

# LITTON



# BLAST

## Alumni Gather on May 1 for Annual Dinner

### JACK BENZ ENDS 2-YEAR PRESIDENCY; GEORGE COON TAKES THE HELM

More than 200 alumni, friends and special guests gathered at the Nashville Marriott on May 1 for the annual All-Class Alumni Dinner. President Jack Benz ('51) convened the group for dinner at 6:30 p.m. The invocation was delivered by Gene Ward ('51), followed by introduction of the banquet committee and Board of Directors of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association, Inc.

Johnny DuVal ('52) carried the reins as master of ceremonies for the evening's program. He introduced teachers who were in attendance and they included Lillian Long, Mary Virginia Gee, Frances Rice, Joyce Vardell, Doyle K. (Froggy) Smith, A.D. Hancock and Ronald Webb. He then recognized alumni from the classes represented. Classes represented in the decade of the 30's were 1933, 1937, 1938 and 1939. All classes of the 40's were represented as well as classes of the 50's. The decade of the 60's included 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963., 1964, 1967 and 1969. Bryan Roehrig attended for the second year in a row from 1971, the last class to graduate at Litton.

In addition the Golden Class of 1954 was recognized since they celebrated their 50th reunion this year.

A special surprise tribute was offered for Mrs. Long as she celebrates her 100th birthday in 2004. (See additional article in this issue). A giant birthday card and a dozen red roses were presented in honor of the event.

A traditional highlight of the evening has always been the reading of a rhyme, written and presented by Mrs. Gee. This year was no exception. You will find the rhyme elsewhere in this BLAST.

A somber part of the gala was the reading of our classmates who have passed away during the year between alumni dinners.

Benz then presented his President's report on the State of the Association, calling on Treasurer Graham Baker ('63) for his report. He then presented a special award to Paul Rawls ('51) for his work in establishing the complete mailing list and data base for the association. "Paul has put in long hours and exceptional effort in this endeavor," Benz related, "and we wish to thank him and recognize this achievement."

Walton Brown ('54), chairman of the nominating committee, presented the slate of nominees for officer and Board and the slate was accepted unanimously by the membership. Those serving your Association are listed at the bottom of this front page.



PRESIDENT GEORGE COON

*Continued on Page 2*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
ANNUAL DINNER IS SET  
APRIL 16, 2005**

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- George Coon ('46) – President
- Graham Baker ('63) – President Elect
- Nancy Bennett ('63) – Secretary
- Shirley Coon Ward ('50) – Treasurer
- Jack Benz ('51) – Immediate Past President

#### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

- |                                 |                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mary Louise Perry Grissom ('42) | Justine Perry Duke ('42)          |
| Jimmy Howell ('47)              | Bobbye Ann Harlan Tomlinson ('51) |
| Paul Rawls ('51)                | Johnny DuVal ('52)                |
| Walton L. Brown ('54)           | Jim Caldwell ('55)                |
| John Pennington ('60)           | Tom Pennington ('63)              |
| Linda Winters Hutcherson ('64)  | Joe Carter ('63)                  |

# '64 GRADS GATHER FOR TWO-DAY FESTIVITIES

The Litton Class of 1964 held a 40th-year reunion spanning two days, informally on May 21st at Shelby Park, culminating with a more formal bash at the Music City Sheraton on Saturday, May 22nd.

Doug Hardcastle and Ronny Waddle hosted the family affair at the original playground area at Shelby Park. Some 50 classmates were there, along with children and grandchildren. Some parents also attended, along with Mrs. Joyce Vardell (former 9th grade home economics teacher) and Coach John Younger. After partaking of the normal picnic fare and swapping "remember when" stories of days at Litton, the group was entertained by music from classmates Pat Moore and Buddy Swindle, joined by Natalie Stovall, daughter of classmate Patty Stratton Stovall.

