

Within reason the Newsletter follows this word content per single entry (Times New Roman, 10 font sizes)

New entry: Resumes/history since FSU = Twenty-two (22) words per line, Twenty two (22) lines

Second, third etc. entry..... = Twenty-two (22) words per line, Eleven (11)

“Once teammates, always teammates” by Charlie Christian.

2007 REUNION - May 25-26-27-28 2007.

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Benny & Carolyn Wallace | 51-55 | The prodigal son returns

“Jack: We just returned from ten days driving around Colorado watching the leaves turn. Son Steve lives there and we sprung the DVD you sent on him {re: 22nd Newsletter...jmm} and got to watch his reaction! What a hoot. We gave him the disc and will have another made for Deborah as we watch her reaction; Steve is sworn to secrecy. Glad that you put it in the Newsletter. All should know of your generosity and thoughtfulness in this matter, and the Dennards too, of course.

For years I have stood up for you as a good person but have been consistently shouted down by a verbal majority who can't see past your ugly face. What do they know?

To paraphrase George M. Cohan; My wife thanks you, my children thank you and I thank you. And Happy Anniversary on your first year of giving us the Newsletter. I would wish you a Happy Wedding Anniversary if you had ever stayed married long enough to have one! Just joking, of course; I'm in your debt. Best wishes always and many thanks, Benny and Carolyn”

Don & Connie Holder | 51-57 | Newsletter Anniversary

“Jack, Congratulations on your newsletters anniversary. Once again, we all thank you for the monumental effort you, along with Mike, have displayed in being a catalyst for building our group into one cohesive team. Seems as if everything is starting to gel in regards to re-establishing our status back into the FSU athletic history.Don & Connie”

Chick & Jennie Cicio | 54-59 | Don't stand next to Chick in a lightning storm

“Jack....Been some month. Had an accident with the car, in the shop for almost two weeks coming home from rehearsal about 9:30 pm. hit an island on a street that was being constructed to more lanes. Shook up but Ok. {You all know how those traffic islands have the habit of jumping out in front of you when you least expect it..... Folks don't stand, or drive with or near, this guy, Chick. He is like that guy in the cartoons with the dark cloud over his head.....first it was hurricane shutters putting him in the hospital and then the car attacking islands Geez, jmm }

NEXT....computer crashed....lost everything I had on it. {Oh, No!.....see I told you.....jmm} Had great help from tech support. Was up with the tech from approx. 9:30 pm to 4:00am (all night) The tech guy was great, and so much patience with me. The only problem...they seem to be all Indian and it's hard to understand them to follow what they say to do. NEXT....I'm now in the process of trying to redo everything I had saved. "I NOW WILL SAVE OR BACKUP EVERYTHING I DO". I should be up and running in about a week..

NEXT....Now I have to try to get all my e-mail addresses typed in. As I receive e-mail I will create a new address page. NOW Jack, If I didn't believe in the great Lord we have, (Me and Car were air born) I sure do now. Returned tonight from "Music Man" rehearsal.....Resigned after almost 12 years. My kids are on my neck as I never see them because of the shows, also missing the reunions which I was hoping to attend; however? Hope to be ALMOST back to normal in a week or two. Thanks a bunch and keep up the great work you seem to love doing. Take care, ciao & God Bless. Chick” {And would you believe he ends this epistle with, “Take care”.....rrrriggghhhttt.....jmm}

Frank & Francis Dennard | 64-66 TTT(50's) | Email from Frank to Raphael

“Raphael: I recently spoke to Mrs. Aleese Dussia, an 80 year old widow of a former Tallahassee medical doctor, whose sons Dickie and Bobby were in Tumbling Tots in the 1950s at Montgomery Gym. She knew you fairly well it seems and related various things about her relationship with you. She is going to get her son (also a doctor and an old friend of mine) to show her the new website Mike Mann created. She asked where you lived and I told her and gave her your cell phone #. Just wanted you to know.

Also, talked to an old classmate who had taken tumbling with me at FSU in the 50s (now a lawyer in Jacksonville, Fl.) about those olden days and his memories of back then. He confessed not being able to remember much other than we tumbled on Landis Green and his teacher was named Raphael. I said Raphael Lecuona, and he agreed that's who it was. You made a good impression on lots of people.

