



Litton Blast

Isaac Litton High School - Nashville, TN
Volume MMXVIII Issue 2 April 2018

The MISSION of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association is to preserve the rich heritage of our former school, to provide support to the present Isaac Litton Middle School, and be a positive influence in the lives of ALL the children in our community. We do this with effective communication that continually reaches out to bring the Alumni and the community together to promote our programs and services.

2018 **THE
SPECIAL
EVENT**

**Be sure to reserve your place NOW for our
Annual All-Alumni Banquet. This year will be
unlike anything before EVER !**

(Reservation forms start on Page 2)





Isaac Litton High School
ALL-ALUMNI BANQUET

Saturday, June 9, 2018 at 11:00 AM

MAKE PLANS NOW !!!

Dear Fellow Alumni,

This year we are taking things up a notch to make this event really special!

The banquet is being held again at the Bluegrass Yacht & Country Club where the alumni will be served a delicious sit-down meal consisting of an entrée, vegetable selection(s), bread, beverage choices and a scrumptious dessert.

We will again have two guest speakers you will not want to miss. Once again, one of the speakers will be Chara Rand, the Principal at Isaac Litton Middle School, and, as all who heard her speak last year will attest, she will inform and inspire us all. The second and keynote speaker, Jay McDonald (Class of 1964), has a stellar reputation as an inspirational, motivational, and entertaining speaker and advisor to, not only groups like ours, but also to major corporations world-wide. He will deliver a special message sure to uplift our spirits and boost our outlook on our past as well as our future.

Once again, we will recognize one very special Alumnus of the Year. As last year, the winner will be honored during our banquet by the presentation of a framed gilt-edged certificate, as well as his/her name's being added to the wooden plaque displayed in the Lion's Hall Board Room. Also being given special recognition this year is the Class of 1968 on their 50th Anniversary.

And, for the first time EVER, we have a special program planned for you. One of our alumni and her husband are Champion dancers and will present us with a nostalgic montage of music and dance throughout the fifty years of Litton.

There will be some awesome items for sale through our Merchandise Committee, too. (Cash, credit cards and checks are accepted, as usual.)

As always, payments for the banquet, your dues and all donations to the ILAA are fully tax-deductible. We sincerely appreciate your support in our goals.

Deadline for making your reservations and Alumnus of the Year nominations is **May 19, 2018**. We thank you in advance for your prompt response and generous support.

In keeping with the mission of the Association, our aim is to be a positive influence in the lives of ALL the children of our community by continuously reaching out to bring the alumni and community together. We look forward to seeing you this year, not only as we work together to support these worthy causes, but also to share our cherished memories.

Litton High Forever!
Dave Brawner, President
ILAA, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

P.S. – Remember to pay your annual dues of just \$15.00 per person, even if you are unable to attend this event. Your annual dues are so important in achieving our goals every year and perpetuating our legacy.



Isaac Litton All-Alumni Banquet

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Bluegrass Yacht & Country Club

550 Johnny Cash Parkway

Hendersonville, TN 37075

11:00 AM

We encourage you to attend and pay your annual alumni dues, so that we can maintain the restored gym along with funding the various organizations that we support such as the Isaac Litton Middle School (ILMS) and Back Field in Motion (BIM) and more. ILHS merchandise and memorial bricks will be available for purchase. We will be honoring the **Class of 1968** on the 50th anniversary of their graduation from ILHS.

RESERVATION INFORMATION

NAME: _____ CLASS OF: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (home): _____ (mobile): _____

EMAIL: _____

Please list here all guests attending with you and if they are also graduates of ILHS, please indicate graduation year:

PAYMENT FOR:	How Many				Total
Banquet Reservation		X	\$35.00	=	\$
Annual Alumni Dues		X	\$15.00	=	\$
Tax Deductible Donation					\$
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED					\$

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS (Circle Card Type)



Name on Card: _____ Expires: _____

Card #: _____ Security Code #: _____

Please make checks payable to: ISSAC LITTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION or I.L.A.A.

Enclose your payment along with this form (and your Alumnus of the Year form, if so desired) to:

John Halliburton, ILAA Treasurer

902 West Cynthia Trail

Goodlettsville, TN 37072

You are encouraged to pay your annual alumni dues and update your contact information for our records, even if you are unable to attend our Banquet. **All reservation forms and payments are due by May 19th, 2018.**

NOMINATION FOR ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR for 2018

This award is presented to the Alumnus of the Year at our Annual Banquet. He or she is selected by Committee on the following criteria:

Characteristics of the Alumnus of the Year should include but are not limited to any one or a combination of the following:

- distinguished professional achievement
- distinguished leadership
- service to Isaac Litton High School
- service to community
- loyalty to the ideals of Isaac Litton High School
- positive representation of Isaac Litton High School

(If you want to include supporting documentation of this person's qualifications, please do so).

NAME of NOMINEE: _____ CLASS OF: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CURRENT EMPLOYER or AVOCATION: _____

EDUCATION AFTER ILHS: _____

COMMUNITY SERVICES: _____

SERVICES WHILE AT LITTON: _____

HONORS OR ACHIEVEMENTS: _____

RECOMMENDED BY: _____ CLASS OF: _____

SEND THIS FORM TO:

John Halliburton, ILAA Treasurer
902 West Cynthia Trail
Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Deadline for nominations: May 19th, 2018

Isaac Litton Has A Proud History

Contributed by Larry Collier

(The following article was written by Tom Flake of the Nashville Banner on Tuesday, April 27, 1982. It's an excellent retelling of some of the history "back in the day." Enjoy.)