With 136 in attendance, the dinner/dance convened at the Sheraton at 6 p.m. on Saturday. With dinner on the Terrace

*(Below) Hosts Doug Hardcastle and Ronny Waddle model the latest in outdoor chef attire at the '64 class reunion picnic at Shelby Park on May 21st.*

*(Top Right) Jimmy Clift introduces special guest Coach Richard Hewitt at the reunion dinner/dance at the Sheraton Music City for the '64 class 40th get-together.*

*(Bottom Right) Entertainment for the Friday bash was provided by Natalie Stovall, daughter of Patty Stratton Stovall, and classmates Pat Moore and Buddy Swindle.*

and dancing in the Belle Meade Room, the class welcomed special guests Chuck Paysinger (class sponsor) and Coach Richard Hewitt. Janice Herod McNeeley, who came from Yonkes Island, S.C., won one of the door prizes, a gift certificate to the next reunion in 2009. The longest-distance-traveled award went to Gwen Smith Ariza, who came from Torrence, CA.

The reunion committee included Jimmy Clift, Paulette Deaton Coleman, Becky Gullett, Doug Hardcastle, Linda Winters Hutcherson, Joyce Ann Meador Lowhorn, Patty Stratton Stovall, Buddy Swindle, Ronnie Towns, Ronny Waddle and Billy Young.

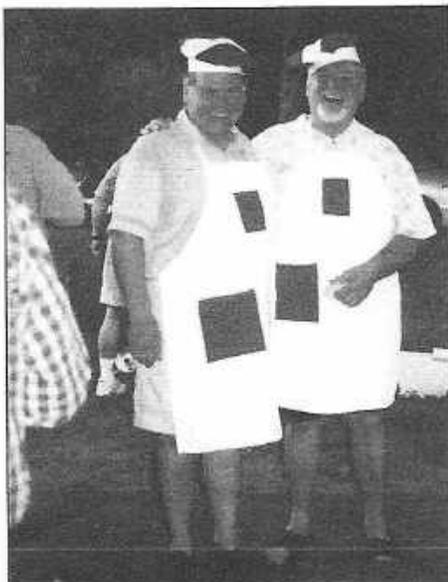
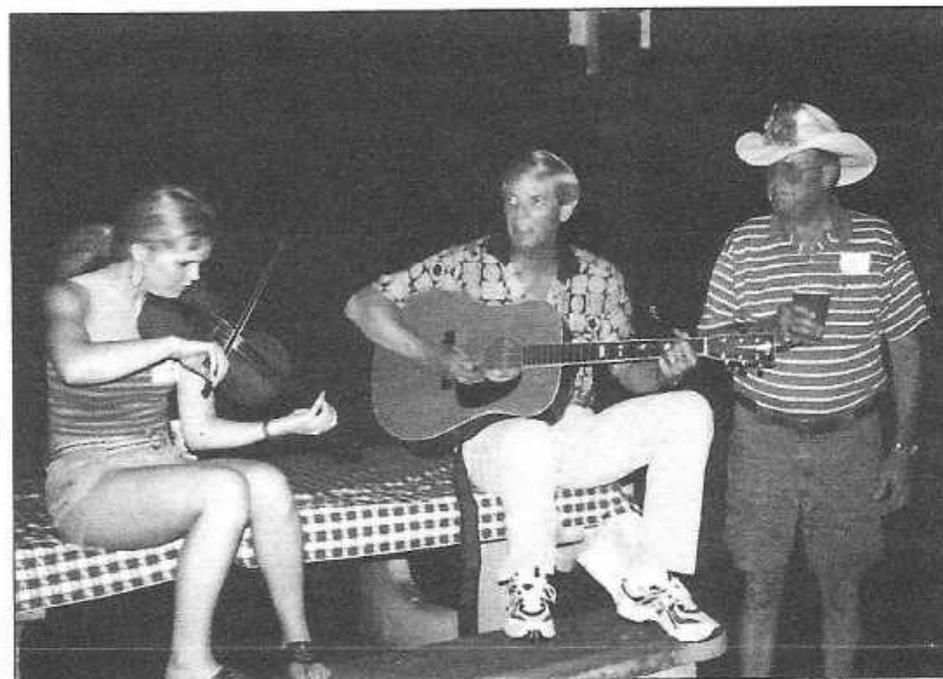
## Alumni Gather . . .

*from Page 1*

Incoming President George Coon ('46) was introduced and greeted the membership.

As the program concluded, DuVal then presented a plaque of achievement to Benz for his hard work in a two-year presidency. "Our association has taken great strides under Jack's leadership and we are forever grateful for his hard work," DuVal said in the presentation.