I made contact with a lady with the US Olympic Committee who said old movies of Olympic gymnastics performances (even those on the Cuban Olympics teams) were available to those who participated, but not to others. If you are interested you can write (or email) her at the address below and give her the pertinent information. Please let me know if you are able to get the tapes. Maybe Mike could put them on the website. Olympic contact; Tamera Reub, USOC Archive Licensing Coordinator, Ph# 719-866-4125, Fax#719-632-0250, Email: Tamera.Reub@usoc.org Good luck, Frank Dennard” {Dr. Dussia was my daughter's Doctor...jmm}

Jack Miles | 50-58 | I'll never forget

I'll never forget..... Darn it. What was it I was going to say?.....No problem, because we as a group have “Selective Collective Memory” And that is what is so much fun. To hear about something in your past, you didn't remember, or didn't even know, is one of the reason's I enjoy the Newsletter and Web-site so much myself.....jmm}

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | 57-67 | **RKO Gym College request**

“No, I am not talking about for some politician; we are trying to get an old movie short film released on DVD. The film is a 1955 RKO Sportscope called "Gym College" and feature US champion gymnast from FSU demonstrating their skills on various apparatus. It is owned and occasionally shows as filler by Turner Classic Movies. We have inquired and they will not sell us a copy citing "Copyright" problems which we think is bunk. No one is trying to make a buck off of this thing, these guys are now in their mid-seventies and would just like to get a copy to pass on to their children and grand children and great grand children.

Dr. Hartley Price has passed away, and we have lost contact with Dick Ireland, everyone else that was in the film is alive and well and attends our reunions from time to time. The complete short is 9 minutes long, we have about half of it available on our web site** and would like to have the complete film. This is what we need your vote for, to try and get the film released on DVD. Turner Classic Movies has a place where you can place a vote to have an old film released on DVD. If you go to (<http://tcmdb.com/title/title.jsp?stid=400558>) and look down the right side, about half way down the page, you can put in a vote to have Gym College released on DVD. If you have both a work and home e-mail address please vote twice or even three times if possible. The gymnast that were in the film are: rest of cast listed alphabetically: Jamile Ashmore...Himself (uncredited) Dick Gutting*...Himself (uncredited) ,Donald Holder*...Himself (uncredited), Dick Ireland...Himself (uncredited) - lost contact, Rafael Lecuona* ... Himself (uncredited)...John (Jack) Miles*...Himself (uncredited),Hartley Price ..Himself (uncredited) –deceased, JoeTaylor* ...Himself (uncredited)** these gymnast, in their seventies are in the group photo mentioned below.

You can see five of the seven gymnast in a group shot from our last reunion, Memorial Day weekend, 2006 (<http://fsugymnastics.org/2006%20Reunion.htm>) scroll down to the bottom of the page to the group shot. Everyone is there except Dick Gutting who did not attend this year and Dick Ireland whom we have lost contact with.

** If you are interested in seeing the portion of the film that we have then go to (<http://fsugymnastics.org/>) then click on the "Photo & Video Gallery" link, then scroll down to the bottom of the page where the video links are and click on "[Gym College - 1955 RKO Sportscope - Movie Short Subject](#)" to see the film that we have. {Folks, If you saw the movie short, then you'll get a Benny Wallace "Hoot" when they announce Jamile – as "Yahmillie" – good name for my next son "Yahmillie Miles" has a nice ring to it.....
. Or I'll just adopt Jamile.....jmm}

Do not attempt this if you do not have a high speed (DSL or cable modem) connection. We have tested it and know that it takes over seven hours to download on a 56kbi dial-up connection., Mike”

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | 57-67 | **RKO Gym College**

“If you go to (<http://tcmdb.com/title/title.jsp?stid=400558>) and look down the right side, about half way down the page, you can put in a vote to have Gym College released on DVD. I am also planning on sending another e-mail to all my non-gymnastic type friends and family and ask them to go place a vote too. So just do it right now before you forget about it. Jack you send it to everyone else on your mailing list. Mike” {Done.....jmm}

