



Newsletter #5

TO: The Class of '63
FROM: The 50th Class Reunion Steering Committee
DATE: July 16, 2012

Classmates! At long last, it's...your...

☆ 50th Reunion ☆

☆ **REGISTRATION-INFO PACKET!** ☆

**ONLY 361 DAYS LEFT UNTIL WE CELEBRATE OUR
"50TH LAP AROUND THE SUN"**

**50th Reunion Weekend
July 12, 13, 14, 2013**

That's right, Classmates — in 361 days we will gather for our most exciting and memorable celebration ever. If you've been to prior reunions, you know how much fun they are. And if you've never been to one, well, *this* is the one to come to. So it's time to learn the details about the event and its quick and easy Registration process.

Your Steering Committee is pretty excited! Last Saturday, July 14th, as we hosted our third and final pre-reunion event at Zingerman's Roadhouse, we announced the news contained herein. We thought it best to present all the formal info in one document, so please take some time to go through this Packet/Newsletter carefully. We hope you'll

like what you see and that you'll be as enthusiastic as we are about next summer.



This month the Class of '63 begins its "50th Lap Around the Sun" since the night we made our trek across the graduation stage. We hope that you have many fond memories of the friends, the teachers, and the events of our years at Ann Arbor High. And we hope that those memories will bring us all back together again next summer. A building, a dinner, a DJ, and a program do not make a reunion special. It is the people — our classmates and our memories — that do that. Please join us in making this a special and unforgettable weekend.

VENUES & MENUS

Based on our two online classmate-surveys, and after researching, "testing," and negotiating with three different locations, we believe that we have achieved the important goals that we set at our first meeting, two-plus years ago:

1. We have contracted with the best Friday and Saturday night venues we could find that fulfill the specific needs of our class.
2. We have squeezed every last dollar out of our budget without compromising quality.
3. We have put together a Weekend of Wow that we're confident you will enjoy.

In the running for our Reunion Weekend's Saturday night venue were: *Washtenaw Community College*, *Weber's Inn*, and *Kensington Court Ann Arbor*.

KENSINGTON COURT ANN ARBOR:

After analyzing the all-important results of our two class surveys, touring each venue, and meeting with the appropriate people at each place, [Kensington Court](#) became the #1 pick — gaining the edge because of our projected minimum attendance of 300.

We'd like to give classmate **Brenda Foucher Scott** a huge thank-you. Being rookies at negotiating big expensive events with corporate establishments, we accepted a gracious offer from Brenda to help us out. She's a pro and works as a Global Accounts Manager for Houston's *HelmsBriscoe*, an international company that manages major events in the corporate world. Brenda is semi-retired, working from her home in Tucson, and she handled our formal dealings with Kensington Court and expertly took the lead in negotiating the eventual contract.

And here's a second huge thank-you — this one to **Peter Dodge**. Pete, the Steering Committee's resident attorney, spent a few hours looking everything over, making sure that all the I's were dotted and the T's were crossed. They were. So, on May 24th we met with Kensington Court's nice Catering Manager, Kelly Knox, double-checked every last detail, and signed the contract. The 50th Reunion launch is now a reality. Whew!

As you can see by clicking right [here](#), Kensington Court is a classy venue for overnight accommodations as well as Saturday evening's dinner and festivities. It's next to Briarwood Shopping Mall with [easy access on & off I-94](#) (Exit 177 – S. State Street). It has convenient taxi service along with a Detroit Metro Airport shuttle to and from DTW. We have reserved a block of rooms [800-344-7829/734-761-7800] with a *Class of '63 discounted price* of \$119 for those looking for a place to stay right at Saturday night's celebration spot. Classmates with disabilities or special needs, don't worry: Kensington has excellent accommodations for you.

We'll even get Kensington "Welcome Bags" when we check in. And, in a nice gesture, [Weber's Inn](http://www.weberinn.com) [800-443-3050/734-769-2500] is also holding a block of 20 rooms (\$99 each), for Reunion Weekend guests.