Following the awarding of door prizes, the membership concluded by singing "Litton High Forever" and the "Alma Mater." The meeting was adjourned until 2005.



# CLASS OF '54 HOLDS GOLDEN GALA REUNION



Photo by Bill Puckett, Tennessee Flash Foto

A two-day 50-year reunion was held July 13-14, 2004, for the Class of 1954. More than 95 gathered on Friday, July 13 at Moss Wright Park in Goodlettsville for an informal family picnic. On Saturday, the celebrants concluded their reunion with a formal dinner at Bluegrass Country Club in Hendersonville. In excess of 110 gathered to exchange remembrances of days gone by and be entertained by a skit featuring 1954-era attire and happenings. The class reunion committee was composed of Nancy Collins Woosley, Nancy Perry Hoover, Ted and Lyndal Thompson Wynne, Nancy Womack Rager, Bobby Sellers, JoAnn Boyd Slate, Corinne Oliphant Rice and Toby and Jerry Adyelott.

## Other Reunion News

The Class of 1942 will gather on September 13th at the Music City Sheraton in Nashville. This class holds a reunion every two years. Tom Sharp heads up this year's affair.

★ ★ ★

On September 25th, the Class of 1944 will hold its 60th reunion at Richland Place in Nashville.

★ ★ ★

The Class of 1959 held its 45th reunion on August 13 and 14. The class gathered for an informal family affair at Pleasant Green in Goodlettsville on Friday the 13th with the formal reunion Saturday the 15th at Music City Sheraton.

★ ★ ★

### Contributors to this Edition of The BLAST

Mary Louise Perry Grissom ('42) • Justine Perry Duke ('44)

Jimmy Howell ('47) • Shirley Coon Ward ('50)

Jack Benz ('51) • Paul Rawls ('51)

Johnny DuVal ('52) • Louis Hines ('53)

Walton Brown ('54) • Tom Pennington ('63)

Linda Winters Hutcherson ('64)

## DESPITE SETBACKS, OLD GYM PROJECT STRUGGLES ALONG

To bring you up-to-date, the project to renovate the old gymnasium on Gallatin Road continues to move along, albeit at a snail's pace due to certain setbacks out of the control of the Alumni Association.

As you are aware, the association became a partner with the Metro Police Athletic League to renovate the athletic facilities at Litton to benefit the 2,500 'at-risk' children in the PAL program. The football field was modernized with new fencing, stands, sprinkler system, new turf, scoreboard, etc. at a cost of \$308,000. Hardaway Construction Company was primarily responsible for its completion – and the Alumni Association participated in the financing.

Jimmy Howell ('47), an association Board member, spearheaded the alumni

activities and has contributed long hours and exhausting effort in this endeavor. Last year, Metro Police Chief Emmett Turner retired and it was eight months before a permanent replacement was named. Due to budget restrictions and personnel shortages, the PAL program was dissolved, leaving these children and the Alumni Association 'out in left field.' A group of interested former coaches and parents organized "Youth Sports" for the 700 children involved in their basketball program. The Association is moving to assist in this program.

Howell (and other Board members) has met several times with Metro Council members, the mayor's representative, the neighborhood association and Board of Education members. In these meetings, it

was indicated that an agreement would be forthcoming between the Alumni Association and the Board of Education allowing the continuation of the project. As of this writing, that agreement is not in hand but is expected soon.

As a result of these developments, the Association had to return some \$266,000 that had been contributed by foundations, as well as respectfully decline approximately \$325,000 in anticipated grants. We do have \$70,000-plus in alumni funds being held for the project, funds accumulated through outright donations, sale of Litton memorabilia products and golf tournament proceeds. Hopefully, the worst of the delays is behind us.

We'll keep you posted. And a big "Litton High Forever" salute to Jimmy Howell.

## ANNUAL ALUMNI PICNIC SET FOR AUGUST 21

The 17th annual Alumni picnic, a gala, informal get-together was held Saturday, August 21, 2004. Winingham Farms, owned by Judy Joyner Maddux ('53) and Drew Maddux ('52), was once again the scene of the clambake. Judy and Drew have graciously hosted the affair at their Gallatin farm since its inception 17 years ago.

