



# Grosse Pointe North High School

## *Class of 1971*

Minutes of Grosse Pointe North High School Class of 1971 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee Meeting

September 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:15 p.m. at Gilbert's Lodge, 22325 Harper, St. Clair Shores, Michigan, on September 16, 2010. The following people were in attendance: Gary Hill, Dawn (Danielson) Hill, Don DeLaura, Bob Reaser, Carol (Appleton) Holloway, Pam (Killebrew) Alessandro and Roger Ulmer. Not attending: Jack Barbier and Nancy (LeRoy) Burk.

#### COMPARATIVE INFO:

Nancy noted by email that she had attended her husband's 45<sup>th</sup> high school reunion in Bay City. They had a small turnout at a hotel banquet room. They offered a buffet dinner (chicken and prime rib) and cash bar for \$45/person. Names tags (in LARGE print) were on lanyards that patrons hung around their necks. They held a 50/50 raffle with cash prizes and t-shirts. Also, prizes were awarded to the one who traveled the farthest, the couple who had been together the longest, and attendee with the most grandchildren. After a couple of class members and officers made short speeches, the lights dimmed and the DJ began playing loud music, which made it difficult to carry on conversations. A printed brochure contained names & addresses, and a separate list showed who was in attendance, giving classmates a chance to find old friends. This has given the GPN 1971 reunion committee some ideas.

Pam attended her husband's 38<sup>th</sup> high school reunion (a small class and a small reunion). This was also a buffet dinner, but with an open bar for \$30/person. They also had speeches from classmates and even from a former teacher! Most of the evening was spent mingling. They did not really use the small sound system that was brought in; however, as Pam noted, the reunion was held in the convent of the small Catholic school.

Jack traded emails with our former classmate Lynn Manardo Frederickson, who attended her husband's recent GP South Class of 1969 reunion. Again, the band was too loud to carry on conversations. Food was hors d'oeuvres and cash bar for \$75/person.

#### ENTERTAINMENT UPDATE:

Don reiterated plans to utilize two laptops at the reunion, one to project images on a screen, and one for sound/video. It was confirmed that the GP War Memorial has a wireless internet connection and a screen in the ballroom. Don asked to reserve \$300 in the budget for the January/February timeframe as a deposit to rent some of the equipment. Don reiterated that the volume of the music can be adjusted, from soft background music, to a louder volume for dancing, if desired. Don also has an iTunes file that includes many songs from 1970 and 1971, so that any requests can be honored.

#### WEBSITE REGISTRATION UPDATE:

As of late September, 197 people have registered on the website; 96 Yes responses to attend reunion; 95 Maybe; 4 No; 2 no indication (this count does not include spouses/guests). Also see the Outreach / Communications update below.

#### OUTREACH/COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE:

Nancy signed up for a paid membership on classmates.com and added a notice about the GPN Class of 1971 40th reunion. People can respond to the reunion invitation even if they don't have a paid membership with classmates.com. This enables us to reach more classmates. Approximately 23 more people registered on the reunion website since late July, and Nancy attributes this increase to the notice on classmates.com.

#### LOCATION UPDATE:

Nancy, Dawn and Pam confirmed the menu at the GPWM (fruit and cheese platters, tenderloin carving station, pasta bar, hors d'oeuvres such as crabcakes, meatballs, chicken fingers, crostini, mushrooms, egg rolls). There will be tables of food plus "strolling" servers. There was a suggestion to have a dessert table. The GPWM gave the ladies a layout of the ballroom floor plan. We must provide our own liquor and liquor license; the War Memorial will provide mixers and soft drinks as well as servers. Pam will consult a lawyer concerning any liability. Gary developed a proposal for liquor/beer/wine. Gary thinks a keg of beer would be popular; also a selection of bottled beers. We must pay a deposit on returnable bottles as well as return them. Bob has a list of shelf minimum prices for liquor. The team discussed offering coffee later in the evening. We will probably be required to pay a gratuity of 18% to the War Memorial. There is a 300-person limit at the War Memorial.

