

From Gordon Durnil...

1. The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Manual Kids of the 1950's and 1960's Christmas luncheon is scheduled for December 17, 2020 at Primo's (2617 National Ave.). I began the luncheon when Manual alums from mid-1950's were coming home for Christmas. From that first luncheon of 35 or so people we grew to include anyone who went to Manual in the 1950's & 1960's that took us from a class range of 1950 to 1973. We have been having 400 to 500 Manual kids of old at our luncheon.
2. As you know, Manual was founded in 1895 and 2020 is the 125<sup>th</sup> year (and sadly near the last) of operation. Manual had a 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party in 1945, a 75<sup>th</sup> (that I was in charge of) in 1970, a huge 100<sup>th</sup> party at the convention center in 1995. This year's plan, since Manual is being taken over by Christel House Schools, was to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> birthday of Manual at the annual 50 Year Club gathering last May. Then came the Corona-19 Virus and goofed everything up. The 50 Year Club has continued their hopes of meeting this year, but now have decided to cancel for the 2020 year and come back stronger than ever in 2021.
3. So, Alice Glover (alumni assn. president) and I put our heads together and agreed that we alumni should celebrate this final Manual birthday with a party. The only chance to do so now is at the Manual Kids of 1950's & 1960's annual luncheon on December 17<sup>th</sup>. So ..... Manual kids of all ages, mark your calendar for noon, December 17, 2020, to celebrate Manual's 125<sup>th</sup> year of greatness. If the pandemic is still with us in December, we may have to cancel, but, for the moment, we are full speed ahead. Mark your calendars. Anyone who attended Manual from 1895 to 2020 is invited.
4. If you have ideas for the program, contact Alice ([afglover@ameritech.net](mailto:afglover@ameritech.net)) or myself ([gdurnil@aol.com](mailto:gdurnil@aol.com)). We will also be looking for volunteers to help with table set up, etc. Primo's does a good job, but we still need volunteer assistance.