Student/Alumni Wall of Honor - Class of 2012 Announced...

Another class of diversified and distinguished Parsons College students and alumni will take their place on the Wall of Honor in the Alumni Hall at the FA&CC at 10:00AM, Saturday, October 6, 2012. The addition of this year’s class of 10 inductees at the 4th annual ceremony in the Stephen Sondheim Auditorium will raise the total number of Wall of Honor members to 39. Inductees, along with family, classmates and friends, will be invited back to Fairfield for the celebration. Admission to the ceremony is FREE to all. Everybody is invited to the luncheon following the ceremony. Honorees and spouse will be the guests of the PCFF, all others will be asked to pay the ticket price of $25.00. Advice: if you’re thinking of attending, make your reservation NOW: AmericINN – 1.800.634.3444; Best Western – 1.641.472.2200; Super8 – 1.641.469.2000. Here’s THE CLASS OF 2012!!

FRANK CHALLANT, PC’68, Winchester, MA - Head Athletic Trainer for the NBA’s World Champion Boston Celtics - Supplemental jobs included strength coach and traveling secretary - Assistant Athletic Trainer NFL's Boston Patriots - Athletic Trainer World Tennis Association's Boston Lobsters - Following retirement, became VP of Operations & Sales for a 10-store east coast furniture chain - Member of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity...

KAY McPHERSON FERGUSON, PC’59, Omaha, NE - Twice elected "Professor of the Year" at Dana College in Blair, NE - Recognized for Distinguished Support of American Education - Received "Golden Apple Award for Educational Excellence" - two Distinguished Service Awards - Instructor at University of Nebraska - Coordinator Nebraska Department of Education - Owned/directed a Country Day Pre-School program - Member Delta Zeta Sorority...

JAMES "NEWT" GREASER, PC’65, River Falls, WI - Inducted to State of Wisconsin’s Football Coaches Hall of Fame – University Wisconsin-River Falls "VOLUNTEER" offensive line coach for 19 years - Instrumental in developing players to All-America status 16 times and All-Conference honors 30 times - Led UWRF to 8 Conference Championships - Still coaching/advising, but now a successful financial adviser with ING Financial Partners, Inc and has won several national awards - Member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and captained Parsons football team...

THOMAS G. GUINTOLI, PC’63, Summerville, SC (posthumously) - Ordained Presbyterian Minister - Captain, United States Navy Chaplain Corps (Ret) - Earned Doctoral Honors at Princeton Theological Seminary - Became Chaplain of U.S. Sixth Fleet in Gaeta, Italy - Later nominated and appointed Fleet Chaplain for the Commander & Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe - Coordinated religious support for over 90,000 U.S. Military personnel and families out of London, England. Lost valiant battle to cancer June, 2012...

MEREDITH JAMES, PC’67, Mill Valley, CA - Natural health expert and international speaker on topics of diet and health - Nutrition Educator and past associate editor of "East West/Natural Health Magazine" - Authored three cookbooks, including award winning "Sweet & Natural" - Co-director of "East West Center for Macrobiotics" - Senior Certificate in "Art of Cooking" from Kushi Foundation and Nutrition Education Certificate from Bauman College - Lectures world-wide and authors monthly E-card, "Healing Cuisine" - Member Delta Zeta sorority...

JOHN JOHNSON, PC'early'60's, Davenport, IA - Doctor (DO) of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Family Practice - Pioneer in paving the way for African-American Physicians in the Quad-Cities (first black intern in Davenport) - Graduated Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - Opened a family practice in Davenport - Currently serving Community Health Care on an on-call basis - Attended Parsons on a track scholarship...

LEE KANE, PC’55, Urbandale, IA - Inducted to the Iowa Senior Olympics Hall of Fame - Participated in 21 different events, competed 154 times and won 132 medals (primarily basketball shooting accuracy) - Coach/teacher at Urbandale High School - Written, published and has had 120 poems copyrighted by the U.S. Copyright Office - Member of Urbandale Action Committee and chaired a number of programs - President of the Parsons Student Government and belonged to the Zeta/Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity...

(Continued page 2)
Wall of Honor – (cont’d)

JAMES ROBERT “BOB” KIRBY, PC’late’60’s, Gettysburg, PA – Passion for the outdoors led to career in parks & recreation and one of the most prestigious jobs with the National Parks Service in the United States - Head Superintendent at Gettysburg National Military Park and Battlefield – Oversees America’s premier Civil War site: the 6,000 acre Gettysburg battlefield and supervises 80 personnel – Internship with NPS at Golden Gate State Park in California – Formerly Superintendent at Petersburg National Battlefield, another Civil War site in Virginia...

DAVID NEFF, PC’69, Fairfield, IA - Worked way from teller to president of Iowa State Bank & Trust Company in Fairfield - Coached, taught and was Director of the Intramural Program at Parsons - Community contributions led to being named "Fairfield's Citizen of the Year" - Inaugural recipient of "Fairfield Volunteer of the Year Award" - President and co-founder of Parsons College Foundation - Vice President/Treasurer of Parsons College Alumni Association - Co-founder of Parsons College Wall of Honor – President Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity...

JERRY STATON, PC’63, Oskaloosa, IA - Distinguished high school teacher/football coach of nearly 50 years who touched the lives of many - Nominated and inducted into the Iowa High School Coaches Hall of Fame - Organized the first junior football league for kids in Oskaloosa - Once a year, 30+ years running, gathers his varsity athletes to do formal community service and physical work for the elderly – Member of Kiwanis and has been characterized as "the role model of role models" – Active member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity...

GUILLION JOINS “DRAKE RELAYS WALL OF HONOR”

Parsons Alumni E-News has learned Dan Gullion, PC/Zeta'55 of Ottumwa, IA, was inducted into the "Drake Relays Wall of Honor" in April of 2012. Dan’s attachment to the Drake Relays began in 1947 when, as he says, "he skipped school at Chariton High School and hitched a ride to watch his first Relays." And today, except for a two-year absence while serving in the military, he’s had a perfect attendance ever since. That would be a remarkable string of attending the relays 63 of 65 years – amazing!