OTHER ANN ARBOR & LOCAL ACCOMMODATION CHOICES:

Besides Weber's, there is also a [Holiday Inn Express](http://www.holidayinn.com) — a mere two-minute walk across the parking lot — right next-door to Kensington Court. [888-465-4329/734-761-2997] For classmates who'd like additional choices, here's a list of other weekend abodes you might consider. Although these places should all abide by the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, it's always best to call to make sure everything is up to date. Each of these is listed with "Pure Michigan," the official state travel & tourism body, and each is within 20 miles of Ann Arbor.

- There are 22 B&Bs. Here's a [mapped B&B list](#) with links to websites and contact info.
- There are 11 "cabin & cottage" facilities. [Here's a mapped list.](#)
- There are [11 camp grounds](#).
- There are also [10 "historic inns"](#) — a few of these are also B&Bs.
- And, as you might imagine, there are no less than [106 motels & hotels](#) within our 20 miles!

PLEASE NOTE! If you are a Classmate who receives the Newsletters by mail and not online, you obviously won't have access to the computer links above & below. That's okay. If you'd like a list of alternative lodgings, attach a note to your Registration and request a list. We'll print one up and send it to you!

And here's something really important: if you do decide you'd like to get a room at Kensington, book early. When we met with Ms. Knox in May, she said, "Our hotel sells out *every weekend* during the summer. Remind everybody that it's important to book early!" (Same goes for Weber's & Holiday Inn.) In fact, we're offering our own discount for "Early Bird" Registration. Look over the info on the last page to take advantage of this.

Kensington Court will be our main headquarters for Saturday night's reception, cash bar, stations-buffet dinner, and the evening's program — MC'd by classmate **Bob Dailey**.

And speaking of dinner, last Sunday (July 8th) some Steering Committee members and local classmates gathered at Kensington Court to research the various "venue-menu" possibilities. We made sure that vegetarians, gluten-free, and "regulars" were represented. Kensington's kitchen put on a delicious tasting to help us select the choices for the food stations. (See the grey boxes on the Registration page to select yours.) We're in for culinary treats of a delectable variety. The banquet room is elegant, and the service is top-notch — and we've kept dinner pricing as economical as humanly possible.



Now, listen to this one...!

The “dress code” for Saturday night is **NOT** fancy! It’s what’s often called “smart casual.” The dinner and evening are supposed to be *relaxed, comfortable, and informal*. Coats & ties, swanky dresses, and uncomfortable shoes are **NOT** expected. No way!

After dinner and the program, we can dance to the deep-rooted tunes we still love. We’ll have a talented (and mature!) DJ and excellent sound system. Not a dancer? No problem — we can just sit back, reminisce, and relax.

AND NOW, HERE IS ... THE WEEKEND’S SCHEDULE !

FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 12, 2013:

MICHIGAN THEATER RECEPTION
4:00 – 6:00PM
[INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION; REGISTRATION REQUIRED.]



All classmates in town or arriving on Friday are cordially invited to our Class of '63 Evening Reception at one of Ann Arbor’s most fantastic spots — the beautiful [Michigan Theater](#) on Liberty. Ann Arbor native Russ Collins (Huron High, Class of '74) has been its CEO since 1982. Russ was the prime mover for the theater’s complete restoration 15 years ago, which led to the Michigan being named the Outstanding Historic Theater in North America.

This reception — just for us — will be our first gathering place & launch-site for Reunion Weekend. Come and enjoy Michigan Theater memories, the company of classmates, snacks & refreshments, a cash bar, and *of course*, authentic *MICHIGAN THEATER POPCORN*. If it’s been a while since you’ve been back to Ann Arbor, you’re in for a real pleasure. It looks just as elegant as it did on Opening Night, 1928! And, it’ll be just as cool a place as it was in the summer of 1963.

After our reception (included with Registration) you have a nice chance to hang out with classmates, go for a summer-night’s walk around town, initiate a pub-crawl, or go to dinner. Did you know that within the four square blocks of downtown Ann Arbor there are over 65 restaurants & pubs? There’s something for everybody!

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 13, 2013:

GOLF

TIME: TBA

[GREEN & CART FEES: TBA]

Hey!

If you're a golfer, why not bring your clubs?! If enough classmates are interested, we will arrange 18 holes at a nearby course, Saturday morning. The course & number of tee-times depend on how many want to play. Please indicate on the Registration page (last page of the Packet) whether you want to participate. We will base times and course selection on how many people express interest. Watch future Newsletters for details & how to sign up to play.



