



"The waves of the sea help me get back to me." ~Jill Davis

Wildwood High School Multiclass Reunion: September 28-30, 2012

by Kathy Boyer Maher, WHS '67

Some of us had always lived in the Wildwoods; others hadn't been back for 40 years or more. Our graduation classes spanned ten years (1963-1973), so we didn't all know each other, but it didn't matter: The Wildwood High School Multiclass Reunion last Fall brought us together in a shared love for our home town and our high school.

In preparation for nearly a year, the reunion—sponsored by the Class of 1967 and chaired by Harry (Bubby) Hayward—kicked off on Friday, September 28, with a golf outing and ceremonies at the high school that included a tribute to our military veterans. That evening's welcome-back party at the Lighthouse Pointe Restaurant drew more than 300 people.

Saturday morning we gathered at the Wildwood High gym to spotlight our sports teams and to honor a beloved teacher and basketball coach, Bernie McCracken, who passed away shortly after the reunion. Fifteen members of "Bernie's Army" were on hand to celebrate his impact on their lives.

Throughout the weekend, we heard cries of "Gimme a W." "W!" "Gimme an I." "I." And eventually: "What's that spell?" "Wildwood!" We were home again. Some of us walked the boards and took in the Italian Festival, while others gravitated to the George F. Boyer Museum to discover their own personal histories. "That looks just like my letter jacket," one reunion attendee exclaimed with delight as she discovered the room that held Wildwood High memorabilia.

At the gala dinner at the Convention Center on Saturday night, we renewed ties with classmates and teachers; conjured up the steps to old line dances; and remembered friends who had passed away, thanks to a tribute table that featured a photo of each person, along with a candle.

The next morning, just before we gathered for a farewell photo at the Wildwood sign, Charles Moubray of Gordonsville, Virginia, dropped to one knee and proposed to a beaming Marlene (Street) Yates, WHS '72. "I knew it was coming," she said. "I just didn't know when. I think God had a hand in it." Can you imagine a better place to start a new chapter in life? We all felt renewed—and ready to plan another reunion!



Farewell photo at the Wildwood Sign

Marlene (Street) Yates and Charles Moubray - Just engaged!



Elizabeth (Millard) Carson, Barbara Miller, and Kathy (Boyer) Maher at the Convention Center (Gala Dinner)



George and Vicki (Weatherby) Bundschu at Wildwood High School (Opening Ceremonies)



Gordon Ball, Charles Gruff, and Kathy (Boyer) Maher at the Convention Center (Gala Dinner)



Mary (Harmon) Dandridge, Gerald Hunter, and Jennifer Jones at the George F. Boyer Museum



Valli (Sharp) Cox and Kathy (Peterson) Hill at the Convention Center (Gala Dinner)



Monique Green, Oliver Green, and Jennifer Jones at the Convention Center (Gala Dinner)



Rosemarie (DiMarino) LeRoy and Harry ("Bubby") Hayward at the Convention Center (Farewell Brunch)



Marquita Camper and Willa Mae Gaines at Wildwood High School (Opening Ceremonies)