

# Riders Return!

*Theodore Roosevelt High School Class of 1971*

*Reunion Newsletter*

April 2022



## Registration Deadline Approaching

The deadline for registering for our 50th(ish) Class Reunion is **May 7** with payment due at the time of registration. So for all you who were waiting to see what was happening with the pandemic, which seems to be improving (knock wood), or if you're just a procrastinator by nature, don't delay any longer. Sign up soon for what promises to be a great weekend on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21 in Des Moines. The Reunion will include several activities and plenty of time to catch up with one another. To register for any or all of the activities, go to our Reunion website, [www.trhs1971.com](http://www.trhs1971.com) and click on the 50th REUNION REGISTRATION link at the top of the left-hand column, then follow the instructions on the registration pages on how to register and pay.

## A Weekend to Remember

With several events and time to see old friends, Reunion Weekend promises to be both a time for memories and a weekend to remember. Here's what's planned:

### Friday, May 20

- **Reunion Kickoff: Let's Get This Party Started.** We'll get together at the Waveland Golf Course Clubhouse. Enjoy conversation with your classmates while catching up on the past 50 years. Appetizers, pizza and salad provided, cash bar. Time: 6-11 p.m. Casual dress. Cost: \$45 in advance, \$55 (**cash only**) at the door. **Advance registration strongly recommended.** Free parking available at Waveland or at Glendale Cemetery.
- For those of you who are golfers, The TRHS Foundation is hosting the Annual Rider Cup event that day at Waveland. The course will be closed to the public that day so only TRHS grads and/or students will be playing. Go to <https://www.trhsfoundation.org/ridercup> for more information or to sign up. Advance registration for the Rider Cup ends April 15.

### Saturday, May 21

- **Tour of TRHS.** 9:45-11 a.m. Here's your chance to rekindle memories -- either fond or traumatic -- by once again walking the halls of TRHS. Plus, you can see if the combination on your hall locker (which you undoubtedly remember) still works.
- **Explore Des Moines.** Between the school tour and the evening event, you'll have time to explore Des Moines with classmates or on your own. You can join classmates/friends for informal lunch at several nearby locations on Ingersoll Avenue, including Palmer's Deli, a roomy, casual spot with good food. Or head for Bauder's soda fountain for a malt/shake made with their renowned ice cream, followed by a walk in Greenwood Park and/or visit to the Des Moines Art Center. Or join another group of classmates planning a walking tour of Des Moines' revitalized downtown. Or just take a nap...
- **Reunion Finale: Cheers to 50 Years.** Party at Forté Banquet & Conference Center in downtown Des Moines. Time: 6-11 p.m. Time for more conversation, music, a buffet dinner with a variety of food stations catered by Barrata's and a brief program that will include the encore performance of videos from previous reunions, and perhaps even some dancing. In addition to having plenty of time to mingle with friends, you'll have the opportunity to take selfie photos at a specially designed photo booth. Somewhat dressier casual dress, but at our age, comfort rather than couture is what counts. Cost: \$65 in advance, \$75 (**cash only**) at the door. **Advance registration strongly recommended.**

## Help Support TRHS

As part of your Reunion registration, you can also make a gift to **Roosevelt For Generations**, a fundraising campaign and collaborative effort between The Roosevelt High School Foundation and Des Moines Public Schools. Key projects include a complete reimagining of the school's library into a new space for collaborative learning and working in teams with appropriate resources; and a new multipurpose field to be used for athletics, band and other events. For details on the campaign, go to our reunion website, [www.trhs1971.com](http://www.trhs1971.com). A link in the left-hand column, TRHS Capital Campaign 2021, will take you to a brochure detailing the campaign. And if you'd like to help support the expenses of preparing for the reunion activities and the reunion website, you'll be able to do that as well on the on the registration form. So even if you can't make it to reunion, you can still support TRHS and/or help your classmates have a great time.

## A Classmate's Journey from Uruguay to TRHS to Italy

By Olga Del Signore

My experience in Des Moines, at TRHS, with my new friends there, and with my foster family, the Bryans, changed my life forever. I was a 17-year-old girl from Uruguay, and the time I spent in Des Moines on the foreign exchange program opened my eyes to the world. In memory of such a change and thanking life that it took place, I decided I had to go back for the 50th Reunion. Unfortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan have passed away, and my foreign exchange sister, Sally, will not attend the event, although I have visited her twice since 1971.

After graduation, I went back to Uruguay, where I became a lawyer, joined a law firm, and became an Assistant Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Montevideo. I also married but did not have children. In 1983, I got a scholarship from the Italian government to further specialize in commercial law and participate in a research group in Siena, Italy. Once the research group achieved results an Italian/English helicopter company hired me to be part of their legal department. I later became the Head of the International War Helicopters Legal Department. I worked there for 10 years.