TOUR OF ANN ARBOR AND THE UM CAMPUS(ES)

[YES, THAT'S PLURAL — CAMPUSES!]

1:30PM

MEET AT KENSINGTON COURT'S MAIN ENTRANCE

[\$15]

A guided tour of the city of Ann Arbor, with John Boyer, Class of '65!



The city we grew up in has grown up as well. Yes, a lot of Ann Arbor has [changed](#) in 50 years. Drakes is long gone, along with Everett's Drive-In. Cedar Bend Drive is now a dead-end, and the A&W is an auto repair shop. **BUT WAIT!** Some things are almost exactly the same — including Crazy Jim's, the Brown Jug, and of course, the Michigan Theater. It's still a wonderful home town, and we invite you to let John Boyer take you around on Saturday afternoon. Why not sign up, see the sights, and relive a bunch of memories?!?!

TOUR OF PIONEER (ANN ARBOR) HIGH SCHOOL

1:30PM

MEET AT THE FLAGPOLE ENTRANCE

[\$5]

Ah, the memories that lurk within our old stomping grounds on West Stadium! Don't be shocked into thinking you're seeing double: Ann Arbor High now boasts TWO swimming pools and TWO gyms. No longer is it the only high school in the U.S. with a planetarium, but it's still one of a mere handful. A few years ago, the planetarium was refurbished and technologically updated with a state-of-the-art projector. Almost all of Ann Arbor's elementary and middle school students take field trips there, and it's home to the high school's science classes. There's a new staircase near the Clock Tower, and our Rec Room is now the only cafeteria. There are lots of new tennis courts out back. Sadly, the wonderful industrial arts, graphics, and printing Labs of E-Building are almost all gone. But don't panic — the basic building that we populated is still there. Although kind of inside a whole new interior structure, our homerooms and classes are mostly still in existence. This tour will be nostalgic, maybe even a bit emotional, and well worth your time.



TOUR OF THE UOFM'S "BIG HOUSE"

10:00AM

MEET AT THE STADIUM — GATE #1

[\$10]



It's *still* the largest college stadium in the world — and even bigger than in our youth as you've probably seen on TV. This is an exclusive opportunity for an in-person, up-close look at the dramatically refurbished and expanded Michigan Football Stadium. It is something else! Quite a bit of Ann Arbor controversy accompanied this project — it seems that people either love it or hate it. Regardless of point-of-view, though, it's guaranteed to be fascinating. Here's why:

UofM's Stadium tour-guide, Bill Austin (AAHS Class of '52!), will take us around. It's a 90-minute excursion. You will visit the two towers that make up the press area & VIP Suites. You will explore the Wolverines' locker room. You will glimpse an amazing pizza kitchen that delivers *10,000 pizzas* each day it's open!

Last year Michigan had an average attendance of 110,576 fans at seven home games. The season total of 774,033 fans at the Big House set a new stadium record. We had four crowds over 111,000, including the season's largest attended game — 111,542 fans showed up for the Michigan State contest. Michigan has tallied 350 victories in the Big House, has drawn over 35 million fans, and continues to pack the stadium with 100,000-plus, game after game. You'll get to see it all — but without the other 110,800 fans that *won't* be there on Saturday!

SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 13, 2013:

"50 LAPS AROUND THE SUN" CELEBRATION

KENSINGTON COURT ANN ARBOR

610 HILTON BLVD., ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48108

6:30PM

[INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION; REGISTRATION REQUIRED.]

What to wear! ~~FORMAL? SEMI-FORMAL?~~

Fuhgetaboutit!!

Nope, this not a *formal* evening. Leave all fancy jackets, gowns, and excruciating shoes at home or in your hotel room. "Smart casual" is the deal!

At 6:30, be ready to enjoy our ...

- Cash Bar!
- Delicious Buffet Dinner & Dessert!
(There will be "Food Stations," including Vegetarian, and Gluten-Free entrées.)
- After-Dinner Welcome & Program — MC'd by Bob Dailey!
- Musical entertainment — a great DJ with tunes of our youth!
- Beloved former teachers!
- Dancin'! Relaxin'! Hobnobbin'!
- Fun with a genuine Photo Booth!

Wait! What? A Photo Booth?