“The Lions roared, the Marching 100 charmed and thrilled, and the people worked together to get community jobs done.

We refer, of course, to the former Isaac Litton High School, which for a good many years was the keystone of some remarkably effective community efforts, bettering not only the school but all of Inglewood.

When Litton was built on Gallatin Road a half-century ago, the school and its constituency had big jobs to do. The old Davidson County Board of Education was regularly shorted on money by the county's longstanding policy of low taxes at all costs, and this left school patrons countywide to raise a lot of needed school funds with carnivals, spaghetti suppers and whatever.



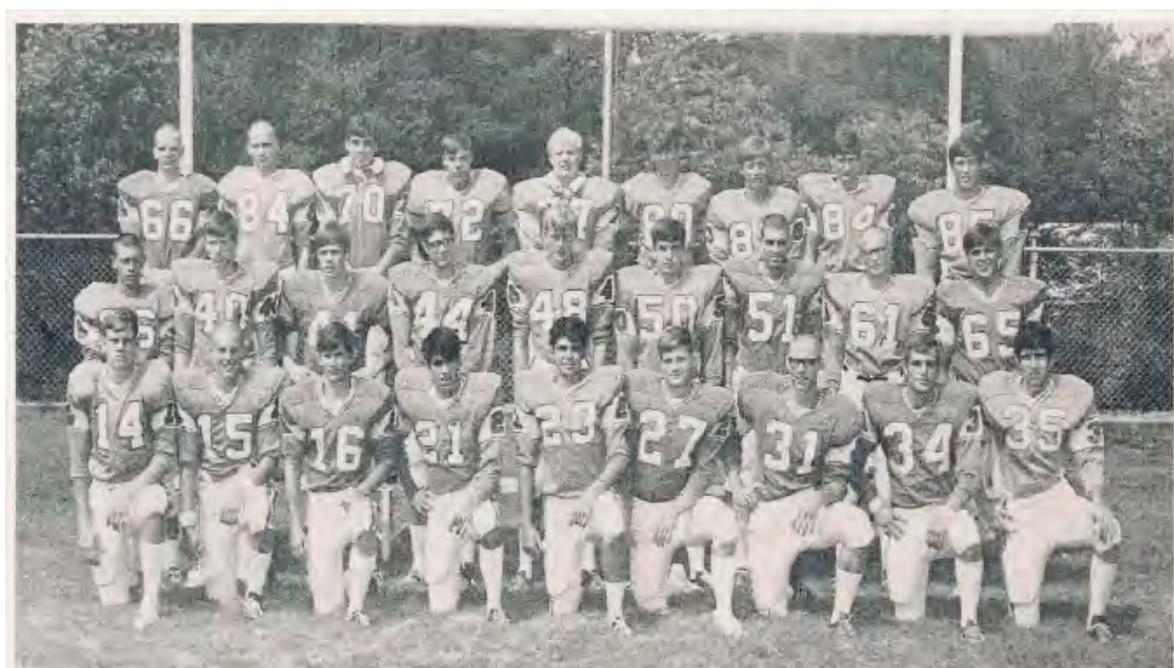
Not just for school frills but for such needs a library books and educational supplies normally part of educational operating expenses. Most county schools (outside Nashville's old city limits) had not only the usual parent-teacher associations but “men's clubs,” which spearheaded fundraising, often on a sizable scale.

Those clubs often became centers of community activities, school-related or otherwise, and helped fulfill many needs in those pre-Metro times when tens of thousands of Nashvillians lived in urban-like neighborhoods that had mushroomed in vast unincorporated areas.

Since county school board members those days often weren't expected to bestow favors on **that** side of the county, Inglewood people rallied year after year to raise money, to boost, to plead, to protest, to do whatever they could for Litton and the thousands of families in its environs.

The Litton story is well known. It was knocked down to a Junior high school a decade ago in the reshuffling that even now hasn't ceased. In that time, Metro had removed the financial imbalance that had impelled community action—but the remarkable spirit this school generated is well-remembered not only by Littonians, but by people all around. Other schools had similar help, but Litton's seemed to go deeper, more enthusiastically, more devoutly and attention-compelling.

Sports, of course, in a big way!



VARSITY FOOTBALL SQUAD

First Row: Charlie Bill Gregg, Brock Rust, Johnny Dyer, Ray Anderson, Jimmy Estes, Steve King, Mike Spurlock, Terry Ashley, Fred Keys. Second Row: Karl Meyer, Kevin Temple, Mike Edgar, Steve Swift, Steve Smalling, Rusty Corley, Ron Dilbree, Tommy Harris, Jeff Hudgins. Third Row: Ricky Ward, Bryan Crane, Chip Hall, Gilbert Spurlock, Bryant Barry, Karl Gabrielle, Gary Benz, Steve Dickerson, Mike Petty.

Litton's last football team in 1970.

