



July 2025, No. 20

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Great Class of 1967



*Hey Uncle Sam, put your name at the top of his list  
And the Statue of Liberty started shakin' her fist  
And the eagle will fly it's gonna be hell  
When you hear mother freedom start ringin' her bell  
And it'll feel like the whole wide world is raining down on you  
Oh, brought to you courtesy of the red white and blue*

**Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)  
By Toby Keith**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zua8MJxnAwE>

It just doesn't seem possible half of 2025 is already gone and today is July 1. Since we don't discuss politics, we won't . . . except to say it's been six very "unprecedented" months. We can always talk about the weather (which it seems we do incessantly anyway at our age) and agree it's hotter than hell. The Atlanta Braves are experiencing one of their worst starts in franchise history. Scottie Scheffler is not the next Tiger Woods after all.

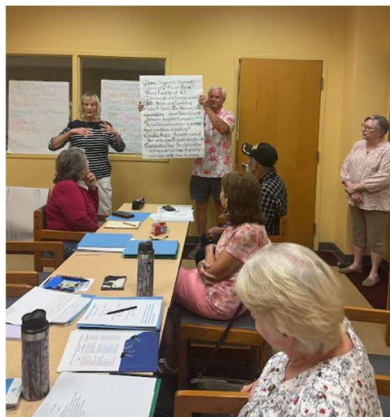
The world has a new pope, Pope Leo XIV, and he is an American and a Chicago White Sox fan. Everything else of significance so far this year seems to come under an extremely broad umbrella of politics, so let's get on with the newsletter.

## **REUNION COMMITTEE NEWS**

**By Vanesa Perry Bowden, Vice Chairman**

### **WE MAY BE OLD SCHOOL . . .**

But we get the job done! As seen in the picture below, we used the tried-and-true method of using a flip chart to illustrate our points in our recent exploration of “Visions for our 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion” exercise. Your Reunion Committee had three different teams meet and strategize on what they thought the “perfect” 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion would look like. Everything from a theme to a location to entertainment to food and beyond was examined by the three teams and illustrated to the entire committee.



From there, we compared the various ideas to each other and found that there were many overlapping ideas. Everyone was given a chance to mull over the choices and vote on their favorite ideas at the most recent meeting on Saturday, June 28, 2025. Some definite decisions have been made but we aren't ready to reveal those to you, our classmates, just yet. **STAY TUNED** for updates over the coming months and be prepared to **GET EXCITED** over being reunited [♪♪and it feels so good♪♪] in 2027!

### **REMEMBER COLLECTING COINS DURING OUR SENIOR YEAR?**

This was an event many of us participated in to get a chance to appear on the calendar for 1967. Let's flashback to the money makers of that group by perusing the pictures that appeared in that calendar.

# CALENDAR 1967



**TOP BILLING**  
Sharon Lawless  
Donnie McLean



**JANUARY**  
Lamar McMichael  
Kathy Aslinger



**FEBRUARY**  
George Diaz  
LaTrelle Lee



**MARCH**  
Steve Peel  
Charlene Barrow



**APRIL**  
Linda Jones  
Ross Henderson




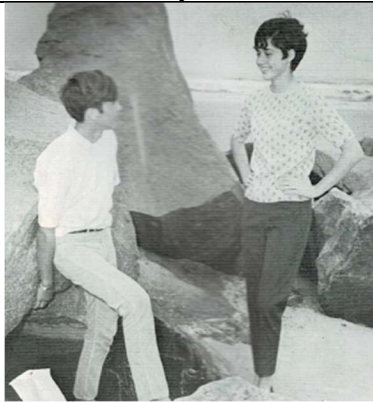



**MAY**  
Jeanie Hinkson  
Gary Sands



**JUNE**  
Judy Baucom  
Tommy Holt



 <p><b>JULY</b> Joe Blanton Janice Hinkson</p>	 <p><b>AUGUST</b> Vanessa Perry Rocky Lord</p>	 <p><b>SEPTEMBER</b> Frances Stewart Larry Simpson</p>
 <p><b>OCTOBER</b> Jack Weatherly Jan Tokarz</p>	 <p><b>NOVEMBER</b> Gary Abbey Claudett Hodges</p>	 <p><b>DECEMBER</b> Billy Hicks Dot Shivers</p>