Dan was no stranger to sports. During his working career, he spent 37 years coaching football and track, and teaching history in the Ottumwa School District. He retired in 1994, but not from his participation in the Drake Relays, where he began working in 1982 as a Relays official. Over those years 25 years, Dan served as finish judge and later move to decathlon and heptathlon events upon the arrival of electronic timing. The Drake Relays Wall of Honor was established in 1993....

GRANT APPROVED FOR BARHYDT WINDOWS; ADDITIONAL FUNDS NEEDED TO COMPLETE

Suzan Bates Kessel of the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center reports, “We are very happy to confirm the state of Iowa has awarded the FA&CC a grant to help complete the Parsons College Barhydt Chapel stained glass window project. This grant, one of only 26 approved out of 86 submissions, was applied for under the "Historical Resources Development Program" by Ms. Kessel in May.

Although the grant was approved for the full requested amount of $25,000, and the FA&CC has most of the dollars for the match, "we’re still about $10,000 short of the needed amount to complete the total project,” Kessel said. That leaves the challenge of raising that final amount directly on the shoulders of Kessel, Sally Denney, Dave Neff and the Parsons Alumni friends.

Bovard Studios of Fairfield has received, as a deposit, two other grants and is currently working to restore the stained glass panels which will be installed in the Parsons Alumni Hall upon completion. “At this point,” Kessel stated, “we have major reason for optimism and to believe the windows will be completed in time for the 2012 PC Wall of Honor ceremony in October.”

If you’ve thought about making a donation to the Parsons College Foundation, or the Alumni Association on behalf of the Barhydt project, now is the time to step-up. We need your help!!!!

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Etch your name in Parsons College History!

Buy A Brick!

Help support our mission to preserve the memory of Parsons College – BUY A BRICK!
For details and information call Dave Neff at 641-919-4640 or email at neffacres@lisco.com
Dr. Bob Tree (3rd from left), the popular past professor, department head and dean of the college at Parsons College was awarded an Honorary Degree of Humanities – honoris causa by Iowa Wesleyan College at their May 5th commencement in Mt. Pleasant, IA.

Several years after the 1973 closing of Parsons, Dr. Tree took a part-time position at IWC which eventually became full-time and led to a multi-year extension of his outstanding teaching career.

His active involvement and participation in the cultural arts of southeastern Iowa has also been exemplary and his support has made a major impact on the scene as it exists today.

Dr. Tree’s nomination was presented to IWC president Dr. Jay Simmons (left in photo) in persons by Dave Bateman, PC’61, Gene Copeland, PC’60 and Dave Neff, PC’69 several month ago.

Following the activities in Mt. Pleasant, Dr. Tree returned to Fairfield where he was greeted with a wine and cheese reception at the FA&CC. He was then directed to cutting the ribbon to a special display placed in his honor at the Parsons Alumni Hall.

Those events were followed by a recital on the Barhydt organ in the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts by friend Werner Elmker and a Saturday evening concert featuring “The Heart Bluegrass Concert.”

Larry Litwin, PC’67 Attributes Awards to Parsons College

This has been quite a spring for Larry Litwin, PC’67. Within a span of a few days, Larry received three major awards and attributes all three to Parsons College.

Larry teaches at Rowan University in New Jersey (formerly Glassboro State College) and has been an instructor and associate professor since 1972.

First, Larry was named recipient of Rowan’s “Gary Hunter Excellence in Mentoring Award” for helping students academic, personal and professional growth. Next, he received Rowan’s “Advisor of the Year Leadership Award” for Outstanding Advising of a Student Organization and, lastly, named to the Rowan University Faculty “Wall of Fame” for Academic Advising.

During his acceptance speeches, Larry paid tribute to Parsons College, saying. “Years ago, I promised myself, while a student at Parsons, where I met my wife (Nancy), if I ever taught college, I would emulate my Parsons professors who mentored and coached me so well and – without question – changed my life forever.”

Larry sited many examples, which set the Parsons educators apart from the rest, including his H-E-L-P theory and four related words: H – HEAR what I say; E – ENCOURAGE and never stop encouraging students to succeed; L – LOVE and LEARN - leads to preparation; and P – PREPARE – the primary job is to prepare students for the future.

Thirty-five years of high school and college umpiring, announcing and reporting also earned Larry induction to the South New Jersey Baseball Hall of Fame earlier this year.

On a side note, when required to wear academic regalia for university ceremonies, Larry chooses to wear the Parsons Kelly green and white rather than the traditional graduate school colors worn by the “academics.” When asked, “What school is that,” he proudly responds, “Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa. I would not be here today without it.”

A JULY 4TH POEM

As We Celebrate Each Fourth of July,
And Watch Our Flag So Proudly Fly.
Give Thanks to Those Who've Kept Us Free.
Preserving Our Cherished Liberty!!!

Lee Kane - 55’
Do you know this man??

Take a guess… Could he be?

- A - Campus security patrol?
- B - Parsons Bill’s brother?
- C - The popular mailman?
- X D - A college professor?
- E - JCPenney Store Manager?
- F - Lewis Parsons grandson?

If you guessed Dr. James Robertson, college professor of Religion and Philosophy, you correctly answered the E-News Mystery Quiz question...
The year was 1962 - Parsons College was on a roll - enrollment had nearly doubled in two years. The 'Parsons Plan' was working. Educators from across the country were wondering who this man - Dr. Millard G. Roberts - was, and how he was doing what he was doing. Very simply, Dr. Roberts was building a college, with the intent, and innovative philosophy, of becoming an independent and self-sustaining college.

The trimester system was in place and the school was operating year-around. The Admissions/Recruiting Department, with an office in New York, was basically going from high school to high school and, in some cases, door-to-door, promoting Parsons College. Top-notch professors with PhD's were being hired each day and paid top dollar. Clearly, the focus on Parsons was intensifying. Direct paths to Fairfield, IA were being carved from every state in the country as students arrived by car, bus, train and plane.

On the national scene, the battles to integrate the University of Mississippi highlighted the daily newspapers and James Meredith was making a statement in the south... In Fairfield there were no racial or integration issues - blacks and whites attended classes together and harmoniously... Relationships with Cuba were strained, our government put Cuba on notice and in October of 1962 our country came the closest ever to a nuclear war... A ski resort opened in Vail, CO... The powers that be committed our country to the space program... And we lost the 'first lady of first ladies,' Eleanor Roosevelt...