All alumni were urged to attend. It was a great time to swap old stories and relive memories of the days at Litton. No formal program was planned – just meeting and conversing with friends and classmates, some of whom you had not seen in a long time.

Arrival of alumni began about 5 p.m., with dinner at 6:30. Classmates brought covered dishes (we always have plenty of food) and lawn chairs for comfort (we never have enough).

The map on the right shows directions to the farm from Nashville, Hendersonville or Gallatin. Signs are always posted.

## HAVE YOU VISITED THE ISAAC LITTON WEBSITE?

If you haven't had a chance to visit the Litton website, then you're missing a great source of information about your alma mater. It can be found at <http://isaaclittonhigh.com>.

It was originally the brainchild of Fred Clanton ('61). Fred not only set up the original Litton alumni website, but has donated the equipment and server space rental for several years. That's an equivalent of about \$250 annually which Fred has donated to his classmates.

The daily work is handled locally by Board members Paul Rawls ('51) and Tom Pennington ('63).

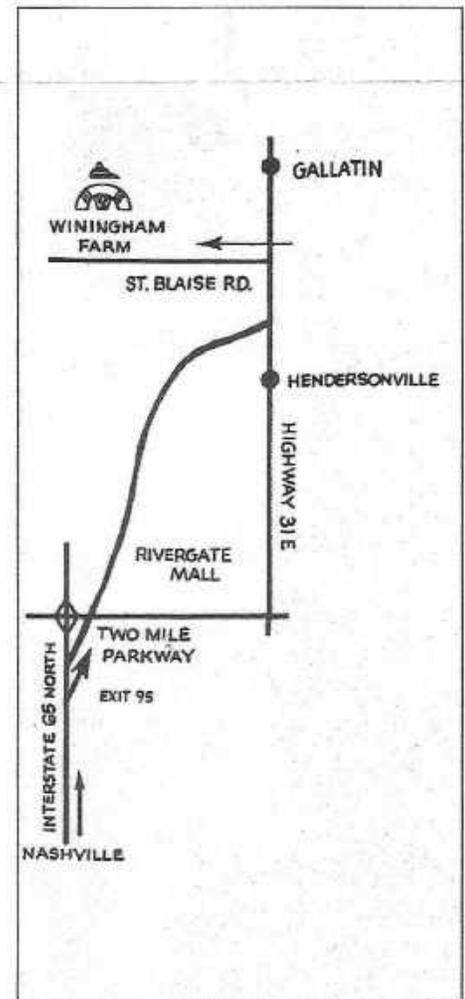
If you have information that should be included, you can e-mail them at:

Tom Pennington – [tompngn@worldnet.att.net](mailto:tompngn@worldnet.att.net)

Paul Rawls – [plr51ilhs107@earthlink.net](mailto:plr51ilhs107@earthlink.net)

Be a part of keeping Litton High Forever.

Map to Alumni Picnic  
August 21, 2004



# ALUMNI DINNER, MAY 1, 2004



16. Johnny DuVal ('52), a member of the Board of directors of the Alumni Association, acted as Master of Ceremonies at the dinner.



17. Johnny DuVal ('52) presents an Award of Appreciation to Jack Benz ('51) for his meritorious service as President for the years 2002-2004. Much was accomplished during Jack's tenure and he gave much time and effort to the Association.

19. Then President Jack Benz ('51) greets former English teacher Mrs. Lillian Long on her arrival. Mrs. Long was honored as she prepared to celebrate her 100th birthday in June. (See article on page 7).



20. Johnny DuVal ('52) and Jack Benz ('51) confer on last-minute programming prior to dinner.

# GRADS GATHER AT ALL-CLASS



1. Ann Ruth Park Shaffer and Mary Sue Barrett Boyd, representing the oldest class in attendance (1933), are shown with Bryan Roehrig from the youngest class (1971)



5. Sharing old times prior to dinner are (from left) Howard Van Hook ('51), Helen Robinson Van Hook ('51), Margie Saltsman Meadows ('51) and Norma Jean Bates Davis ('47). Sadly, Margie passed away two months later.



2. Bobbye Ann Harlan Tomlinson ('51) and Shirley Coon Ward ('50) arrive for the All-Class reunion. Both are members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, with Shirley serving as the current Treasurer.