You bet! It's something the Committee heard about during our research with prior 50th Reunion classes. Those that have had one tell us it was a huge hit.



So, we thought it would be fun to have a real Photo Booth for a couple of hours. Classmate **Priscilla Basom** has made the arrangements through her family company, [Little Black Booth](#), and she's given us a super rental discount to fit our budget. Thank you, Priscilla! We'll ask our photogenic Classmates for a modest donation of 2 bucks, and we'll have the "Little Black Booth" available for two hours. It can handle 1-8 people! Photo CDs will also be available for purchase.

The evening is going to be an exhilaratin' one. Though we might not normally stay up as late as we *used* to 50 years ago, Reunion Night promises to be a gargantuan exception to that rule. It'll be unforgettable!

SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 14, 2013:

SURVIVORS' BREAKFAST

6:00 – 10:00AM

[\$10.95]

VIENNESE COFFEE BAR

6:00 – 9:00AM

[COMPLIMENTARY]



Remember what our Moms always told us??? *Breakfast is the most important meal of the day!* Well, Kensington Court offers a deluxe Continental Breakfast for \$10.95, served in the hotel's restaurant. This is a nice opportunity to share one last meal with Classmates. (The Continental Breakfast is 6:00 – 10:00.)

Or — head to the Lobby and partake of Kensington's *complimentary* Viennese Coffee Bar before finally concluding your "50TH LAP AROUND THE SUN" and saying good-bye. (The Coffee Bar is 6:00 – 9:00.)

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE 50TH REUNION

Okay!

So how the heck do we sign up for the Big Weekend? It's easy. The last page of this Packet is the *mail-in* form. You'll need to print it, fill it out, and send it in. (Don't forget the stuff in those grey boxes!) If you'd rather register online, just go to [this page of the website](#), and follow the instructions there. As you'll see, it *literally* pays to register early! (See the "Early Bird" \$10 reduction, for each, off the Registration price.)

A THOUGHTFUL MESSAGE FROM JUDY HINDAL & BLONDEEN MUNSON

To make sure that classmates who would like to attend are able to do so financially, Judy and Blondeen ask that you consider making a donation to help out with the Registration fee for Saturday evening's dinner and program as well as local transportation costs. Donations could make a nice fund available for classmates needing assistance.

On a strictly confidential basis, Judy and Blondeen will receive all donations and requests. If you would like to donate, or if you'd like some assistance with either Registration or local transportation, all you have to do is email Judy & Blondeen at sponsorship@aahs63.com, OR, write to them at **AAHS 1963, ATTN: Sponsorship, PO Box 2721, Ann Arbor, MI 48106**. Again, all donations and requests for assistance will be confidential. Use the grey box on the last page to help a Classmate. (Online Classmates: click [here](#) to fill out & submit the Sponsorship Form electronically!)

HEY! WANT TO SPONSOR A TEACHER?

We have 23 of our beloved Ann Arbor High, Slauson, and Tappan teachers on our mailing list. We have invited them to attend each of the three annual July events. (Seven local teachers have come each year and enjoyed it a lot. You've probably [seen their pictures on the website](#) & [Class of '63 Facebook page](#).) We'd like to invite them to also come to the Reunion itself. However, our tight budget just doesn't allow us to cover these tickets. If you'd like to sponsor a teacher at the Reunion, you can do so using the appropriate grey box on the Registration page of the Packet.



John Nordlinger, Helen Snuverink, Chuck Ritter, Char Hanson, Milo White, Doris Taylor

(Online Classmates: click [here](#) to fill out & submit the Sponsorship Form electronically!)

REMINDER — ONE MORE CALL FOR PROFILES...

In the next few weeks, please remember to do a [“Profile” for the website](#). There are 35 of them so far, but we're hoping for many, many more.

They are all interesting and fun to read! The easy instructions are right there on the Profiles Page. You can write your own, ask a friend, spouse, or partner to do one for you, or — simply fill in the handy “Profile Form.” We've just revised it to make it even easier *and* more relevant, and it will only take you about 15 minutes.

HELP WANTED ... PLEASE?

If you've been a visitor to the [Class of '63 website](#) over the last two years, you know that our resident Webmaster, Charles (“Butch”) Larkins, has done a phenomenal job of creation, design, and construction! Butch continues putting in a couple zillion hours a month at his computer and is one of our important behind-the-scenes specialists. But although Butch is Batman — even he could use a little help.

