

# Class of 1962 Newsletter

A Publication of the Northeastern University Alumni Association

January 2004



**Now available at a Computer Near You...a website for the Class of '62 Alumni!**

It's here - the Class of 1962 website!  
[www.neualumni.org/1962/](http://www.neualumni.org/1962/)

This website will give you a great opportunity to reconnect with your past and with other Northeastern 1962 alumni. On this website, you'll be able to read the class newsletter and find out what's going on with your classmates, and also find out what plans are in the works for upcoming '62 alumni events you may not want to miss.

--**Meet** your Class of '62 alumni committee.

--**Reminisce** with "This Day in History," a nostalgic day-by-day look at what was going on in the world from September, 1957 - June, 1962

--**Participate** in fun polls.

--**Help** us locate "missing persons" from our class.

--**Sign** in and post a note about yourself in our Guest Book. See who has already signed in, and add comments!

Wander the site at your leisure, read the FAQ's, and bookmark for future visits. New material will be added regularly! We hope you enjoy it!

## Gene Therapy...

My circle of friends has started to become smaller. Not because I am an old grumpfart, although my wife says that I am. It's because some of my acquaintances have gone on to the big "quadrangle in the sky."

As I think back to my Northeastern days, I remember the many and varied friendship groups we had back then.

Commuting friends: about a dozen or so from Haverhill that got on the Broken and Mangled Railroad each morning, picking up others from Lawrence, Andover, and Reading to descend upon North Station and then the MTA. For a while, a few of us occasionally car-pooled with some secretaries that worked at Harvard. That's as close as we got to Harvard.

In later years, we became some of the outlaws who lived illegally in apartments (there were no dormitories when I started in 1954), and had roommate friends and neighbor friends, also NU "wetbacks," living in apartments and drinking much beer.

We had a Dixieland band, the Slipstick Six. We had an intramural basketball team, named the Flunking Five, which turned out to be both appropriate and prophetic. We were also pathetic.

Then, of course, there were our close classmates. The group in our "section" that took the same classes at

the same time in the same classroom, except for the occasional elective we got to take in the five week term. I was fortunate enough to have two groups of these most intimate friends from my early and disastrous engineering days and then the ones that herded together through the business administration curricula.

ROTC also fostered other groups. The ones we marched with, arranged alphabetically by height, and later dominated Summer Camp and our Basic Officer's Courses with NU friends. Many of us weaved our way through active duty with many classmates. Ironically, ROTC overcame the major schism at NU--Division A and Division B. At camp and on active duty, we met and got close to some of those "others."

Most of us didn't know where the next dime was coming from, but we could round up enough dough to get some GIQ's and have a party. And we were secure, with plenty of friends.

Make up for some of the attrition in your friendship circles by renewing your NU ties. At the reunions, I have enjoyed seeing old fraternity brothers, co-op partners, fellow commuters and roommates, and others...as well as making some new friendships!

Take the first step. Join the class leadership committee. Then, get yourself in gear and come to our future activities!

~~Gene Crepeau, BA

# Aw Hell...

(The column formerly known as "All Hail")

by Joe Scarpato, LA

## Musings

Just some random thoughts on a rainy afternoon:

1. How come we have only one name for Winter, Spring and Summer, but two names for the other season (Autumn and Fall)?

Did it start out as Autumn, then someone noticed the leaves falling and began calling it Fall? Couldn't Fall just as easily have worked as a replacement for Winter, what with people slipping and falling all over the place? At any rate, I think Autumn is losing the public relations battle. Let's face it, even though Autumn is a prettier name than Fall, and "Autumn Leaves" is a more beautiful song than "I'll Fall Through the Mattress and Meet You in the Spring," most people now refer to the third season as Fall. I don't think that's fair.

2. Why do hurricanes have names while tornadoes, blizzards, tsunamis and other weather disasters don't?

Once again, I think the pro-hurricane PR people have taken the bull by the horns while the pro-tornado and other disaster people are just sitting on their heinies. And while we're at it, why did we suddenly start naming hurricanes for men as well as women? Shows what good public relations did for the women's movement. Hopefully they're not going to set their sights on ships and cars being referred to as *she*? Or oil wells, for that matter (as in, *Thar she blows!*) My car is temperamental, and I don't think she'd like it.

3. And speaking of "pro" and "anti" factions, how come you always hear about anti-pasto but never pro-pasto? How come there's provolone but no anti-volone? Worse yet, why are there so many prophylactics but not even one antiphylactic? Where's the fairness?

4. Come to think of it, who's the guy who decided that a bunch of kangaroos should be called a "mob" of kangaroos? Or that a bunch of lions should be called a "pride" of lions? Why do we have to remember that it's a "bevy" of birds, a "herd" of cattle, a "pod" of whales? Wouldn't it be easier for everybody if we just had one collective noun so that every grouping could be called a "bunch"? I mean, I'm really getting steamed here!

At the very least, the collective noun should be more descriptive of the group it represents. For example, wouldn't it make more sense to have a pride of authors, a host of maitre d's, a smattering of pigeons, a row of oarsmen? How about a brace of orthodontists? A clutch of perverts? A quire of singers? A rash of dermatologists? A ream of proctologists? A flock of wallpaper hangers? Aren't these easier to remember? Let's revolt against the grammar police!

5. Why am I sitting here worrying about these things when I could be working on my next "Aw Hell" column for the next Class of '62 Northeastern alumni newsletter?

Now, there's a thought!

## Which Alumni Activities Would You Prefer?

Last year's 40th reunion of the Class of 1962 was amazingly successful, drawing one of the largest turnouts ever for a 40th reunion! Not only that, but it was so much fun, the folks who planned and carried out the reunion don't want to wait another five years for the next get together.

So, they (your classmates on the '62 committee) have looked into planning some "mid-term" activity for next year. If you'd like to join the fun and frivolity, take a moment to look at the following survey regarding potential future events.

Which type of activity would you prefer?

- Boston Harbor Cruise
- Clambake (evening)
- Musical event
- Dinner Dance
- Resort weekend
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name(optional) \_\_\_\_\_

You can vote online on our new website, or check off the activity that you prefer here and mail it to:

**Gene Crepeau**  
**87 Litchfield Road**  
**Morris, CT 06763**

After we tally the results, we'll update you as to dates, times, costs, etc. (Note: voting does not obligate you to attend. But we hope you will!)