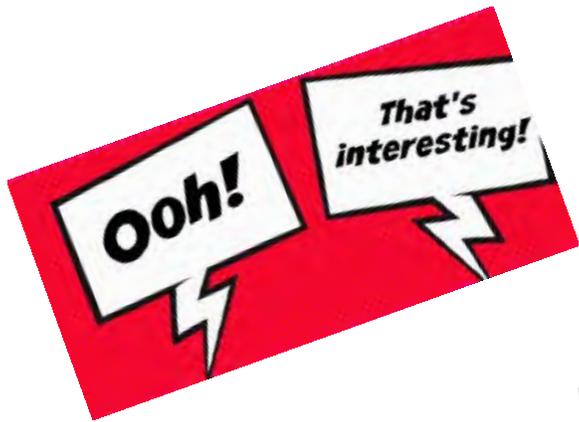
More remarkably, the Litton band, directed in its heyday by able Sammy Swor and backed by a super-busy boosters' club, was recognized all around as marvelous. Any doubter of its popular support should be told what a clamor resulted when a TV network decided to run a commercial instead of the Marching 100 in a Tournament of Roses Parade.



The Marching 100+ strutting their stuff down Broadway in New York's Macy's Parade in 1964.

Litton's scholastics? Pretty good, considering the means afforded by the county. Hillsboro did better there as well as in buildings and other facilities, but then. . .well."

**LITTON HIGH
FOREVER !**



"Water Displacement #40"

(Contributed by Jerry Newman, Class of 1958)

The product began from a search for a rust preventative solvent and degreaser to protect missile parts. WD-40 was created in 1953, by three technicians at the San Diego Rocket Chemical Company. Its name comes from the project that was to find a 'Water Displacement' Compound. They were finally successful for a formulation, with their fortieth attempt, thus WD-40. The 'Convair Company' bought it in bulk to protect their Atlas missile parts. Ken East (one of the original founders) says there is nothing in WD-40 that would hurt you. You'll be amazed at some of its uses found below.



1. Protects silver from tarnishing.
2. Removes road tar and grime from cars.
3. Cleans and lubricates guitar strings.
4. Gives floor that 'just-waxed' sheen without making them slippery.
5. Keeps the flies off of Cows, Horses, and other Farm Critters, as well.
6. Restores and cleans chalkboards.
7. Removes lipstick stains.
8. Loosens stubborn zippers.
9. Untangles jewelry chains.
10. Removes stains from stainless steel sinks.
11. Removes dirt and grime from the barbecue grill.
12. Keeps ceramic / terracotta garden pots from oxidizing.
13. Removes tomato stains from clothing.
14. Keeps glass shower doors free of water spots.
15. Camouflages scratches in ceramic and marble floors.
16. Keeps scissors working smoothly.
17. Lubricates noisy door hinges on both home and vehicles doors.
18. It removes that nasty tar and scuff marks from the kitchen flooring. It doesn't harm the finish and you won't have to scrub nearly as hard to get them off. Just remember to open some windows if you have a lot of marks.

19. Remove nasty bug guts that will eat away the finish on your car if not removed quickly!
20. Gives a children's playground gym slide a shine for a super fast slide.
21. Lubricates gearshift and mower deck lever for ease of handling on riding mowers.
22. Rids kids rocking chair and swings of squeaky noises.
23. Lubricates tracks in sticking home windows and makes them easier to open.
24. Spraying an umbrella stem makes it easier to open and close.
25. Restores and cleans padded leather dashboards in vehicles, as well as vinyl bumpers.
26. Restores and cleans roof racks on vehicles.
27. Lubricates and stops squeaks in electric fans.
28. Lubricates wheel sprockets on tricycles, wagons, and bicycles for easy handling.
29. Lubricates fan belts on washers and dryers and keeps them running smoothly.
30. Keeps rust from forming on saws and saw blades, and other tools.
31. Removes grease splatters from stove-tops.
32. Keeps bathroom mirror from fogging.
33. Lubricates prosthetic limbs.
34. Keeps pigeons off the balcony (they hate the smell).
35. Removes all traces of duct tape.
36. Folks even spray it on their arms, hands, and knees to relieve arthritis pain.
37. Florida's favorite use is: 'cleans and removes love bugs from grills and bumpers.'
38. In New York, its main use is to protect the Statue of Liberty from corrosion.
39. WD-40 attracts fish. Spray a little on live bait or lures and you will be catching the big one in no time. Also, it's a lot cheaper than the chemical attractants that are made for just that purpose. Keep in mind though, using some chemical laced baits or lures for fishing are not allowed in some states.
40. Use it for fire ant bites. It takes the sting away immediately and stops the itch.
41. It is great for removing crayon from walls. Spray it on the marks. Wipe with a clean rag.
42. Also, if you've discovered that your teenage daughter has washed and dried a tube of lipstick with a load of laundry, saturate the lipstick spots with WD-40 and rewash. Presto! The lipstick is gone!
43. If you spray it inside a wet distributor cap, it will displace the moisture, allowing the engine to start.

As for that basic main ingredient? Well, it's FISH OIL.