6. The 1963 Class was well represented at the dinner. Shown following the festive event are (front row, from left) Katie Soyars Baker, Sheryl Ann Moore, Pat Hamby Bright, Kay Bennett Byrd, Nancy Bennett, and (rear, from left) Tom Pennington, Rick Rouch, Bill Lewis, Graham Baker, Joe Hutcherson and Joe Carter.



3. Early arrivals reliving Litton memories included (from left) Bubber Adwell ('43), John Cunningham ('42), Irving Richardson ('43) and Jack Yearwood ('42).



9. Jack Benz ('51), Immediate Past President, reads a citation given to Paul Rawls ('51) in appreciation of his untiring devotion to creating the computerized alumni mailing list and work assisting with and promoting the Litton website. Paul is a member of the Board of Directors.

# ALUMNI DINNER, MAY 1, 2004



7. Teachers and former principals were invited guests. Shown conferring before dinner are A.D. Hancock (standing) and (seated from left) Frances Rice, Ronald Webb, Doyle K. Smith and Joyce Vardell. Mrs. Lillian Long and Mrs. Harvey Gee were also in attendance and are mentioned elsewhere in this edition of *The BLAST*.



10a and 10b. The head table included (from left) Gene Ward ('51) and wife Shirley Coon Ward ('50), current Treasurer; Jolene Coon and husband George Coon ('46), current President; Johnny DuVal ('52), a member of the Board who acted as master of ceremonies; Noroma Benz and husband Jack Benz ('51), Immediate Past President.



8. Early arrivals get together to remember old times. They are (from left) John Steinhauer, Bill Irvin, Jack Irvin ('47), J.W. Brown ('47) and Rufus Long ('47).



4. The Perry sisters, long supporters of Litton alumni activities, are shown with the McDonald print. From left, they are Evelyn Perry Rives ('40), Justine Perry Duke ('44) and Mary Louise Perry Grissom ('42). Nancy Perry Hoover ('54), a Past President of the association, could not attend.



15. Graham Baker ('63), as the then-treasurer, presents the financial report to the membership in attendance. Graham comes into the 2004-2005 fiscal year as President-Elect.

# ALUMNI DINNER, MAY 1, 2004



12. Gathering before dinner are Linda Winters Hutcherson ('64), an Association Board member and her husband, Joe ('63).



13. Enjoying dinner are Charles Kimbrough ('57), a former member of the Board, and his wife Cookie.



14. Former teachers Miss Frances Rice, who was the '52 Class sponsor, and Ronald Webb share Litton memories.

A big **THANK YOU** to  
**PENNEY BENZ**  
**FRAZEE** (Jack Benz's  
daughter) for her time and  
expertise in  
photographing our  
Alumni event this year.



The Class of 1950 included Betty Evans Cooke, Dee Tidwell Byrne and Genevieve Dorris Lish. Genevieve is the banquet's "unofficial" piano accompanist.



18. Bill Lewis and Kay Bennett Byrd, both from Class of '63, gather before dinner.

# In Memoriam

*(The Alumni Association attempts to remember classmates who have passed away between alumni banquets. This list is by no means complete, but is the input of several individuals. Therefore, these classmates have celebrated the ultimate commencement between 4-26-03 and 5-01-04).*

Arlene Friar Johnson - '33  
 Marcelle Bunch Glenn - '35  
 Christine Mitchell Anderson - '35  
 Anne O'Mara Griffin - '35  
 Ken Collins - '36  
 Louise Hyde Hargis - '36  
 Carrie Mai Sadler King - '36  
 Hal Swann - '36  
 Dorothy Long Murphy - '37  
 James O. Harris - '38  
 Margaret McCabe Vivrette - '38  
 Bonnie Gobel Peay - '39

Harold Borum - '41  
 Billy Irick - '42  
 Maurice Thorne - '42  
 Madalin Haradon Lazenby - '43  
 Alice Slater Harris - '43  
 Jane Waller Hyde - '43  
 Werner Wildner - '43  
 James S. Worley - '43  
 Jimmy Parish - '44  
 Jim Robinson - '44  
 Jeanette Faircloth Allen - '46  
 Wayne Hicks - '46  
 Christine Warise Whited - '46  
 Marjorie Yates Emory - '46  
 Morris Mitchell - '47  
 Marjorie Dorcas Watson Aderhold - '48  
 Nelda June Kennedy - '49  
 Ann Gadsey Horan - '50  
 Charles Kemp - '50  
 Edward T. Cammuse - '51

