soon to write." {We'll see what Bob has been up to. I know at one time he was with Stu at a circus school...had to be clowns..jmm }

(12/17) From Don & Patsy Rapp (55?)

Merry Christmas and ALL the best for the wonderful holiday season and coming year!! This is surely not the way we would like to send our greetings, but as you will read, we are in the middle of many changes and wish to keep you informed about what is happening!! AND this seems the best way for us to reach you as our days currently do not have enough hours.

In mid-November, we were told that there were 4 homes available in the Westminster Oaks Retirement Community here in Tallahassee, It is quite a wonderful place with all levels of living from independent homes to assisted living and nursing home care if that is ever needed. There are lots of people from town and the university that we know who live there and all of them really like it a lot. So, when the chance came, there was a house in the section that we like, it is bright and should meet our needs for a long time to come. After all, we have lived at 1806 Skyland since September, 1966. At our ages (72 and 77) we felt that we were still able to make the necessary decisions, do the hard work of clearing out (you WOULD NOT believe what is in these closets!), packing, etc., required of such a move and that this was the RIGHT time.

We are signing the final papers at Westminster Oaks (WO from now on) and will begin to move and unpack many of the boxes we have ready to go. At some point (maybe mid January) we will have movers come to do the heavy lifting and setup. We are looking forward to the process of getting settled in a place that is new to us, and we will then have the time to savor the papers, pictures, books, etc., that we have decided not to toss right now. That process should actually be fun.

Our new address is 4156 Covenant Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32308. Our telephone number will remain 850-385-5627 though there may be a few days when we are out of touch. Our e-mail address will also remain Rappdp@aol.com Until we move, we can be reached here or by e-mail.

Actually, we are leaving here Tuesday to travel to Alexandria, Virginia to spend Christmas with Murray, Diane, Cooper, Kylie and Payton. Then Darrell and his wife Toby will come from Pittsburgh on the evening of the 27th and we will all be together until Saturday morning the 31st when we start for home. We are really looking forward to being together again during this time. The grandchildren are at the wonderful ages of 3 (Kylie and Payton) and 6 (Cooper). The good news is that Darrell and Toby are expecting in June. It is always special for family to be together. With all the extended families, we will be thinking of the ones in other places as well.

Something of note, for those who weren't there, our immediate family spent a week with us at Chautauqua celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary. I think that having family get-togethers at Chautauqua is one (of the many) reasons we love going there each summer. Now that we are making the move to WO, it will actually be easier to leave our home for that time as there will be lawn care, etc., and we won't have to worry about the little things (such as plumbing problems, etc.).

Please keep in touch. We will have a guest room at WO so please come and visit. We are wishing the best for everyone!! With love, Patsy and Don {Let's see, I'll book the first day of spring for my visit at the Rapp B&B. You better make reservations or you'll miss the juggling show where a 77 year old plays with his balls. . jmm }

Years (Continuously) Married Contest (Recorded as of this date)

Chick & Jennie Cicio	55 years, 56 in April, 06
Don & Connie Holder	55 years, 56 in August, 06
Benny & Carolyn Wallace	52 years, 53 in May, 06
Carmine & Daneen Regna	51 years,
Jim & Marlene Jackson	50 years, 51 in July, 06
Don & Patsy Rapp	50 years, 51 in November 06
Jon & Boots Culbertson	48 years, 49 in June, 06
Jay & Ellie Schwarzman	48 years, 49 in September
Beverley & Bill Beaton	45 years
Claire & Dick Traynor	42 years, 43 in February 06
Bill & Carole Beavers	37 years (for good behavior)
Dick & Susie Gutting	37 years, 38 in June, 06
Derek & Nancy Lawler	35 years
Jimmy & Janie Hanks	27 years
Fernando & Linda Lecuona	16 years
Jack Miles et al	1, 7, 1/2, 10, 12, 14 years

(11/15) From Bill Vrettos (50-54)

{I had a long pleasant phone call with Bill and discovered he lived only a half hour away. As well as being a gymnast, Bill was the FSU still photographer for most of the Gymkana and gymnastics photos. I am grateful to him that he got me a much needed job with the Audio-Visual Department where I ran movies for the classes and the Hollywood type Friday night movies for the students and staff. We also operated all the sound systems for public and university events. jmm). After a stint in the military Bill continued with his photography avocation. He and his wife and child lived in Tallahassee while he attended and worked at FSU. Single now, his very young speaking voice belies the fact that he is eighty. Presently, he has the challenge of very limited and ever decreasing eye-sight. At his request I mailed him a copy of our past newsletters in very large print. He was very eager to hear all about those of you he knew at FSU.