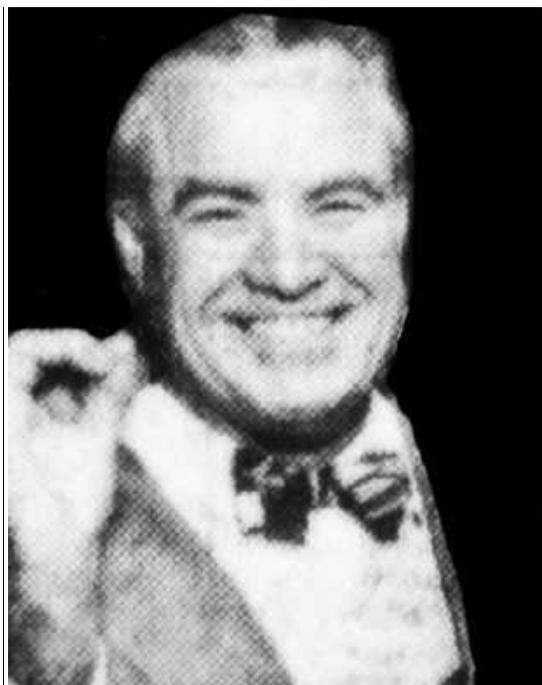


NOTICE TO ALL ALUMNI: If you have any stories or comments to contribute to the BLAST (your personal memories, updates on alumni and their life accomplishments, etc.) Please send them to Kay Cunningham at kayc1107@comcast.net. Be sure to include all your contact information.

**A SPORTS THRILL
AS TOLD TO RED O'DONNELL BY RUFUS BOGGS**

Contributed by Jerry Newman, Class of 1958

"I believe the post-season game between Fayetteville's Central High team and Isaac Litton from Nashville was the most closely contested prep or high school game ever staged in Middle Tennessee. It was my top sports thrill.



Red O'Donnell

The Fayetteville team, coached by Charley Lindsay and L.B. Mansfield, came out of the season undefeated. The boys were matched with Isaac Litton's team in a game at Murfreesboro.

The winner was to play the following week in the Middle Tennessee championship.

The rules of the game were highly unusual. It could not end in a tie. If the score was tied, the team with the most first downs was to be declared the winner. If neither eleven had a first down majority, the ball was placed on the 50 yard line and the club which made the most progress in four downs would be the winner.

A poor pass from center set up Fayetteville's first and only score. Shorty Malone, Jack Buchanan and Bob Hamilton starred as Fayetteville took advantage of the break and rang up a 7-0 lead.

The contest appeared in the bag until late in the fourth quarter when Leonard Staggs, currently coaching at Lawrence County High School, scrambled into the clear and loped 63 yards for a touchdown.



Leonard Staggs, Class of 1941

Litton's try for the extra point succeeded. The game ended 7-7.

Officials applied the first down test. Each time had registered eight. So the ball was placed on the 50 yard line and given to Isaac Litton.

The Lions made one yard on their first try. On the second, they lost two yards. Then their player, Cornwell, decided to pass. He found no receiver in the clear, so he ran. He gained 30 yards. The fourth attempt netted nothing.

Then it was Fayetteville's turn. Two running plays failed. Two passes were incomplete.

Litton had accumulated more yardage and won the right to participate in the championship.

I repeat: This game comes close to being the most unusual game played in this section. And it is my greatest sports thrill."

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T LAUGHED OUT LOUD TODAY

(OR AT LEAST SMILED),

HERE ARE A FEW CLASSIC PUNS

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

(Contributed by Jerry Newman, Class of 1958)



Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.

A dyslexic man walked into a bra.

Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"

What do you call a parade of rabbits hopping backwards? A receding hare line.

A man tells his doctor "Doc, I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of Home." The doctor says "That sounds like Tom Jones Syndrome." The man asks "Is it common?" to which the doctor replies "Well, It's Not Unusual."

An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.

I went to a seafood disco last week, and pulled a mussel.

Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, "Dam!"

A woman has twins, and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt, and is named 'Ahmal.' The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him 'Juan.' Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, "They're twins! If you've seen Juan, you've seen Ahmal."

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him (oh, man, this is so bad, it's good), A super-calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

And, a few more - - -

Jokes about German sausages are the wurst.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I didn't like my beard at first, but it grew on me.

Memories of 1968

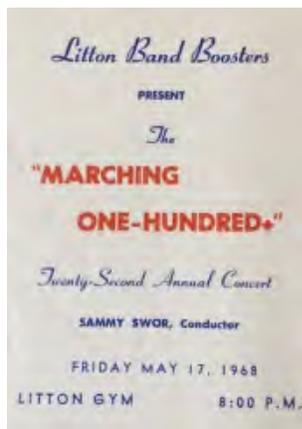
By Carol Draper Bourque

Well, it was the year of 1968, and as I recall it was a year of ups and downs. So many things happened that year, and now the fabulous Class of 1968 is coming up on their 50-year reunion. That's right 50 years! So, let's take a peek at the past and what we have planned for this wonderful event. Our gathering will take place August 4, 2018, at Bluegrass Country Club with [details below for registration](#). We want to make this the most significant reunion ever, so we need the class of '68 to get into the swing of it.