Sigrid Panders - '51  
 Margie Marlowe Martin - '52  
 Bill Watson - '52  
 Charles Jones - '53  
 Charles Trotter - '54  
 Mort Smithson - '55  
 Edna Cole Brown - '56  
 Bobby Epley - '56  
 Frances Cheek - '58  
 Johnny Kummer - '58  
 Diane Van Deren Womack - '59  
 Jack Rainey - '59  
 Lynn Cormandy - '60  
 Werner Grossholz Jr. - '60  
 Jeanette Shaw - '60  
 John Kimbrough - '64  
 Barbara Poe - '64  
 Dixie Herndon - '67  
 Deborah Kilpatrick - '67  
 Buddy Harper - '69  
 Kevin Temple - former student,  
 would have been - '72

## TIME FOR ILAA DUES; AND ORDER MEMORABILIA

Two years ago, the Isaac Litton Alumni Association Board of Directors established a \$5 annual dues amount - on a voluntary basis - to help defray costs of publications, mailings and other non-profit expenses. If you

haven't sent yours in lately, now is the time.

Also, other items relating to Litton are available for purchase, the proceeds over and above actual cost going into the fund for the gymnasium/

alumni room development.

Here's an opportunity to pay your dues and order items for your own collection or for gifts for Christmas or other special occasions.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class of 19 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

RALPH McDONALD PRINTS: ..... 10" x 15" @ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

18" x 25" @ \$265 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PHIL PONDER PRINTS: ..... @ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

LITTON CAPS: ..... @ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

"L" LAPEL PINS: ..... @ \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION TO GYM PROJECT: ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Litton Alumni Association, Inc. and mail to  
 P.O. Box 752  
 Madison, TN 37116-0752

# '53 GRADS CELEBRATE 50TH REUNION IN GALA WEEKEND BASH

By Louis Hines ('53)

The Litton Class of 1953 gathered for a weekend reunion August 29-30, 2003. Friday night the 30th found the grads gathering in the school's gymnasium. The evening began as 124 excited participants came together for an informal evening, highlighted by barbecue, 50's music from a jukebox and an appropriate automobile motif.

Jerry Kemp and Bill Denny emceed the activities, while Bob Brewington, as the "Fan Man," proved to be the night's MVP through his efforts to maintain a reasonable comfort level in an old familiar place "that hasn't changed a bit in 50 years."

Saturday found the four class officers mixing and mingling with 132 other class members, spouses, friends and special guests at Bluegrass Country Club in Hendersonville, TN.

Class president Rip Nix welcomed attendees (which included vice president Lloyd McKelvey, secretary Margaret Potts Vaughan and treasurer Gray Potter) after a social hour and buffet dinner.

Nila Garmon Sherrill presided over a fun-filled program of music by keyboardist Phil Sadler and vocalist Martha Ann Brewer. "Recollections" by several class members, and a class-participation sing-along of several musical parodies adapted by Louis Hines for the occasion. Various club and organization members "led" the singing of such appropriate songs as "The

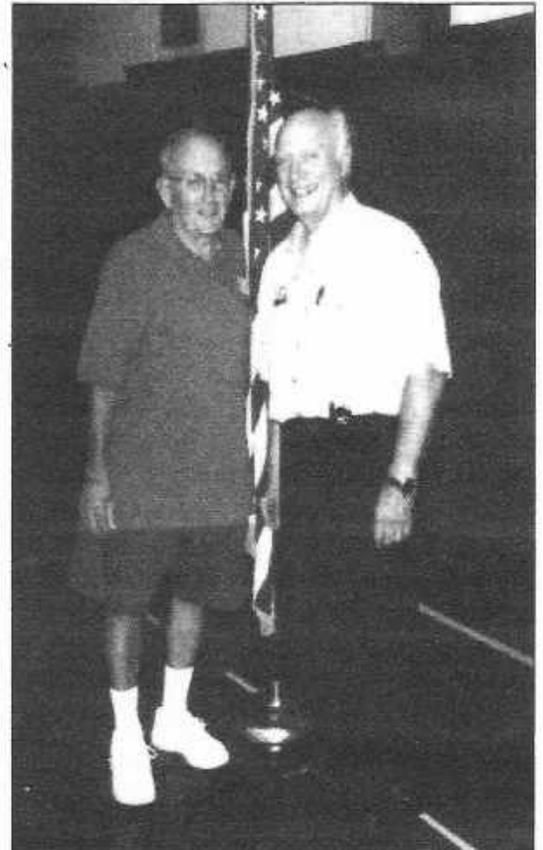
Sound of Litton," "Once In Love With Litton," "Do You Remember?" and a rousing rendition of "There Is Nothing Like A Lion" by a chorus of (in-not-prime-time-playing-condition) ex-athletes.