The guest director for the Parsons Festival '62 was Sydney Spade and his arrival coincided with Fry-Thomas Field House being equipped with air conditioning. The list of big names gracing the campus was incredible. Over the year, we saw performances by Joe E. Brown (Father of the Bride); Faye Emerson (The Matchmaker); Pat O'Brien (Our Town); Dave Brubeck; Porgy & Bess Singers; Count Basie; Les Elgart; The Four Freshmen; and Sammy Kaye Orchestra.

If you were not watching these star-studded performers in person at the field house, perhaps you were patronizing the Co-Ed Theater on Broadway taking in one of the three best film productions of the year - Lawrence of Arabia, To Kill A Mockingbird, or The Manchurian Candidate. And chances are, after the show you headed over to George's Pizza for one of his post-theater super-deluxe specials.

And the WINNERS are!!! L/R: Pete Andersen, VP; Sandy Whitaker, Secretary; Mike Gilpin, President.

Student elections resulted in Mike Gilpin, SPE, voted president of the student government, Pete Andersen, PSE, vice president, and Sandy Whitaker, AXD, secretary. In addition to her election victory, Ms. Whitaker was also chosen Homecoming Queen, giving her a banner year. Sandy Bradley, DZ, was voted Ms. Glamour, and the Ms. Frosh award went to Barb Barliss, IND.

Rounding out several other noteworthy campus posts: Dave Sardella, TKE, gave us the Peira Yearbook, and Judy Harrison, AGD, produced the weekly Portfolio. And you'll be delighted to be reminded that the Parsons College Marching Band, under the direction of Ken Carpenter, and leadership of golden girl/solo twirler, Jeni Baker, IND, doubled their ranks to 60 members.

(continued on page 6)
Looking Back – (cont’d)

Even with the infamous Benny Belch infiltrating the campus on occasion, there was no reason not to attend Parsons College. If you were a top-ranking scholastic student you were offered a scholarship. If you were a marginal student, you were offered a tutorial program, extra help, and a chance, sometimes a second chance, to reach your goal of obtaining a college education.

If you were an athlete, Parsons offered the best of football, basketball, baseball and track along with scholarships to those who qualified. The Wildcats football team, aided by a 6-0 victory over Central College on 25-yard touchdown run by halfback Frank Chicko, posted a 9-0 record, ending the season as one of 15 undefeated teams in the country. Power-runner Nat Craddock became the NAIA scoring champion, racking up 114 points and leading Parsons to a #10 NAIA small college ranking... The basketballer’s, with Al Wardlow, Roger Sherrard, and Mickey Taliaferro paving the way, finished at 13-3 in the Iowa Conference...

Joe Lutz would take over as baseball coach the following year, planting the seed for a program that over the next few years would send a half dozen players to the Major Leagues... The Parsons trackmen ran away with the Conference championship while registering a host of records set by Dean Davis, Claude Ervin (MVP), Larry Dunville, Fred Henry and Dennis Edwards... And if you weren't a big time college jock and your sports participation was relegated to the intramural program, you witnessed the Sig Eps walk away with the Sweepstakes Trophy in the closest of competitions...

Also registering championships in 1962 and hoisting World Championship flags were, the Yankees, Green Bay Packers and the Boston Celtics... Jack Nicklaus dominated the golf links and University of Southern California was crowned the #1 college football team...

This was the year Marilyn Monroe died mysteriously, and the year Audrey Hepburn, Bridgett Bardot, Doris Day and Kim Novak solidified their stardom...

Depending on which make of car you drove, you may also have been labeled a star. As you tooled around Fairfield in your "wheels" you were not sure which version of that new dance, The Twist, you liked best, the one by Chubby Checker or JoeyD & the Starlighters. But for sure, you hummed along with The Lion Sleeps Tonight - Duke of Earl - Hey Baby - The Locomotion - Sherry - Big Girls Don't Cry - and slow danced to Moon River - Soldier Boy - and Stranger on the Shore if you were lucky enough to have a date...

And if you were really, really lucky and on the leading edge, maybe you traveled south and spent spring break in Ft. Lauderdale (Where The Boys Are) with Connie Francis...

Dr. Howard Dorsett was presented the "Outstanding Faculty Member Award" - the Parsons barometers of success and growth were bubbling on all fronts - and the Class of 1962 proudly graduated 192 seniors. It was 50 years ago, but truly a great year for Parsons College...

Next E-News Deadline – SEPTEMBER 1, 2012
As Parsons College undergrads, most of us hardly ever paid attention to the education, degrees and teaching stats of those college professors who taught us. But now that the years have passed and most of us are far older than those in this photo, it is fun to look back and see just who they were (so to speak) and where they came from.

Rather than giving written accolades on PC’s ‘60s-era Business Department staff, we think with a quick look at our sidebar (left), you may remember these professors and draw your own conclusions as to their qualifications and effectiveness.

The youngest staff instructor was Peter Cope from White Plains, New York. Did you know that bookstore manager and Accounting I & II instructor, Ethan Towne, was also a Parsons graduate? Class of 1960! All in all, they came from far and wide - they taught us well. Check them out..

THE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT: Front row: (L/R) Dean Roussos, Thomas Hindelang, Donald Skiff, Dr. Arthur Wichmann, J. Carlton Starr, Peter B. Cope. Rear: Orlan Page Wilson, Eugene L. Hull, Dr. Spencer Martin, John Amberg, Ethan Towne. Could that be an IBM computer in the foreground??
1965 Wildcats Recant Baseball Memories at Mini-Reunion in Arizona

Bill “Skip” Falasca, PC’63-’66 of Lynn, MA is now retired but continues to live in the same northeastern area of the country where he grew up. Following the ill-fated end to a promising baseball career, Skip secured a position and commenced a career working for an air freight company at Logan Airport in Boston. In his later years, he worked for the Boston Herald Newspaper as a driver. Skip grew up in Lynn, played baseball and graduated from St. Mary’s High School. One of his teammates and best friends in school was Tony Conigliaro (now deceased) who went onto the MLB Boston Red Sox. Skip remembers during those years when they were both on the radar of major league scouts. Many used to say, “Tony made more contact hitting the baseball, but that Skip used to hit them harder and farther.”