Therefore, we are looking for an “Assistant Webmaster.” The job requires three things: [1.] above-average computer skills; [2.] a willingness to learn our Mac-only authoring software, Shutterbug; and [3.] the time to assist Butch in running our Reunion website.

If you've got the time and inclination, *plus* a diploma from a top-tier school like Ann Arbor High, you are the person we're lookin' for! The pay is pretty dang good, too — \$5,000.00 a week*. The only drawback is that there's no promotion potential. You'd be the *Assistant* Webmaster unless you manage to bump off Butch. However, we have a Security Detail around him, 24/7.

Please let us know if you can help!

* Um ... we kind of made up that part about the pay.

ONE LAST THING...

You will find our online Registration Form [here](#). The mail-in form is on the last page. (Don't forget: check out the "Early Bird Registration Discount." Every little bit helps!)

Here's one last thing about finances, for your information:

Our contractual agreements are close to \$15,000. We have made the initial deposit, and our first payment comes due in October. The two Classmate Surveys told us that we will have at least 300 people for Reunion Weekend, and we based our budget and Registration charges on your survey responses. The more "Early Bird" Registrations we get, the less nervous your Committee will be!

OK, LADIES & GERMS!

Class of 1963!

That's all the news that's fit to print for now. Please email or write with any questions that come up. Turn to the next & final page to register for the 50th Reunion!

As always, thanks for reading! Until Newsletter #6, we are ...

Your 50th Reunion Steering Committee,

Stan Bidlack

Bill Bond

Betty Brown

Mary Lou Covert

Pete Dodge

Charles Larkins

Louise Salamin

Rick Weid

Cindy Wild

Chuck Wilkins



50 Laps Around the Sun!

ANN ARBOR HIGH SCHOOL ~~ CLASS OF 1963 ~~ 50TH REUNION ~~ JULY 12-14, 2013

Mail-in Registration Form

Print FIRST & LAST name as you'd like them on your name tag: _____

Please print your LAST name in 1963, if different: _____

Guest's Name (print as they'd like it on name tag): _____

Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

_____ \$78.00
Reunion Ticket (2 Tickets = \$156.00)
 Includes Fri. Michigan Theater Reception & Sat. Night Reunion Dinner & Program.

_____ \$68.00 "Early Bird" Reunion Ticket
 Reunion Ticket (2 "Early Birds" = \$136.00)
Note! We must receive "Early Bird" payments no later than 12:00 midnight, Dec. 31, 2012.
 Includes Fri. Michigan Theater Reception & Sat. Night Reunion Dinner & Program.

_____ \$ 00.00
Sunday Morning's Farewell Coffee
 Sunday at Kensington Court, 6:00 - 9:00AM
 Complimentary Viennese Coffee Bar for Kensington guests; in the Lobby.
 (Deluxe Continental Breakfast is available for \$10.95 in the restaurant, 6:00 - 10:00.)

_____ \$15.00
Tour of Ann Arbor & U. of M. Campus
 Saturday, 1:30PM
 Meet at Kensington Court, Main Entrance.

_____ \$5.00
Tour of Pioneer High School
 Saturday, 1:30PM
 Meet at Flagpole Entrance

_____ \$10.00
Tour of University of Michigan Stadium
 Saturday, 10AM
 Meet at the Stadium — GATE #1

_____ Sum of my Sponsorship Contributions

Please select your FOOD CHOICES, and tell us how many, for Saturday Night's dinner:

Gluten-Free _____
 Vegetarian _____
 Special _____
 "Regular" _____

I would like to sponsor a CLASSMATE and contribute
 \$25____ \$50____ \$75____ Other \$____
toward their Registration.

I would like to sponsor a TEACHER and contribute
 \$25____ \$50____ \$75____ Other \$____
toward their Registration.

GOLF !?

_____ YES!
I am interested in playing golf on Saturday morning!

Please make checks payable to:
 Ann Arbor High School Class of '63 Alumni Assoc.

If not completing online:
 Mail Registration & check to:
 Class of '63 Reunion
 PO Box 2721
 Ann Arbor, MI 48106

_____ **TOTAL REGISTRATION**