Mrs. Harvey Gee, with her always-appreciated rhyme, Justine Perry Duke ('44) and Coach Ronald Webb attended as special guests.

Door prizes were awarded, a special remembrance was observed for 30 deceased class members, and a special "Golden Reunion" issue of The BLAST was distributed, along with an outstanding event program and class directory prepared by Dot Wood Sloan, Mary Elizabeth Harris Fields and Sally Garvin Smith.

Decorations, highlighted by a magnificent ice sculpture of a lion, were planned and prepared by Chris Binkley Dozier and Wilma Deuel DuVal.

Reunion coordinator Martha Winn Lewis was capably assisted by Betty Cherry Odom and Donna Hand Smith. Others contributing to this "standard for all reunions" were Jean Frye Williams, June Ralls Denny, Richard Odom, Jean Stone Yount and Marelle Nichols Newman, with a nostalgic memorabilia display.



*Louis Hines (left) and Bill Denny reflect on ole times at the 50th reunion of the Class of '53 last year. The Friday night portion of the reunion was held in the old Litton gym, where Lou and Bill reminisce.*



## **RALPH McDONALD LITTON PRINT STILL AVAILABLE**

Prints of the original oil painting "The Spirit Lives" by noted wildlife artist Ralph McDonald ('53) are available on order through the Isaac Litton Alumni Association. Ralph created this masterpiece and donated the original to the Alumni Association as a fund-raiser. The original is valued at \$15,000. The painting meticulously depicts all three buildings as well as a cloud formation in the form of a lion – the Litton Lion. A framed copy is pictured here with Ralph and his wife Nancy at the All-Class Alumni Dinner in May. Available in print or canvas format, they make a great gift for alumni and friends of Litton.

PRINTS – 10" x 15" – \$50

CANVAS – 18" x 25" – \$265

(Prices include shipping and handling)

An order form can be found elsewhere in this edition of The BLAST.

## MRS. LILLIAN LONG HONORED AT ALL-ALUMNI BANQUET

Mrs. Lillian Long, beloved English teacher at Litton, was honored May 1 during the All-Alumni Reunion banquet as she approached her 100th birthday. A current resident at the Jackson Park Christian Home in Inglewood, Mrs. Long has been a faithful attendee at reunion affairs, not only the annual dinner for all alumni, but individual classes as well.

Paul Rawls ('51), a member of the Alumni Board of Directors, prepared a gi-

gant birthday card for Mrs. Long, signed by all attendees and presented to her during the program. Carole Hawkins Rice ('52) is shown in the accompanying photo signing the card, which was inscribed:

"To one who helped so many lives  
With counsel given, sound and wise,  
Our memories linger as in song;  
Happy 100th, Mrs. Long"

Mrs. Long's birthday was June 2.  
A proclamation from the Metropolitan

Board of Education commemorating Mrs. Long's extended tenure in the school system was read and presented by Larry Collier ('69) (see photo) and his wife Sue Swor Collier ('69). Sue is the daughter of Litton's long-time Band Director, the late Sammy Swor.

Also in an accompanying photo, a dozen red roses was presented to Mrs. Long by Ed McNabb ('44).



Mrs. Long and Larry S. Collier, '69



Carol Hawkins Rice



Mrs. Long with Ed McNabb

## IMPORTANT! What Are Your Wishes?

The Alumni Association is making every effort to maintain contact with its classmates and friends interested in the tradition of Litton. This is not an easy task, but with the help of so many of its members, Paul Rawls ('51), the keeper of the records, and his associates continue to persevere.