Skip also remembers that day when a top Boston scout sat in his living room with he and his dad, looking to sign him to a contract right out of high school. During the meeting, Skip’s dad asked the scout candidly, “If Skip were your son, would you tell him to take the offer now, or go on to college and pursue the baseball career afterward?”

The scout told his dad, “I’d tell him to go to college.” We’re not sure that’s what Skip wanted to hear but that’s the exact answer dad was hoping to hear. His dad did not have the opportunity to go to college and simply wanted a better education for his son. And as the story goes, Skip went off to Parsons College on a baseball scholarship and Tony Conigliaro signed with the Red Sox and became a star.

Interestingly, Skip had a stellar baseball career at Parsons. He was later drafted by the Detroit Tigers and played in their minor league system until forced to quit the game due to several knee injuries from which he never recovered. But it was about that time he met his wife to be, they married, he went onto have three children and enjoyed a successful career. Skip recalls receiving letters from TonyC, telling him about spring training and how different it was from what they experienced in high school. Following Conigliaro’s untimely death, Skip was honored to be asked to serve as a pall bearer at the funeral.

Skip has never forgotten his Parsons days and recently joined a number of ex-Wildcat teammates in Arizona for a Parsons baseball reunion in the fall of 2011. In addition to Skip, that “first of a kind” baseball reunion group included: Host Tom Lolos, Billy Jordan, Larry Blixt, Tony DeMacio, Tommy Heintzelman, Gary Ratkin, Bob “Bony” Bonalewicz, Jon “Ike” Eisenhaur, Gary Meyers, Steve Gilliat, Doug Dunlap, Jim Zerilla, Dick Mills, Jim Todd and Cary Dockery.

Skip’s daughter, Allison Falasca Flannigan, surprised him on Father’s Day when she presented his gifts - a Parsons College shirt and a Parsons beer mug. Allison told E-News, “My dad was all smiles – and he was completely dumbfounded as to how I got them since Parsons closed in 1973 - he had no idea where we found the Parsons memorabilia - thank you Parsons College Alumni E-News for the ordering information form!!!”
HAVE YOU TOUCHED BASE WITH YOUR PAST??

Kathy Kensinger Conboy, PC’65 – Cummings, GA writes… Growing up in a small town like Toledo, Iowa it was easy to be popular. And that popularity gave me confidence for going away to college. I have so much to be thankful for and I’m so glad I went back to visit but it was also very sad. Not one store was open and it appeared as though they were never going to be open. Not one person was walking around. It was eerie - just a dead town. I couldn’t help but wonder how people make a living in this TINY town. My great-grandparents built a house as a wedding gift to my grandparents years ago. The house was beautiful with great moldings and hardwood floors. The etched glass on the front doors was just lovely and still is. No one other than family ever lived in that house until my sister and I sold it years ago. A young couple now lives in the house where I grew up and it also looked really good. I was tempted to knock on the door and ask if we could revisit the inside. But I decided it was best to leave those memories sealed and remember them the way they were. My memories are best. So many family members lived and died in Toledo. We spent a lot of time at the graves of my relatives. I bought lots of flowers and that made me feel really good. I’m so glad I went back to touch base with all those memories. And I’m glad my daughter was by my side to share the experience. I’m so thankful for so much, but I’m also so thankful that I don’t live in Toledo, IA...

(Editor’s note: Nestled in central Iowa is the little town of Toledo, population about 2,000. It was the former home of Kathy Kensinger Conboy, who went to Parsons in the early 1960’s and served as president of the Delta Zeta sorority. Recently, she and daughter, Kim Conboy Rutledge, went back to Toledo and took a step back into the past and we thank Kathy for sharing her experience).

MY IOWA EXPERIENCE!!!

Frank Baron, PC’71 – Coconut Grove, FL writes… I came to Fairfield in 1966 and was part of that last “hayday hurrah” of Parsons when the enrollment was topping out at 5,000. I wasn’t associated with any social organizations formally. I did pledge ZBT, but wasn’t invited back after one, shall we say, notorious off-campus party. Later I became friends with a number of “Bermuda Onion & Ale Society” guys and spend many a summer afternoon investigating the properties of inexpensive white Rhine-winers. After my sophomore year, with the emergence of first wife, then child, I became more responsible. My social life transformed from social clubs to focusing on family life and I graduated in 1971. My younger sister followed me to Parsons and also attended on a scholarship, plus a stipend for being a second family member to attend. However, she transferred to Florida State with a new husband in tow, who she’d met at Parsons, before the school closed. We’ve stayed close and we’ll be visiting them near Raleigh, NC this summer. One other thing, does anyone remember those “TINI” tee-shirts? They were akin to the “Flunk-Out U” tee-shirts. When I arrived in ’66, those “TINI” tee-shirts puzzled me to no end. Then I figured it out and wouldn’t it be neat if they were still around today. “TINI” (THERE IS NO IOWA) – of course, that is now heavily disputed by Kevin Costner, James Earl Jones, Ray Liotta….and I’m happy to say, me too!!!
DR. EASTMAN...ONE OF A KIND!!!