Well, what your Reunion Committee is doing for the 60<sup>th</sup> reunion is not so different from collecting coins back in high school. We are doing **FUNDRAISERS** to help defray the cost per ticket to attend the reunion. Our Chairman, Pat Knezevich, has provided us an incredible opportunity to raise money by inviting us to join on two occasions in his church's Friday night bingo games. At the first one we netted \$1,025. We have also started having a 50/50 raffle at the Ribault Alumni Dinners at Bono's mentioned below.

Other events planned for the future could include auctions for treasured items, a chili cookoff in the fall or winter, a sock hop, selling ads to various businesses for our reunion program, garage sales ("one person's trash is another's treasure"), and other possibilities that you will be hearing about.

We welcome any ideas you might have of ways to raise money as well as ask that you please participate whenever you can to support our efforts.

## **RIBAUT ALUMNI DINNERS CONTINUE AT BONO'S**



**Bono's  
4907 Beach Boulevard  
Thursday, July 3, 2025  
5 p.m.**

As mentioned above, we have started having a 50/50 raffle at our Bono's dinners (first Thursday of every month). Last month's winner was Marie Bailey Lindsey from the Class of '64. Marie won \$123 and so did the Class of '67.



Marie gleefully counting her winnings.

Everyone has such a good time and there is no better place than Bono's for good Bar-B-Q with good friends. The Class of '67 is well represented.

Please let Vanesa know if you would like to attend so she can make sure enough space is reserved. [vpbowden33@gmail.com](mailto:vpbowden33@gmail.com)

## **FEATURED TEACHER**

### **Ms. Linda Wolf Turner**



After you all graduated in 1967, I stayed at Ribault until 1973, through the race riot (I believe 1968). I think my last class was in 1971-72, after which I got a transfer to Ed White. I did not transfer because the students were majority African American but because there was little need to teach Algebra 2, Trig, and Math 5 (now known as Precalculus). Having six classes of Basic Math was boring!

Ed White was a change, but I was a low lady on the totem pole and taught very little advanced math. In 1979 my husband, Ron, and I took a one-year leave of absence to go cruising. Our leave lasted **TWELVE** years. We traveled twice from the Bahamas to Nova Scotia, surviving on Ron's artwork, my sewing, and occasionally tutoring.

We returned briefly to Jacksonville in 1984 when, out of the blue, I met a former student, Rick Ward (class of '69) on the dock. He was math department chairman at, of all places, Ribault, and he needed a teacher FAST. So, I taught there under his leadership for the spring semester. He had written the MLST (minimum level skills test) for math, and I needed a clue as to what to teach. He helped, and I teased him by saying, "I taught you three years and now you have the nerve to teach me."

Ron and I resumed our cruise and stayed on the ocean until 1991, at which time Ron's father was ailing and needed help. Living at the marina again was expensive, so I had to get a job. I interviewed at Andrew Jackson, where another former student, Linda Connell Smith, class of '72, was math chairperson. She later told me that the principal was very interested but wanted to wait until Monday to hire me.

Meanwhile, I got a phone call from Marigene Chappell O'Connor, class of '67, saying that there was a need for a math teacher at Stanton College Prep. I jumped at the chance to work there, along with Marigene and another former student, Rodney Smith.

By 2006 there was a new principal, Ms. Deborah Lynch, who did not like the way I was teaching math. I was way too structured! She invited me to either retire or come back next

year and bow down to the new method of teaching, which involved dividing students into groups of four and letting them teach themselves. **I RETIRED!**

(Almost done) In the fall of 2006, Susan Chappell, sister-in-law to Marigene, and wife of Tom, class of '66, was working at FCCJ (now FSCJ). She connected me to one of the Deans, and I was hired to teach math at North Campus. By then I had sold the boat and was living in Riverview because Ron had passed in 1997.