#### TICKET UPDATE:

The team is still firming up the ticket price; it is partly dependent on the number of attendees. We discussed offering a discount on tickets to those purchasing prior to January 1, 2011. However, that being during the holidays, we might move that date out. We would also like to add a list of paid attendees to the website as an incentive for those who are currently undecided about attending. We are thinking of issuing a badge to all who pay for tickets to discourage party-crashers.

#### PICNIC UPDATE:

Jack suggested (via email) that the picnic on Sunday, May 29 be held at the Crescent Sail Yacht Club on Lakeshore Drive. For \$100, the group can have the whole clubhouse and grounds to ourselves. Jack has contacts there that can provide details for such an event. Roger offered to help Jack in developing this event. We can use the CSYC caterer or have the picnic be "BYO" (bring your own) food. There is a possibility that if there is any leftover liquor from the actual reunion, that it can be brought to the CSYC. The team will confirm.

#### TREASURY UPDATE:

A deposit check for \$600 was given to the GP War Memorial. During the meeting, the team authorized Bob to write a check to PhotoBooth for the \$400 deposit. That leaves a current balance of \$100 in the reunion account. Bob will manage ticket payments as they arrive.

#### ACCOMMODATIONS & TRANSPORTATION UPDATE:

Carol continues to receive hotel and transportation quotes from various local companies. At this time, the team is undecided about whether to retain a block of hotel rooms for out-of-town classmates. We may simply post on the reunion website a list of local hotels and approximate prices, as the recent GP South Class of 1970 reunion team did.

#### PHOTO BOOTH UPDATE:

Pam reserved the photo booth with ShutterBooth. The team authorized Bob to write a check for the \$400 deposit. All photos taken the night of the event will be posted on the ShutterBooth website. ShutterBooth also releases a CD with all photos to the reunion team. For a very small price, we can obtain picture frames with the GPN logo as a souvenir for photo-takers.

#### QUESTIONNAIRE UPDATE:

Former classmate Judy Barton MacGuidwin offered to help gather information from all classmates to get an update of their activities for the past 40 years. We also need someone to develop either a web or hard copy portfolio of this information. We will contact Judy to confirm her assistance. If you would like to help or know someone who can perform these functions, please contact any reunion member. (Also see the "Other" category below for more information.)

#### NAMETAG UPDATE:

We would like to print nametags with the classmates' yearbook photo and name. Dawn will work on this. Putting them into lanyards is an idea; the team will investigate costs.

#### MEDIA UPDATE:

The team discussed advertising the reunion within various media. Roger will check into radio station announcements. Other team members will contact the Grosse Pointe News, C&G Newspapers, The Detroit News, The Detroit Free Press, and the Oakland Press.

#### CALL FOR OLD PICTURES!

Don suggested that classmates contribute old pictures of our high school days that can be scanned and posted on the reunion website. Copies can be mailed in with payments or emailed. We will discuss other methods of obtaining and scanning pictures. Don has offered to manage this activity.

#### OTHER:

The team is still looking for assistance with a web questionnaire/response. Carol mentioned that the GP South Class of 1970 designed an interactive website where classmates can post brief statements about themselves as well as a recent photo. This is a great communication tool for those who cannot attend the reunion itself; however, it may not fit into our budget.

If anyone needs travel assistance, let us know. Perhaps we can arrange with a travel agent or someone to coordinate group travel plans. Carol will check with former classmate Jan Lang Kawal, who is a travel agent in California.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

- All team members to contact media
- Firm up ticket prices and liquor purchases
- Classmates to register on website!
- Contact Judy Barton MacGuidwin for questionnaire help

The next meeting is set for Thursday, November 4, 2010, at Gilbert's Lodge, at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol A. Holloway  
Secretary