Margaret Weiss Bloebaum, PC’65 – Sierra Madre, CA writes…There was a question about the professors who had the greatest influences on us. For me, that was Dr. Harold Eastman, Sociology. When I enrolled in his class, I was very interested in Sociology but there was no pure Sociology program. The best available was a combined Soc/Psych curriculum. I wasn’t the least bit interested in Psych but had resigned myself to it when Dr. Eastman showed up in the Fall of 1963 (I think). He set up the Sociology program, hired Dr. Franklin, and embarked on a course that led to me being the first pure-Soc graduate in October, 1965. His classes were packed with information…and students! He quickly became one of the most popular professors on campus. Who can forget the Marriage and Family class in which, after explaining the mechanics of procreation, a befuddled student asked if it was possible for a man to have intercourse without an erection? Dr. Eastman stroked his chin, pondered a while, and then said, “Well, maybe, but it would be like trying to stuff a marshmallow into a piggy bank.” Thus, and instantly, a bit of Parsons College folklore was born. Always encouraging, clearly in love with his subject, witty and approachable, Dr. Eastman was one-of-a-kind, and I’ve never forgotten him…

DOING WELL IN ST. LOUIS…

Richard Becker, PC/LCA’61-’65 – St. Louis, MO writes… I attended Parsons between 1961 - 1964 and became a social member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. I married Joyce and went into the family business which was Scrap Metal Recycling (Becker Iron & Metal, Venice, IL). As luck would have it, I got drafted into the Army in 1967 and spent time at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO before being sent to Okinawa for 19 months. I sent for my wife and had our daughter born there in a military hospital. Upon my return, I re-entered the metals industry and now my two sons have joined me in running the business. I can’t retire because it would drive me crazy and I can’t play golf five days a week, so I go to work just about every day, aggravate everybody and go home. We are fortunate to have nine grandchildren, all living nearby in St. Louis. Life can’t get much better…

NEVER A DULL MOMENT WORKING THE MAINTENANCE SHOP AND CREW…

William “Dobie” Gillies, PC’66, writes… My friend Ron Long ‘63 sent me a copy of the E-News. I read about your search for the 1966 Peira BIG BOOK and that’s what got me looking and thinking about Parsons. While in bed last night, all kinds of memories floated up, and about the “under belly” of Parsons, and my time working in the college’s maintenance shop. People’s names came to mind who I hadn’t thought about in years, along with remembrances of some of the things we saw, and did, while working the trash truck duty. We had keys to everything and, literally, went everywhere on campus. The girls in the dorm (H&W) had the misconception that ALL of their trash was to be placed in this incinerator. The letters and things we found in that incinerator were eye-openers… And I often wondered if anybody residing in the men’s Howard Dorm remembers being awakened this one Saturday morning, sometime in the early 1960, by the sound of a streaking motorcycle, less mufflers, roaring down the dorm’s hallway? I can still see a bunch of angry men running down the hall and out the door looking to kill the perpetrator of that nasty prank which woke them up. Meanwhile, we sat calmly in the maintenance shop, with the motorcycle, watching out the window. Those were the days!!!

(continued on page 11)
A MEMORABLE DATE: BACKING MY WAY BACK TO CAMPUS

We highly doubt that this is the exact 1951 Oldsmobile 88 vehicle with the hydromatic transmission that our writer drove out into the cornfields north of campus, but it’s the closest copy E-News could find...

Michael Paul, PC/PSE’64 – Danville, CA writes... Here’s a play-by-play synopsis of a most memorable date I had with a Parsons co-ed on a hot summer night back in 1961. Here’s the scene:

> My date and I are in the car, out in a cornfield off Highway 1 about 3 or 4 miles north of campus.
> I’m a sophomore – my date is a freshman – she lives in the dorm – her curfew is midnight.
> Driving a 1951 Olds 88 with hydromatic transmission.
> It’s about 11:45PM – time to go back to the dorm.
> Start car, put hydromatic shift into reverse and the entire shift lever falls off in my hand.
> Car is now engaged in reverse – unable to shift into any other gear.
> Girl starts screaming, “Oh my god, what are we going to do?”
> I’m thinking, “What CAN I do?”
> Back the car (in reverse) out onto Highway 1 and head “backwards” driving toward campus going about 15mph.
> Girl continues to scream, “I need to get back. I need to get back.”
> I say, “Shut up, I’m in reverse and can’t go any faster.”
> Girl starts to lose it, starts blabbering how she’ll lose privileges, get excommunicated, or whatever.
> I was unbelievably lucky, no cars coming in either direction all the way back to campus.
> Maybe not so unbelievable – it was Iowa – 1961 – and nearing midnight.
> Somehow got girl back to dorm in time (or close enough).
> Occurred to me I had just driven my car over 3 miles in reverse – I started to shake.
> Leave my car at dorm and walk back to frat house – bros don’t believe the story.
> Next day – find welder who comes to car and welds steel rod shift back onto steering column.
> Never see girls again (But I would like to, and hear her tell this story).

MORAL OF STORY: 1- Don’t buy a 1951 Olds 88 with hydromatic transmission; AND 2- Don’t date girls with curfews!!

Parsons College Alumni Website

Check out our FREE 3-DAY trial viewing of the Parsons College Alumni Association website at: www.parsonscollegealumni.com.

It’s a WINNER!!

Next Issue – FALL 2012
News Deadline is September 1, 2012

Your news and photographs are needed. Please submit as a jpg and provide information about the photo.

If you need help contact Nancy Wirtanen
nwirtanen@yahoo.com

Getting a new email address? Receiving multiple issues? If so, please notify Nancy of address change and any duplication.

WE DON’T WANT YOU TO MISS AN ISSUE!!

We Need Your News!
ZETA/SIG EPS REUNION IN IOWA
They rarely miss an opportunity to have a reunion and their group seems to grow in numbers. The Zeta/Sig Eps of the 1950’s, early ‘60s and friends just concluded their 2012 summer reunion which was held at the Honey Creek Resort on Rathbun Lake, near Centerville and Moravia, IA, May 21-24. More than 50 attendees made the trip, including 30++ fraternity brothers. The group spent the four days eating, drinking, telling stories and rekindling old friendships from Parsons. Many played golf while others excelled in the 19th hole bar room. A cruise of the lake with lunch and refreshments was booked for one of the day’s activities. The resort staff was outstanding and with the great buffet style meals they served nobody went away hungry. Yearbooks and photos decorated the hospitality room and a great time was had by all. Kudos were bestowed on brothers Dan Gullion and Terry Hoage for their efforts in pulling the reunion together and the group agreed to reconvene back at Honey Creek Resort in 2014...