To get everyone started down memory lane, here are some of the #1 songs from that year:

- "Hello, Goodbye" - The Beatles
- "Judy in Disguise (With Glasses)" - John Fred and His Playboy Band
- "Green Tambourine" - The Lemon Pipers
- "Love is Blue" - Paul Mauriat
- "(Sittin' On) The Dock of the Bay" - Otis Redding
- "Honey" - Bobby Goldsboro
- "Tighten Up" - Archie Bell & the Drells
- "Mrs. Robinson" - Simon & Garfunkel
- "This Guy's in Love with You" - Herb Alpert
- "Grazing in the Grass" - Hugh Masekela
- "Hello, I Love You" - The Doors
- "People Got to Be Free" - The Rascals
- "Harper Valley PTA" - Jeannie C. Riley
- "Hey Jude" - The Beatles (Longest Running #1 according to Billboard)
- "Love Child" - Diana Ross & the Supremes
- "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" - Marvin Gaye

I think we can all agree that we had some great music back then and most of us still love to hear it today. I can't mention music without saying our Marching 100+ was one of best bands around town and the country. For most of us, music played a huge part in our lives. I think this is still true for the young people of today.



Litton had 208 graduates headed out into the world that June of 1968. We were all blessed to have had so many close relationships with each other. There was an excitement in our hearts and minds as we sat as a group for one last time on Hume Marshall Field on a warm day in June. I can still remember us all in blue caps and gowns, seated in those folding chairs facing the grandstand full of parents, family, and friends. The roar of the football games was silent, but we all can still hear the crowd as a man in blue made it into the end zone, or the Marching 100+ took to the field. There was a magic in that stadium that we would all surely miss. At the time, you don't realize the blessings this incredible place has brought to your life. We were young, full of joy, and there wasn't much we weren't eager to try. Litton had given us a firm foundation with outstanding teachers, so it was time to get on with our lives. We listened to our principal, Harvey Hertenstein, call each name to receive their diploma. We heard well wishes from classmates and speeches that were made about our future. We hugged and cried as we knew many of us would not see each other again. There were a lot of bittersweet good-byes.

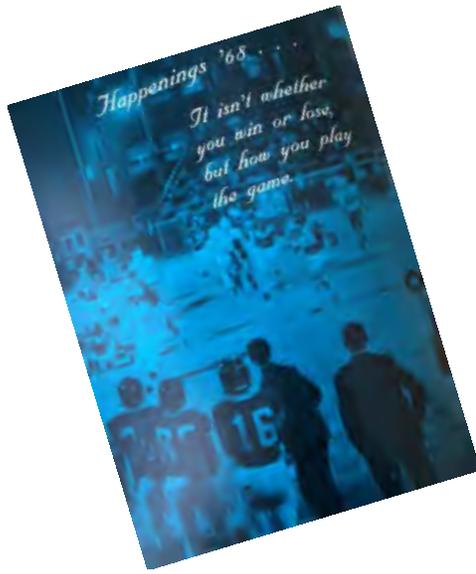


Our year also had some top new stories that brought a lot of heartache in the world, and a couple of unusual feats as well. Here's just a few of the headlines below that hit the wires throughout the year.

- January 23: North Korea captures the USS Pueblo
- January 30: North Vietnam launches the Tet Offensive against the United States and South Vietnam
- April 4: Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee – This caused our Senior Prom to be postponed, and Marshall Law was enforced.
- June 5: Robert F. Kennedy assassinated in Los Angeles
- September 30: Boeing introduces the first 747 "Jumbo Jet."
- October 16: U.S. athletes take a stand at the Summer Olympics
- December 24: Apollo 8 is the first manned spacecraft to orbit the moon

For all of us that were Seniors that year, it was mostly a lot of fun times. As we look back over the news stories and how they impacted our lives that year. I doubt that most of us understood the effect that these events would have on our community and the world around us moving forward. We were young and mostly interested in what lay ahead for each of us. Trying to decide what college courses to take or trade school we would attend, who would go to War and not knowing who we would never see again. I do believe these events changed each of us and took away a lot of our innocence. It was most likely years later before we

understood how these circumstances would affect our personal lives and the perception of the world around us.



We have a chance now to come back together on August 4th to reunite and make new memories. We can't walk the hallowed halls, because they are not there. We can visit our beloved gym, Lions' Hall, and rekindle those golden days. There are tons of treasured memories that so many have worked hard to preserve. If you haven't viewed the Lions' Den, it is a must see! I do not doubt in the future when we are all gone that this will become a major part of middle Tennessee history. Please save the date and register to join once again with the great friends from the Class of 1968. Don't miss the hugs and love as we celebrate this special anniversary of 50 years. Look forward to seeing you there!

Litton High Forever,

Carol Draper Bourque



ATTENTION CLASS OF 1968
IT'S OUR 50th YEAR REUNION!

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

AUGUST 4, 2018

BLUEGRASS COUNTRY CLUB – 5:30 TILL

AMAZING FOOD, MUSIC & PROGRAM

FUN & OLD FRIENDS

\$50 A PERSON

VISIT LIONS' HALL & LIONS' DEN at LITTON GYM

OPEN FOR A TOUR 12 NOON-3 PM

**IF WE DON'T HAVE YOUR EMAIL OR PHONE NUMBER INFO, PLEASE
CONTACT:**

DAVE BRAWNER AT 615-587-1908,

or email him at dfbrawler@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE [HERE](#)

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING AS MANY PEOPLE

FROM THE GREAT CLASS OF 1968 AS POSSIBLE.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS FANTASTIC EVENT!

MORE INFO TO COME.

