



TAFT REUNION NEWS

CLASS OF JUNE 1959

Volume VII

February, 2009



TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

"Together Again"

Dear TAFT Classmate and Friends,

By now I trust you have received in the regular mail our 50TH REUNION SIGN-UP PACKAGE from Classmate Joe Bartel. Joe is the Treasurer of our Reunion Committee. If you haven't received the package, please call or e-mail Joe at 773-775-7710 or caprice@core.com (Note that our letterhead says caprice@core.net which is in error), or me at fairseas2u@cox.net, or 703-444-6255 and we will mail you a Sign-Up Package.

We want to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to attend our special and important **50th Reunion!** It certainly will be a fun and memorable time! In that regard, I urge you to sign up as soon as possible by returning your sign-up Registration Form, completed Memory Book Questionnaire, and check to Joe in the envelope provided in the Sign-Up Package. To move ahead with our plans, we need your response by 15 March. Thanks! If you need lodging for the Reunion and wish to stay at the Hilton Garden Inn in Des Plaines (Reunion Headquarters), I recommend you contact the hotel now to make a reservation as there are limited rooms available at our special, reduced price. The Hilton Garden Inn phone number is in the Sign-Up Package.

Included also in the Sign-Up Package is a list of our "Still Missing" Classmates, those we so far have been unable to locate. Please take a close look at the list; and, if you have any idea or clue as how we might contact any of those on the list, just let Joe or me know as soon as possible. Thanks!

For your information, we have organized the Reunion by ourselves. We have not had any outside consultant assistance, and we believe, as a result, we will have a unique, more personal, enjoyable, and cost-effective event.

Indeed, it has been a most rewarding and memorable "*labor of love*" for all of us on The Reunion Committee these past several years. NOW, we are eager also to share the fond memories we all have enjoyed and renew special friendships with you!

For the Reunion in September, consider bringing any and all memorabilia you have from our TAFT years such as yearbooks (both ours – 1959 – and previous years), photos, dance bids, videos, programs, newspaper articles, diaries, letter sweaters, jackets, ball caps....anything! It all will be inventoried, controlled, and protected during the Reunion, and it will be returned to you.

Finally, I strongly encourage you to visit our Class website often!

www.taftreunion1959.com

It has been called "*the best high school alumni website in America!*"; and, if you go to it, you readily will see why. Our webmaster and true computer expert, Classmate Fred Allegretti, has done, and continues to do, a fantastic job with the website. He makes weekly updates, so you will enjoy regular visits. Of note, the website contains a short video "teaser" depicting a few key parts of the "TAFT – The Movie" DVD, which Fred is producing especially for our Class and our 50th Reunion. When complete, it will be a 1 – 1 1/2 hour DVD, and you will receive one at the Reunion as part of your Sign-Up Package. It will recapture those wonderful years, 1955-1959, we all spent at TAFT...you won't want to miss it!

And, speaking of the website, I encourage all to click on the "**Classmate Profile**" button on the opening "Home Page" to read what some Classmates have already posted concerning their lives and careers since graduation. It is all very interesting, and I urge you also to submit a "Classmate Profile". Simply follow the easy instructions on the website. Thanks!

Watch, too, for more of these special Class E-mail Newsletters as we get closer to the Reunion. I and the Reunion Committee will keep you posted on plans, attendees, additional events, etc. And, let any one of us hear from you if you have questions or comments. We all are listed in the Sign-Up Package along with our contact information.

See you in September!
Remember to sign up before
March 15th!

Larry Marsh
"GO TAFT GO!"



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE TAFT REUNION WEBSITE

Did you belong to
Taft Mixed or Girls Chorus?

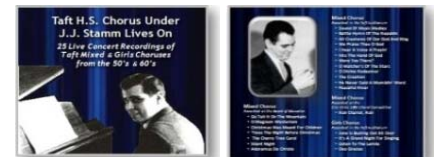
If the answer is YES, then chances
are YOUR performance has been
captured for the ages.

David Barth, musical director of SPIRIT of LIFE, the 100 voice ecumenical Christian chorus, recently obtained more than 25 1950's & 1960's Taft Chorus performance recordings from J.J. Stamm.

David is in the process of enhancing the original recordings and has agreed to share them with us for our website and DVD, "**Taft - the Movie**".

Look for the **2-Set CD Order Form** on the website for \$12. The music of the Taft Chorus concerts and order form will be available on the website in mid-March.

Taft Choruses Under J.J. Stamm Live On



By the way, David is the younger brother of Ron Barth from our class and graduated from Taft in January 1962.