The Zeta/Sig Eps gathered recently at the Honey Creek Resort in Iowa. The attendees included: (Row 1 – L/R): Bob Spencer, Dan Gullion, Pearl Smith, George Long, Mert Oden; (Row 2): Frank McClurg (standing), Charles Anderson (seated), Mike Gilpin, Larry Robinson, Harold Stevens, Terry Hoage; (Row 3): Pete Nelson, Jim Kettner, Byrd Krumholz, Jim Johnston, Bob Harrison, Clark Mortimer, Lloyd Jerome, Charles Baugher, Arnie Ditch; (Missing): Lee Kane, Ray Messerli, Bill Messerli, Fred Bankus, Ron Kester.

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ALSO.... A ZETA/SIG EPS NEW ORLEANS REUNION IS BEING PLANNED... Larry Marino, PC'66, tells us there's still time to sign-up for the 4th Bi-Annual Mini-Reunion which has been scheduled in New Orleans during the mid-week dates of October 23-25, 2012. Those interested in more information or wishing to pre-register should contact Larry at: LMarino312@yahoo.com...

TKEs RETURN TO LAKE PANORAMA..
Host Ron Lang, PC'62, says, “I can’t believe these guys keep coming back year after year. It MUST BE an Iowa thing.” This edition of the annual mid-week gathering during the third week in June included, a welcome BBQ T-Bone steak dinner – cruises on Lang’s home made house boat, “The Good Ship Lollipop” – lots of golf at the Lake Panorama National Golf Club and Resort, numerous trips to the various small town eateries and an endless supply of cold frosty beverages. A 2013 return is already on the board – MORE TO COME!!
Just received latest newsletter and pleased to learn you’re making available some memorabilia for us old (literally & figuratively) Wildcats to purchase and have as mementos of our days in Fairfield. All I have left from my Parsons days is a Gobble’s store zip-up suit bag with a white logo. Not quite the panache of a Parsons logo mug, nor is it as presentable. I ordered a PC mug so that I can display it along side my wife’s Southern Illinois mug on the kitchen shelf. If you’re out of mugs, I suppose I’ll have to order a golf shirt!!!

Frank Baron, PC’71 – ffssb@aol.com

(Editor’s note: Mr. Baron sent his check for $20 ($15 mug/$5 shipping) and we assume his mug is now sitting on the kitchen shelf next to his wife’s SIU treasure and there are plenty mugs remaining.)

The Troops was a social club. I was in it up until the closing of Parsons, as was my friend Tim Couch from near York, Pa. I still have my jacket from the old days…

David Haskett, PC/Troops ’70-’73 - hasketts@gmail.com

Are you sure there was a BIG’66 Peira Yearbook? I graduated in 1966 and my name is in the ’65 book? (Go figure?) Gerald Ford spoke at my graduation in 1966 and is noted in the Peira ’66 supplement book. I wondered that with the expense of the 1965 yearbook that they may have curtailed the BIG’66 book? I dug through all that I have from Parsons and those two books are all that I came up with. BTW – That was Dr. James “Whitey” Robertson (professor religion/philosophy) on the bike in the Mystery Quiz…

William “Dobie” Gillies, PC’66
WLGillies48@gmail.com

(Editor’s note: Answer to Quiz is correct. Yes, there IS a 1966 Peira BIG BOOK. It appears to be rare but the Fairfield Public Library has a copy. The supplement books are plentiful and available in some of the local antique stores for a minimal charge at last check)

Another great issue. Let me know if there's any other Lambda Chi Alpha’s out there who should be on the E-News distribution list or anyone else who should be on the list. Anyone have any contact info on Jim Rey, PC/LCA’63-’64? Till next time…

Ron Long, PC’63 – v83756@comcast.net

Thank so much for sending me another E-Newsletter. I loved it and will look for the next more carefully. That was a very nice article about the Gaumers. I remember LaRue. We were in the same sorority house (Alpha Gamma Delta) before she went on to UI…

Sandra Dexter Short, PC’68-’71
ekshort1@sbcglobal.net

Hey Ron (Lang), just read latest PC Winter E-News and noted your address and TKE reunion at Lake Panorama in June. My mom’s family was from Jefferson and had property there for a number of years. I attended PC from June ’61-62 and lived at Ballard Hall with Phil Quinn who was one of my roomies Would you happen to have any contact info for him? If so, I ask that you forward it on to me. I know that’s like a lucky rabbits foot, only clover. My dear child bride of 45 years has begged me incessantly to attend the Iowa State Fair for these many years and this year I'm relenting. I think she’s as fascinated with the thought of seeing the bullet holes in John Dillinger's car (as was I) and the always present lure of the corn dogs, butter cow, and Angus judging…

Paul Farr, PC’61-’62
paulfarr75@comcast.net

(Editor’s note: This note was written to Ron Lang with hopes of locating Phil Quinn. If you know his whereabouts email Ron at: langslagoon@aol.com.)

Thanks, I enjoyed reading your e-newsletter, hope that you’re all doing well and hitting them long and straight…

William Jordan, PC’mid-60’s - billjordan2@att.net

As always, I appreciate the passing along of the Parsons E-Newsletter. We came down to Venice, FL in late March and will stay until May. My wife and I enjoyed a very nice evening with fellow Parsons alums and Phi Sig Bros, Neil Slezak and John LeRoux up in Sarasota. We had dinner with the Slezak’s and I bumped into LeRoux while attending a Rotary make-up meeting. They are both looking, and doing, well…

Bob Pillsbury, PC/PSE’65 – pills@yahoo.com
Everyone working on the E-News has done a great job. Even though I don’t know many of those who send in articles personally, still enjoy the reading. And I’m still disappointed that the classmaters from the early 1950’s do not contribute to the E-News. I guess maybe we’re getting older and their memories are fading away. Keep up the good work…

Lloyd Jerome, PC/ZETA’51 – mrclean34@hotmail.com

Thanks for the E-Newsletter. It’s always entertaining and we’re all grateful for your hard work. Thought I had a 1966 yearbook but it’s a ’65. Cheers!

Jack Weiss, PC/PSE’66 – jwrrs@aol.com

Just wanted to say thank you all for making the Parsons golf shirt available for purchase. My husband (Paul Read) absolutely loved it and wore it all day on Father’s Day. Our memories of Parsons are wonderful and all three of our children were born in Fairfield. We hope to visit again in the future and spend more time.