Litton Band Praised As "Fantastic"

(From the March 27, 1964 edition of the Nashville Tennessean)

"The Isaac Litton Marching Band is "fantastic." This evaluation came yesterday, not from a local citizen, but from none other than the president of the Tournament of Roses Association, a man who ought to know.

The Marching 100-plus "is the best high school band I've ever seen," added Walter R. Hoefflin Jr., head of the famed Pasadena extravaganza. Hoefflin and his wife are on a four-week good-will tour of cities represented by bands and floats in the 1964 Tournament of Roses Parade.

They were met at Municipal Airport last night by the Litton band and its' director, Sammy Swor, by Metropolitan Hostess Miss Grace Bush, and by State Welfare Commissioner Roy S. Nicks, representing Gov. Frank G. Clement.

After a tour of the city this morning and a guest appearance on Jud Collins WSM-TV "Noon Show," Hoefflin will present the band with a trophy for its performance in this year's parade.

A color movie of the 1964 parade will be shown at 7:30 pm. today in War Memorial Auditorium.

"THE LITTON BAND has as good coverage (in the film) as any entrant - and it should," the association president said. Swor, who said he would like to return to the Tournament of Roses-"not next year, but some day" - will present Hoefflin with a miniature color composite of the band members in the 1964 parade. Hoefflin said the portrait composite will be hung in the trophy room of the Tournament of Roses Building in Pasadena.



On display in the Lions' Den

Naomi Parker Fraley, the Real Rosie the Riveter, Dies at 96

(Contributed by Kay Cunningham, Class of 1964)

Unsung for seven decades, the real Rosie the Riveter was a California waitress named Naomi Parker Fraley. Over the years, a welter of American women have been identified as the model for Rosie, the war worker of 1940s popular culture who became a feminist touchstone in the late 20th century. Mrs. Fraley, who died on Saturday, at 96, in Longview, Wash., staked the most legitimate claim of all. But because her claim was eclipsed by another woman's, she went unrecognized for more than 70 years.

"I didn't want fame or fortune," Mrs. Fraley told *People* magazine in 2016, when her connection to Rosie first became public. "But I did want my own identity."

The search for the real Rosie is the story of one scholar's six-year intellectual treasure hunt. It is also the story of the construction — and deconstruction — of an American legend. "It turns out that almost everything we think about Rosie the Riveter is wrong," that scholar, James J. Kimble, told *The Omaha World-Herald* in 2016. "Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Wrong."

For Dr. Kimble, the quest for Rosie, which began in earnest in 2010, "became an obsession," as he explained in an interview for this obituary in 2016.



Mrs. Fraley in 2015 with the Rosie the Riveter poster that became a feminist touchstone.

His research ultimately homed in on Mrs. Fraley, who had worked in a Navy machine shop during World War II. It also ruled out the best-known incumbent, Geraldine Hoff Doyle, a Michigan woman whose innocent assertion that she was Rosie was long accepted. On Mrs. Doyle's death in 2010, her claim was promulgated further through obituaries, including one in *The New York Times*.

The article brought journalists to Mrs. Fraley's door at long last. "The women of this country these days need some icons," Mrs. Fraley said in the *People* magazine interview. "If they think I'm one, I'm happy."

The confusion over Rosie's identity stems partly from the fact that the name Rosie the Riveter has been applied to more than one cultural artifact. The first was a wartime song of that name, by

Redd Evans and John Jacob Loeb. It told of a munitions worker who “keeps a sharp lookout for sabotage / Sitting up there on the fuselage.” Recorded by the bandleader Kay Kyser and others, it became a hit. The “Rosie” behind that song is well known: Rosalind P. Walter, a Long Island woman who was a riveter on Corsair fighter planes and is now a philanthropist, most notably a benefactor of public television.

Another Rosie sprang from Norman Rockwell, whose Saturday Evening Post cover of May 29, 1943, depicts a muscular woman in overalls (the name Rosie can be seen on her lunchbox), with a rivet gun on her lap and “Mein Kampf” crushed gleefully underfoot. Rockwell’s model is known to have been a Vermont woman, Mary Doyle Keefe, who died in 2015.

But in between those two Rosies lay the object of contention: a wartime industrial poster displayed briefly in Westinghouse Electric Corporation plants in 1943. Rendered in bold graphics and bright primary colors by the Pittsburgh artist J. Howard Miller, it depicts a young woman, clad in a work shirt and polka-dot bandanna. Flexing her arm, she declares, “We Can Do It!” Mr. Miller’s poster was never meant for public display. It was intended only to deter absenteeism and strikes among Westinghouse employees in wartime.

For decades his poster remained all but forgotten. Then, in the early 1980s, a copy came to light — most likely from the National Archives in Washington. It quickly became a feminist symbol, and the name Rosie the Riveter was applied retrospectively to the woman it portrayed.

This newly anointed Rosie soon came to be considered the platonic form. It became [ubiquitous on T-shirts, coffee mugs, posters](#) and other memorabilia. The image piqued the attention of women who had done wartime work. Several identified themselves as having been its inspiration. The most plausible claim seemed to be that of Geraldine Doyle, who in 1942 worked briefly as a metal presser in a Michigan plant. Her claim centered in particular on a 1942 newspaper photograph. Distributed by the Acme photo agency, the photograph showed a young woman, her hair in a polka-dot bandanna, at an industrial lathe. It was published widely in the spring and summer of 1942, though rarely with a caption identifying the woman or the factory.