(12/08) From Rick & Evelyn Miller (55?)

{In a letter from Rick after a phone call..jmm}“It was wonderful to hear from you after such a long time. Thanks a million for the call. {Rick enclosed some great pictures...jmm} The photo with Joe Greene was taken after we had not seen each other for almost 40 years. That’s his son, Sean, on the right. I got Stu Goldberg to come to St. George, Utah to see Joe Gusic after almost as many years. We look forward to seeing you in Florida {Ft. Lauderdale...jmm}next year for the World Acrobatic Reunion.”{Rick and Stu laughingly shared the story that at their meeting they had been talking about their present physical conditi - .Stu still performs handstands every night as part of his regiment. Later after returning home unbeknown to each other, and crossing in the mail, each had sent a “Jumping Rope” to the other...jmm}

(12/09) From Joe Gusic (52?)

{After a phone call...jmm} Joe was joyfully taken back by my phone call where I chewed him out for being so elusive. He still lives in the Chicago area and, like several other recipients of the Newsletter, substitute teaches in his retirement. He is also a very active Volleyball player on a nationally competing team. He meets with Rick Miller at the Annual Senior Olympics where Rick competes in the Javelin Throw and Joe in Volleyball.

From me

My wife just gave me a “Communication Skills” cartoon as if some how I could identify. Wherein, this girl and boy are sitting beside each other. Her thought balloon says, ...“Listen... respond... Feel”. His thought balloon says, “Wait ‘til her mouth stops moving... ..talk about myself some more”...oooh, that smarts.

From Charlie Christians (55-57)

“On the top 1/4 of page 7, entitled Healthy Living, of the (tri-County) Lake Oconee News this week is your article regarding “Diagnosing a Stroke”. This is the best paper of the six in our area....The bold headline is: “**Recognizing the symptoms of a stroke can save a life**” “*A neurologist says if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours, he can reverse the effects of a stroke.*” Looks like we are making head way!!! Many thanks!!!!” {It’s amazing the amount of people we have reached when we sent out this stroke information. The message keeps going and we will in all probability get it back again from the big computer in the sky again and again – as is the nature of email stuff. jmm}

From Barbara Withers and Beverly Cude (54-57)

{The B&B team was one of the first to send beautiful Christmas wishes to all of you (or yah’all if you like). The words disappeared with the computer crash but the spirit was still very much alive. So I pass their wish along with love}

“We wish you a very Merry Christmas”

From Dick & Susie Gutting (50-55)

"May your Christmas be filled with joy and special moments?"

From Don & Connie Holder (51-57)

*"Memories are treasures that time cannot destroy.
They are the happy pathways to yesterday's bright joy.
Wishing you beautiful memories to keep throughout the year."*

From Derek, Nancy, and Gunter Lawler (57-62)

*Merry Christmas. We hope you all have the best of Holidays
and enjoy health in whatever you do and wherever you go."*

From Nancy & Bob Troutman (54-56)

"Thanks again for the Newsletter."

"We wish you and yours an extra special holiday and a happy and healthy 2006." Love Nancy & Bob

Almira (Mrs. Jack) Sharp 51-53, 60-62

"I was amazed with all that you are dealing with after Wilma that you were able to get the newsletter out.
Thank you so much. My holiday greetings:" {The first greeting received...jmm}

*My hope for 2006 is that we will all have that inner peace that radiates to all whom we touch.
Love, peace and joy,*

With the best of good wishes for your future,
Jack M. Miles
Christmas 2005