Myrna Read, (wife of Paul Read)
pread24@centurylink.net

Thanks for sending the Parsons newsletter. Great job! I don’t do pay-pal (I’m still blonde) but will mail in E-News dues for newsletter, plus I want to make a donation to the Parsons (whatever’s needed most) fund…

Marilyn Wepasala Marken, PC/AXD’66
marken@olympus.net

(Editor’s note: Thank you for your generosity and for stepping up – most appreciated!!! Donations should be made out to the Parsons College Foundation Fund and mailed to: Dave Neff, Parsons College Foundation Fund, P.O. Box 1010, Fairfield, IA 52556)

The Spring E-News was certainly full of news and information. I enjoyed reading it very much and I am very impressed with the large numbers of letters you are receiving as well as updates and additional information coming in from alums. It is really getting to be a lively newsletter. A thought occurred to me and I would like to share it. There are a number of groups (of Parsons people) who get together in different parts of the country (ie: Arizona, California, Florida, Iowa, etc), so how about encouraging those groups to report who was there, where they now live and, most important, send photos and identification of those attending? People enjoy seeing pictures of friends and classmates. Anyway, that’s something to think about. I do believe the Parsons E-News is really on its way…

Bob Tree, PC/faculty – rtree@lisco.com

(Editor’s note: Your idea is fabulous. The E-News is only as good as the news, stories, names and events that are submitted to us for publication. We are 100% behind your idea and try to encourage it each issue. Seems like the same few organizations and clubs are the contributors. We’ve made some headway this issue as you can see by the Panora and Honey Creek Resort submissions and we hope the alums read your message and buy into it…)

I can’t believe the number of hours spent in putting together a newsletter that brings life back to our matriculation days at Parsons College. So many names and places that were just lying dormant in my mind spring to life when reading about those yesteryears. The further down life’s road I travel, these college memories become more important. I find my time spent at Parsons occupying more of my daily thoughts. Thanks for the trip!!!

Jim Ostrander, PC/PSE’64 – james.ostrander@comcast.net

The white haired gentleman riding the bicycle in the mystery quiz was Dr. James Robertson, a college professor… (correct – college professor who taught religion, philosophy and did Sunday services)

Robin Wilkins, PC/PSE’62 - robinwilkins@msn.com

You need to do a story on Harold Burshtan. He was Parsons dean of student activities in mid ’60’s and has tremendous recollection of stories from our college. I believe his first job after joining Parsons was to build the football field and have it ready for the first game. He also tells great stories about how Millard Roberts frantically waded halfway across the pond (Lake Louise) to stop a panzy raid one time…

Lee Blasucci, PC/PSE’66 – leeblasucci@yahoo.com

( Editor’s note: Lee, you gather up the facts and stories and we’ll do our best to edit and publish them)

My dad attended Parsons back around 1962. He was completely dumbfounded when he opened his Father’s Day gift and found a Parsons shirt and beer mug. He just couldn’t imagine how I got them since the school’s been closed since 1973…

Allison Flanagan, (daughter of “Skip” Falasca, PC’63-’66) – aflanagan@ajh.org

I pulled my yearbooks out and to my surprise I do not have the 1966 BIGbook as I told you. I do have ’64-’65 if needed. Visited with classmate Jim Grabowy and wife for a few days. Jim lives in Illinois and I haven’t seen him in 47 years but we’ve stayed in touch all this time. Great visit!

Tom Gillingham, PC/PSE’67 – tomsgillingham@aol.com

I would like to buy 6 XXL Parsons T-shirts (There Will Always Be A Parsons) – order to follow. Sorry to hear Mr. Gobble is not doing well. Spoke with him occasionally on phone and enjoyed that he remembered that Hickey Freeman was a suit company that made fine apparel. He is really a wonderful man! Keep intending to come back for Wall of Honor ceremony but work load has increased over last few years and doing more and more political messaging at election time. This year involved with two Congressional races, two New York State Senate races two Supreme Court, and on-and-on, so my schedule is not in sync. My time at Parsons was an amazing moment in time. Since I spent most of my career in broadcasting business, working on the college radio station was a blessing. I am appreciative of all you do to keep us all communicating…

Arnie Rothschild, PC’n/a - Ahreormal@aol.com
In Memoriam...

John “Jack” Taylor, PC/TKE’51 of Fairfield, IA… Parsons lost a true friend and a pillar of an alumni with the passing of Jack Taylor, 84, on June 24, 2012 at the Parkview Care Center in Fairfield. Originally born and raised in the east, Jack attended Villanova University and served in the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps before finding his way to Fairfield. He transferred to Parsons, became a charter member of Tau Kappa Epsilon and graduated in 1951 with a B.S. degree in business. The year 1951 proved to be quite a year, as he was drafted into the U.S. Army where he served in the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC), and he later married Marcena “Marty” Crowl at St. Mary’s Church in Fairfield. Upon his return from service, Jack and family made several stops prior to making the decision to move back to Fairfield in 1960. At that time, they leased the Fairfield Country Club and managed it until 1969. Along the way, they befriended and employed many Parsons students at the club. Next, they took over the “Broadway Grill” (later relocated and renamed “Taylor’s Off-Broadway Grill”) from Marty’s parents and successfully ran the restaurant until 1999 when they retired.

Both Jack and Marty were extremely popular amongst their Parsons friends. They remained loyal and dedicated to the college and the cultural diversity of Fairfield over the years, most recently donating a bench, which was one of their prize possessions, to the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center. The bench was constructed and made with stones salvaged from the demolition of the Parsons Carnegie Library. Jack was a loving husband, father, grandfather and father of the community. He will be remembered for his friendly, welcoming demeanor, his kindness, and his sense of humor. Jack is survived by wife Marty of 61 years, four children, six grandchildren, and a countless list of relatives and friends. A Mass of Resurrection was held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church...