I have been there ever since, teaching Intermediate Algebra (a remedial math) because the full-time professors get to teach Trig and Calculus. (I am an adjunct.)

Also, I have a new BFF, Dick Cardell, who, coincidentally, taught at Ribault in the early 70s. We enjoy traveling, the symphony, eating out, and competing daily in the Jumble and Sudoku in the Times Union. I mow my yard three times a week and volunteer at the University of Florida Agriculture Extension as a Master Gardener, answering the phone when people call with plant or lawn problems.

## **THE END**

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

For classmate **Gerald “Jerry” Pember** who suffered a second stroke in late March. Jerry spent two weeks in the hospital and then has been in rehab at UF Health, River City ever since. Jerry's contact information is as follows:

Phone:  
504.559.6934  
504.214.0483

Mail:  
UF Rehab Hospital North  
c/o Jerry Pember, Floor 2-3  
15255 Max Leggett Parkway  
Jacksonville FL 32218

For classmate **Charlene Barrow Catlett** who lost her precious daughter, Cara Catlett Reid, on April 2, 2025. The loss of a child is a uniquely devastating experience, often described as the worst thing that can ever happen. Please keep Charlene in your prayers as she continues down this prolonged path of grief and sorrow. She is so thankful to all of you who have reached out to her and been by her side.

[catlady2339@comcast.net](mailto:catlady2339@comcast.net)

For the family of our classmate **Nancy Ynclan Moore**. Nancy died on April 24, 2025, from an infection that developed following a fall. Please keep Nancy's siblings, Kenny, Sheila and Tracy, all who attended Ribault as well, in your prayers.

For classmate **Bobby Friend** who suffered a “widow maker” heart attack on May 16. The amazing doctors at Baptist Hospital Downtown were able to successfully insert a stent and Bobby is recovering at home under the watchful and loving eye of his wife and our classmate, Jeri Brooker Friend. In addition to a serious heart attack, Bobby suffered from broken ribs and severe bruising from the CPR that had to be administered.

[rfriend904@gmail.com](mailto:rfriend904@gmail.com)

[jeribcarroll@icloud.com](mailto:jeribcarroll@icloud.com)

For classmate **Pat Knezevich** as he continues to deal with heart issues. He had another heart catheterization and another heart stent inserted in June. He is back on his feet and was presiding over the Reunion Committee Meeting just held on Saturday, June 28. For those of you who know Pat’s lovely wife, Carrie, you know she is an amazing wife and caregiver.

[knezpd1949@gmail.com](mailto:knezpd1949@gmail.com)

For classmate **Brenda Cowart Driggers** on the loss of her brother, Johnny, on June 24, 2025. Johnny was in the Class of 1968 and an all-around outstanding athlete. He won “Most Athletic” his senior year at Ribault.

[bdriggers2@att.net](mailto:bdriggers2@att.net)

[Johnny Cowart Obituary \(1950 - 2025\) - Legacy Remembers](#)

### **PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU**

There is no way we can know about every illness or death or when your email address changes unless you let us know. We promise if you will let us know, we will do our part to keep you well informed.

If you are not already on our “Ribault High School ‘67’ FB Friends” page, please join us. This is our most direct form of communication, and we have over 100 classmates on our page. We have rules that keep our page fun and safe. You must have a connection to our class in order to be approved to join our page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/336958183371434/>



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**Jeri Brooker Friend**, Secretary of the Reunion Committee: [jeribcarroll@icloud.com](mailto:jeribcarroll@icloud.com)

**Nancy Pace Ford**, Treasurer of the Reunion Committee: [npford49@hotmail.com](mailto:npford49@hotmail.com)

**Alice Bartlett Mabry**, Editor of Quarterly Newsletter, Facebook Admin. and  
Webmaster: [abmabry49@gmail.com](mailto:abmabry49@gmail.com)

**Terry Gentry Morefield**, Class Facebook Chief Admin.: [terrymorefield@comcast.net](mailto:terrymorefield@comcast.net)

## **THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER**

### **OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**O say can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight  
O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?**