Also, there is an effort to streamline this continued communication through uses of electronic mailing as well as by purging the list. For whatever reason, some alumni prefer not to receive any communication about the Association and its activities. This is your opportunity to express those desires. If you can receive The BLAST and other communiqués through e-mail, you can so indicate. Also, if you prefer no information, that option is certainly open as well.

Please send your e-mail to Paul at plr51ilhs107@earthlink.net or regular mail to 225 Mockingbird Rd., Nashville 37205.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Class of 19 \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive e-mail information

I prefer regular mail at the above address

Please remove me from further communication

# MRS. HARVEY GEE STILL 'RHYMES' AT ALUMNI GALA

Not allowing a fall to dampen her spirits, Mrs. Harvey Gee (pictured) presented her annual rhyme to the gathered alumni at the dinner on May 1. Having served on the very first faculty at Litton in 1930, she continued until the early sixties. To our knowledge, she has never missed an all-alumni dinner, as well as attending as many individual class

reunions as possible. This despite the fact she turned 99 years of age on July 3, 2004.

Few actual Litton alumni have fostered more dedication and emotional connection to the school as has Mrs. Gee. This is evidenced by the content of her rhymes, all somewhat different than the year before. For those who missed it, here's the 2004 edition:

At last came Graduation Day  
You had to say goodbye  
To the school you loved so much -  
You now must learn to fly.

You've been through school with all your kids,  
And maybe grandkids too,  
But Litton High just ranks above  
All other schools for you.

Now may Isaac Litton High School  
A challenge always be  
To the BOARD OF EDUCATION  
To replace for all to see.

I'm really old and fragile now,  
My energy's all spent,  
But I am thankful for my mind  
That helps keep me content.

I still can write these rhymes for you  
And still my foot I swing  
And always I along with you  
Our Litton's Praises sing.

Now Johnny once described my rhymes  
As "icing on the cake"  
I always tried to make the best  
"Rhymes icing" I could make

Through all these years I've had such fun  
In writing rhymes for you  
So won't you please remember that  
I loved you and Litton too!



## LITTON REUNION 2004

You are assembled here tonight  
To honor Litton High;  
Your Alma Mater that you've loved  
Since days long since gone by.

Altho' the school is there no more  
It's there for you and me;  
We see it with our inward eye  
Just as it used to be.

The boys and girls who filled the halls  
Are scattered everywhere,  
But some are back to see their friends,  
And show that they still care.

We mourn the loss of Litton High,  
But we are very glad  
Our life time coincided with  
The best school Metro had.

'Tis better to have loved and lost  
Than never have the joy  
Of being part of Litton High  
As high school girl or boy.

Those days that you remember now  
Do bring back memories sweet,  
Those glorious days of carefree youth,  
Those days you can't repeat.

Now Litton High was noted then  
For school spirit very rare.  
The students, teacher's parents too  
Displayed it everywhere.

The football games on Friday night  
To miss you would not dare,  
The Marching Band, 100 strong  
Missed not a step, with care.

You like to recall special games  
When Litton Lions did roar,  
Your voices did increase the noise  
When Lions made a score.

Arrival of the Litton Blast  
Did illustrate its name,  
Confusion reigned within the room,  
No class remained the same.

Until each one the column found  
With juicy gossip rare,  
Their reading brought on silence then  
That was beyond compare.

The Yearbook took another day,  
Your friends just had to sign,  
And add a simple wish or two  
To finish out the line.

The Junior and the Senior Proms,  
You did anticipate  
Your minds were not on lessons, but  
On who would be your date.

Or what you'd wear or what you'd spend  
You had to find a way  
To make a bunch of money quick,  
For all you had to pay.

The scholars bright were picking out  
The college they liked best;  
And hoping they'd be able then  
To pass the entrance test.

**ISAAC LITTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
P.O. BOX 752  
MADISON, TENNESSEE 37116-0752

TO:



\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*3-DIGIT 370 T9 P1

JERRY W. NEWMAN 58  
203 CIRCLE DR  
LAFAYETTE TN 37083-1801

Presort Standard  
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PAID  
Nashville, TN  
Permit # 768

[www.isaacittonhigh.com](http://www.isaacittonhigh.com)