Lorraine E. Goodman Riffle, PC/friend, of Johnston, IA passed away peacefully at the Mercy Hospice in Johnston. Lorraine was co-owner, along with her husband Gene, of the popular Town & Country Bar, which was originally located next to the Leggett Hotel on Burlington in Fairfield. Lorraine will be remembered especially by her many Parsons friends and customers as the soft-spoken, warm-hearted proprietor who genuinely cared for her people. She was a lady with whom you could confidentially share your problems or celebrate your successes. And many a student earned a portion of their tuition from working at the T&C. She was a favorite among the college students and will be missed by all who knew her and loved her. Her warm personality and the genuine interest and care she had for her friends and customers made her a favorite among the college students. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Lorraine, 88, was born in Waterloo but spent a number of years in Albia and Fairfield. She is survived by a daughter and a number of grand/great grandchildren...

Robert Bossar, PC’63-’65, of Kent, OH, died June 2, 2012 at Akron City Hospital. Bob, 66, was originally from McKeesport, PA and attended Parsons from 1963-1965. He was a member of the Theta Sigma Chi fraternity. Bob later graduated from Kent State with a degree in Industrial Psychology in 1970 after serving in the Ohio National Guard. Bob worked at several colleges and universities in human resources during his career, and taught evening courses in personnel practices. He later worked for ODOT as Deputy Director and sold real estate. Bob did not know a stranger and could always find someone to talk with wherever he went. His outgoing ways made people feel at ease and he could always make you smile or laugh with his many jokes and stories. Bob is survived by his loving wife, Marily (Hayko) of 41 years, a special adopted daughter, Brooke Gustavel, plus a host of other relatives. Funeral arrangements were handled by Bissler and Sons funeral Home in Kent, OH...

(continued on page 16)
Larry L. Kinnamon, PC’56, of Sun Lakes, AZ, passed away on April 8, 2011 after a long struggle with cancer. Larry was born in Bloomfield, IA, attended the local high school, and went onto Parsons where he graduated in 1956. He was a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and, while at Parsons, met and married Roberta McIntire, PC’57. Larry’s career was focused on the shoe business. He was managing partner of Brown’s Shoefit Company in Clinton, IA and later bought into the company’s Farmington, NM store. After retiring from Brown’s, he was lured back into the business at Huggins Shoe company in Newport Beach, CA as manager/partner of their Pasadena, CA store. That led to the purchase of the Biltmore Fashion Park store in Phoenix, AZ, where they formed their own corporation and named it Kinnamon Shoes. In 1995, after nine years, Larry called it quits, retired, and moved to Sun Lakes. Throughout his working career, he made it a priority to become actively involved in numerous civic and community activities, such as: Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, United Way, boat clubs, country clubs and the Presbyterian church. Larry was an avid bird hunter and fisherman and loved his two family Labrador retrievers. He is survived by his wife, a brother, sister and granddaughter…

Candace Kuhl Ball, PC/mid’60’s of Lake Murray, SC…A memorial service was to have been scheduled at a later date for Candace, who passed away January 15, 2012 in Lake Murray, SC. She was a senior executive with National Distributors, Inc., Columbia, SC, and was instrumental in establishing guidelines for all freight rates within the state of South Carolina. Candace attended Parsons in the mid-1960’s and was predeceased by her husband, Chris Ball. She spent her final years happily enjoying her retirement in Lake Murray, watching and feeding the birds and enjoying her pontoon boat. Candace will be missed by many associates and friends, especially her beloved friends, the Tomlinson’s, who supported her in life. The Dunbar Funeral Home handled funeral arrangements…

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Mystery Quiz… The Question!!!

Can you name this Fairfield landmark? Good Luck and Sweet Dreams.

This eloquent establishment (left) located in Fairfield provided rest, comfort and pleasure to many a Parsons student and their families. It was the scene of fraternity and sorority formals and many other “firsts” which we dare dream of today. Can you apply a name to this building and successfully answer the MYSTERY QUIZ? As usual, the answer will appear in the next issue of your E-News…

Special Happy 90th Birthday to Wall of Honor Member Dean Gabbert, PC’41 of Nauvoo, IL
LEE GOBBLE’S LIMITED INVENTORY OF PARSONS COLLEGE MEMORABILIA OFFERED TO ALUMNI...

HURRY! INITIAL RESPONSE HAS BEEN FANTASTIC!! If you've ever thought about or contemplated owning a piece of Parsons College memorabilia, there's no time like the present. While this supply lasts, you can own a Parsons T-shirt, sweatshirt, golf shirt and/or a Parsons beer mug. Our beloved friend, Mr. Lee Gobble, PC'38, who is moving in on his 98th year of age, has generously passed on the remaining inventory of his Parsons T-shirts, sweatshirts, golf shirts and beer mugs to the Parsons College Foundation with instructions to liquidate the at a fair and reasonable price. So, on a first come, first serve basis, here are the remaining ON HAND styles and sizes of these Parsons treasures and the listed prices:

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price *</th>
<th>Size/Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sweatshirt - green with white Parsons logo</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>S 4 M 2 L 2 XL 1 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweatshirt - white with green rose Parsons logo</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt - green with white Parsons logo “There Will Always Be A Parsons College”</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>2 7 8 1 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>T-Shirt - green with white Parsons logo</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>2 13 8 13 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-Shirt - blue with white list of schools – Harvard...Parsons, U.S. Army, etc.</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>1 2 1 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Shirt - green with white PC embroidered logo on left breast</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golf Shirt - white with green PC embroidered logo on left breast</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>1 1 2 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utopia T-Shirt “Maharishi Flyers with Domes – A Taste of Utopia”</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 - Mugs with Parsons College logo</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* ADD Shipping/Handling Charges: Orders of 1 to 3 Items $5.00; Orders of 4 to 6 Items $10.00

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS: Contact Dave Neff by phone (641-919-4640) or email (neffacres@lisco.com) with your order, including the ITEM, SIZE, and QUANTITY. Dave will verify and confirm back to you the availability of your requested item(s) and the total amount of purchase. At that point, make check payable to: Parsons College Foundation Fund for the designated amount, which will include, shipping and handling, and mail the check to the following address:

Dave Neff  
Parsons College Foundation Fund  
P.O. Box 1010  
Fairfield, IA 52556  

Upon receipt of your check, Dave will mail your order via United States Postal Service. We're excited to extend this great offer and we hope you take advantage of the opportunity to grab a piece of Parsons College memorabilia...