I was then recruited to lead the International Legal Department of an Italian/Dutch petrochemical company. I worked there for 20 years, during which the company grew to be a multinational giant. While I continued to live in Italy, I had an office in Frankfurt, Germany and another one in Houston. My jobs at companies made me a very frequent traveler. Moreover, whenever I was able to take a vacation, I enlarged my traveling experience, always choosing adventurous destinations.

I retired in 2017 and, in addition to serving as a consultant, I continue traveling, mainly in Africa with a small group led by a very well-known photographer, to capture images of people and animals. I'm also taking theater lessons for "over-60 people" in Milan and have already been on the stage twice.

I look forward to coming back to Des Moines and meeting as many '71 graduates as possible.



Sally Bryan surprises Olga Del Signore, her foreign exchange sister, with a fact about the US.



### Send In Your UnYearbook Photos

If you haven't already checked out the new "UnYearbook" photo gallery on the reunion website, it's worth a look with some photos of classmates. The link, "Un-Yearbook Photos", is in the left-hand column of the Reunion home page. And if you have some treasured photos from your time at TRHS, both at school and during outside activities, that you'd be willing to add to the gallery, scan the photos and send them to Marie Rich Doyle at [marieldoyle@mchsi.com](mailto:marieldoyle@mchsi.com) or Al Cabbage at [acabbage@northwestern.edu](mailto:acabbage@northwestern.edu). We'll post them to the gallery.

### Final Exam

Here's the last chance to bring up your Reunion GPA! Following are some questions for those of us whose academic strategy at TRHS was acing the final after stumbling through most of the semester. Answers below.

1. How many students were in our graduating class?  
A. 694                      C. 964  
B. 496                      D. 1,971

2. Which TRHS faculty member later was elected to the Polk County Board of Supervisors and became a leader in the Iowa Democratic party?
  - A. Richard Treman
  - B. P.W. Parks
  - C. Tom Whitney
  - D. Al Comito
  
3. In addition to the official nickname of Roughriders, TRHS had another mascot whose likeness occasionally appeared on T-shirts. Who was it?
  - A. Frodo Baggins
  - B. Marmaduke
  - C. Felix the Cat
  - D. Odin, the Norse god of war
  
4. The boiler room on the first floor near the girls' gym served another important purpose. What was it?
  - A. The teachers' smoking lounge
  - B. A way to duck out of class
  - C. The wrestling practice room
  - D. The art gallery
  
5. Des Moines had three movie theaters located in the TRHS attendance area while we were there. What were their names? Bonus question: What was the name of the drive-in theater in the area?

### **Here's Who Has Registered to Date**

Here's a list of classmates who have already registered for Reunion events with more classmates signing up daily. So get in touch with your classmate friends, make your plans and **get your registration in by May 7**. Hope to see you there!

Maribeth Anderson (Cannavaro), Arlene Blake (Call), Charles Brown, Vicki Cameron, Candace Campfield (Walker) Starr, Dave Collier, Karen Cordes, Barb Criswell Cox, Al Cabbage, Steve Dallenbach, Gard Davis, Olga Del Signore, Janice Dobbertin (Johnson), Val Edwards Wilson, Kevin Erbe (Sisson), Jim Evans, Peggy Gassberry-Jenkins, Greg Halsey, Martha Helgerson, Marion Hileman (Bond), Rob Holcomb, Jane Hutchings, Debbie Kerr Biegger, Tracy Ingberg {Klein}, Cindy Jackson (Rasmussen), David Bruce Jackson, Kurt Johnson, Kent Klein, Paula Larew (Wooters), Steven Larson, Brad Mallon, Debbie Martin (Howsare), Greg Mauk, Jerry McGinnis, Nancy Moore (McGinnis), Cris Miller, Marguerite Miller, Marta Murray (Jones-Couch), John Oler, Larry Pomeroy, Greg Randolph, Catherine Reid (Day), Ellen Reese (Roberts), Marie Rich (Doyle), Mollie Smith (Cooney), Mary Speagh (Kolesar), Ann Swaim (Stern), Susan Synhorst (Textor), Mike Wills, Joanne Whitt

To see the most up-to-date list of who's coming, go to [TRHS1971.com](http://TRHS1971.com) and click Classmate Profiles on the left side of the Home Page and click on each Reunion event to see who has already registered. If you don't see names of classmates you're in touch with, please reach out to them and ask them to join you at Reunion. The more the merrier!

### **Quiz answers**

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. Varsity, Capri, Ingersoll. Bonus: Plantation

***See you at Reunion May 20-21!***

***Remember registration ends on May 7<sup>th</sup>, so if you haven't registered yet do it today!***