In 1984, Mrs. Doyle saw a reprint of that photo in Modern Maturity magazine. She thought it resembled her younger self. Ten years later, she came across the Miller poster, featured on the March 1994 cover of Smithsonian magazine. That image, she thought, resembled the woman at the lathe — and therefore resembled her.

By the end of the 1990s, the news media was identifying Mrs. Doyle as the inspiration for Mr. Miller’s Rosie. There the matter would very likely have rested, had it not been for Dr. Kimble’s curiosity.

It was not Mrs. Doyle’s claim per se that he found suspect: As he emphasized in the Times interview, she had made it in good faith. What nettled him was the news media’s unquestioning reiteration of that claim. He embarked on a six-year odyssey to identify the woman at the lathe, and to determine whether that image had influenced Mr. Miller’s poster.

In the end, his detective work disclosed that the lathe worker was Naomi Parker Fraley.

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the 20-year-old Naomi and her 18-year-old sister, Ada, went to work at the Naval Air Station in Alameda. They were assigned to the machine shop, where their duties included drilling, patching airplane wings and, fittingly, riveting. It was there that the Acme photographer captured Naomi Parker, her hair tied in a bandanna for safety, at her lathe. She clipped the photo from the newspaper and kept it for decades.

After the war, she worked as a waitress at the Doll House, a restaurant in Palm Springs, Calif., popular with Hollywood stars. She married and had a family. Years later, Mrs. Fraley encountered the Miller poster. “I did think it looked like me,” she told People, though she did not then connect it with the newspaper photo.

In 2011, Mrs. Fraley and her sister attended a reunion of female war workers at the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, Calif. There, prominently displayed, was a photo of the woman at the lathe — captioned as Geraldine Doyle. “I couldn’t believe it,” Ms. Fraley told The Oakland Tribune in 2016. “I knew it was actually me in the photo.”

She wrote to the National Park Service, which administers the site. In reply, she received a letter asking for her help in determining “the true identity of the woman in the photograph.” “As one might imagine,” Dr. Kimble wrote in 2016, Mrs. Fraley “was none too pleased to find that her identity was under dispute.” As he searched for the woman at the lathe, Dr. Kimble scoured the internet, books, old newspapers and photo archives for a captioned copy of the image. At last he found a copy from a vintage-photo dealer. It carried the photographer’s original caption, with the date — March 24, 1942 — and the location, Alameda.

Best of all was this line: “Pretty Naomi Parker looks like she might catch her nose in the turret lathe she is operating.”

“There is no question that she is the ‘lathe woman’ in the photograph,” Dr. Kimble said. An essential question remained: Did that photograph influence Mr. Miller’s poster? As Dr. Kimble emphasized, the connection is not conclusive: Mr. Miller left no heirs, and his personal papers are silent on the subject. But there is, he said, suggestive circumstantial evidence. “The timing is pretty good,” he explained. “The poster appears in Westinghouse factories in February 1943. Presumably they’re created weeks, possibly months, ahead of time. So I imagine Miller’s working on it in the summer and fall of 1942.”

Her survivors include a son, Joseph Blankenship; four stepsons, Ernest, Daniel, John and Michael Fraley; two stepdaughters, Patricia Hood and Ann Fraley; two sisters, Mrs. Loy and Althea Hill; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. Her death was confirmed by her daughter-in-law, Marnie Blankenship.

If Dr. Kimble exercised all due scholarly caution in identifying Mrs. Fraley as the inspiration for “We Can Do It!,” her views on the subject were unequivocal.

Interviewing Mrs. Fraley in 2016, The World-Herald asked her how it felt to be known publicly as Rosie the Riveter.

“Victory!” she cried. “Victory! Victory!”



FROM ISAAC LITTON MIDDLE SCHOOL



INVEST IN OUR PRIDE CAMPAIGN

The ILMS PTSO is a group of dedicated parents working to support our students and faculty by deepening connections between our families, our school, and our community. We are thrilled that you as Litton Alumni are a member of our “pride” and invite you to participate in our school’s annual “Invest In Our Pride” campaign.

Your gift directly benefits the students and teachers of Isaac Litton Middle School by:

- Providing materials and supplies for classrooms
- Supporting special programs like band and athletics
- Providing academic enrichment opportunities such as math specialists and software
- Funding Celebration Day
- Sponsoring community and family activities like Family Movie Night, Dances, and Open Gym Nights

This year **our goal is \$6,000**. This takes the support of our whole PRIDE but more important than the \$6,000 goal is the vision that everyone is welcome at Litton and that we build a network of support to help EVERY Lion. We hope you will consider making a tax-deductible gift today. We welcome donations of any amount. Please make your check out to ILMS PTSO and mail it to 4601 Hedgewood Drive, Nashville, TN 37216. You may also make a credit card gift on our Facebook page (@ilmsptso).

NEWS FROM THE ILMS HONOR BAND

The ILMS Honor Band traveled to MTSU on Thursday, March 8th for Concert Performance Assessment hosted by the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association. The students performed two pieces on stage, then transitioned to the MTSU band room for sight-reading. The Honor Band earned an Excellent rating on stage and a Superior rating in sight-reading. They brought home 2 beautiful trophies to display in the band room! They also did an outstanding job representing the school and community. MTSU students and professors complimented the ILMS students on their polite and respectful behavior. Congratulations to the Honor Band students on a successful performance!



From One Endangered Species to Another

How many times have you said, or heard someone else say “They just don’t make them like that anymore”? That is true of many things but in the case of Isaac Litton graduates, they just don’t make them at all anymore! We are the last of a breed - an endangered species if you will. I say this not in a morose way but with a feeling of pride and delight. I know most of our graduates feel the same.

Since joining the alumni board, I have had many occasions to interact with the teachers and parents at the middle school, members of Metro Nashville Public Schools as well as members of the immediate community. Although many know about the Isaac Litton heritage and legacy, I am often surprised by the lack of awareness of what Litton was and what it meant to the community. A middle school parent asked me the other day, “So there was a high school here at one time?”

I was a bit bemused and a bit frustrated at that question. But then I thought, “Why would she know?” The school closed before she was born. The building was torn down before she was aware of such things. Maybe she did not even grow up around here. There are many people that are indirectly associated with our school that know little or nothing about it.

We have a large collection of memorabilia displayed in the Lions Den. That helps give people an idea of the way things were. But mere *things* cannot convey the emotion of the experience. I am sure your kids, grandkids and great-grandkids know all about it. They are probably sick of hearing it. But, I want to explore ways we can make that experience come alive for people. It may be an impossible task, but I think worth a try.

Our Outreach Committee works on ways to accomplish these goals, to make the Litton legacy live on. We are also exploring ways to make this legacy even more real, including multi-media presentations, publications, etc. We have seen some interesting ideas but we would like more. If you have an idea as to how to keep the Litton spirit alive or would be willing to work on a project, please drop us an email.



CURRENT ILAA BOARD MEMBERS (2017-2018)

	<p>DAVE BRAWNER, (Class of 1968) PRESIDENT 587-1908 dfbrawner@gmail.com</p>		<p>CAROL BOURQUE (Class of 1968) 824-7423 or 943-2267 carol@xk3.com</p>
	<p>MICKEY COLLIER, (Class of 1965) PRESIDENT ELECT 347-7839 Mickey4vols@comcast.net</p>		<p>KAY RAYNER CUNNINGHAM (Class of 1964) 712-8238 or 788-0060 Kayc1107@comcast.net</p>
	<p>PHIL WATTS, (Class of 1968) PAST-PRESIDENT 824-7464 or 406-3276 Phil.watts.b1ye@statefarm.com</p>		<p>HOWARD "SKIP" DEAN (Class of 1968) 822-1167 or 430-1266 skip@deanskitchencenter.com</p>
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	<p>RICKY BINKLEY (Class of 1970) 851-9155 or 337-9259 Ricky.binkley@comcast.net</p>		
(All Area Codes are 615 unless otherwise noted.)			

If you are interested in serving on the Board or on any Committee, contact Kitty Kincaid Woodson, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee (phone and email in table above). You do not have to be a Board Member to serve on any Committee.

Isaac Litton Alumni Association



Mission & Vision Statement

The *Mission* of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association is to preserve the rich heritage of our former school, to provide support to the present Isaac Litton Middle School, and be a positive influence in the lives of “all” the children in our community. We do this with effective communication that continually reaches out to bring the alumni and the community together to promote our programs and services.

The *Vision Statement* of the Isaac Litton Alumni Association is that our heritage and ideals will be preserved and passed on to future generations.



September 30, 2017 - December 31, 2017

Class of	Name	Date
38	AMELIA (MICKIE) FISHER BATEMAN	February 2, 2018
45	MARY DELL HARRIS HORSLEY	January 15, 2018
45	CHARLES HITE "PETE" SCALF	February 25, 2018
49	EDWIN M CARTER JR	February 11, 2018
50	NORMAN LeMASTER SIMS	February 19, 2018
52	CATHERINE DALE BURRUS CASTLEMAN	January 20, 2018
52	ANN OLIVIA MORGAN ALEXANDER	March 17, 2018
53	BETTY JUNE RALLS DENNY	February 27, 2018
54	RALPH EDWARD ALLEN	January 30, 2018
55	PATRICIA DIANE COURSEY FRAKES	January 3, 2018
55	RAY DONALD HAWKINS	January 28, 2018
56	BETTY JUNE HUTSON CARTER	January 22, 2018
56	WILLIAM RAY STEWART	March 14, 2018
58	MARILYN HARTFORD SLATER DELAMATER	January 10, 2018
58	B MARIE STONER RAINES	January 17, 2018
58	JOHN SANDERS TOMLINSON JR	February 28, 2018
60	JACQUELINE (JACKIE) DICKINSON JACKSON	February 26, 2018
60	WILLIAM T (BILL) LAZENBY	January 27, 2018
64	PAULETTE ANN DEATON COLEMAN	January 28, 2018
64	JOHN HARRISON LOWE	March 4, 2018
64	JIMMIE LEE SMITH	January 17, 2018
65	MARY JANE GUNN REED	January 11, 2018
67	LARRY WAYNE TAYLOR	March 16, 2018

NOTE: Due to the publication deadlines for each quarterly issue of the BLAST, the names of those departed alumni received after the 25th of the quarter will be included in the next issue.

Please send us any notices as soon as possible, Thank you.