Jim & Arlene Fadigan | 52-56/58-62 | **Re: RKO Gym College email to Mike Mann**

“Mike: Although many of the recipients of your talents and efforts may not fully realize the level of competency and technical abilities that underlie just what you have done for us, they all are enjoying and benefiting from the work of Mike Mann. Although you share in the enjoyment add to that enjoyment the knowledge that you are the bridge that has allow us to re-united and continue to share the talents of so many others that time was eroding. Just another deserved thank you! Jim & Arlene” {What to hell did he just say?.....jmm}

Jim & Marlene Jackson | 55-58 | **Email to Mike Mann from Jim & Marlene who were featured on Web-site**

“Mike, Thank you so much for helping us locate gymnastics, tumbling tots, F.S.U. etc. Jim hasn't seen the page. I will find it for him tomorrow so he can sit here and read it all. He is busy watching David Letterman. We were married in the film. We were married in 1955 and I am not sure of the year maybe 1957. Interesting we got an email from Don Holder and he said he had seen the film. He enjoyed it. He emails regularly to us usually internet forwards that are interesting, cute etc. and I answer him in emails. I also see the advertisements to take free courses on computer and say Marlene take one but life seems to keep me so busy that that is on my low priority list of how to spend my time so I am sure I go along missing out on all kinds of things I could do with the computer. Marlene” {Would you believe the mother of one of the tennis players at my son's courts showed me a picture of her daughter being spotted by Jim Jackson?..jmm}

Ed & Christine Jonas | 69-71 | **Email to Mike Mann, Web master**

“Mike, Just a note to say I really enjoy visiting the site as a past team member and Tumbling Tots' coach, [I was Ron Galimore's first teacher!] Those days spent in Tully and on the road with the FSU team were certainly "golden." Thank you so much for doing this for all of Doc's kids. It seems as though that some sort of marker or permanent remembrance of those days and the programs accomplishment should be on campus! Let's think about this! It's been too long since I was chalked-up. Ed Jonas, team of '69-' 71. {How about a statue of a gymnast {Ed himself}spotting a kid {Ron}

Jim & Arlene Fadigan | 52-56/58-62 | **Re: Laird & Florence Anderson "Found" in 22nd Newsletter**

“Jack: You and Barbara have reunited a bundle of talents and memories that we all cherish. Isn't it nice to see the outpouring of tucked away feelings that had no where to go. Thanks for being one of the catalysts to re-ignite so much stuff that so many had tucked away. Nice thing you helped happen. Thanks” “This is really and important item - we somehow are starting to re-ignite the special spirit that fueled that era. It was truly special and important. Jim F”

{I warned you guys and gals to watch out for that Irishman, Fadigan, and his way with words. What he means he does not say. What he says he does not mean – That's the definition of “Barney”. Actually, as a kindred Irishman, I love to read his words as they dance trippingly across the page.....jmm}

Sam & Topsy Bailie | **54+ (Iowa)** | **Thank God for Sam Bailie the "Pack rat"** "Jack: I've really enjoyed the Newsletter. The "50's songs" was great. {Forwarded from Don Holder...jmm}. I have been unpacking for the 100th time and found the programs for the third annual GYMKANA, one of the highlights from my FSU visit – and I still remember the deep free dive by Scotty Stanton at the springs – he was a sad loss for us all - Thanks for keeping Topsy and I a part of the FSU family. Our best, Sam & Topsy"

Jack Miles | **50-58** | **Lost & Found 1950 Gymkana program** | **Plus Sam Bailie to receive Hall of Fame honors** {I sent this email to Mike Mann et al...jmm} "Mike: Happy Honors, Sam Bailie is to be inducted in the next **USA Hall-of-Fame** in December. Sam joins our Hall of Famer's: Jamile Ashmore, Don Holder, Bill Roetzhim, and yours truly. {Sam, has been in every facet of gymnastics: World class athlete, Coach, Judge, and a great guy with great taste in women. i.e.: his wife Topsy was also a nationally ranking gymnast – he is also famous for introducing to the sport "The Bailie" on the pommeled horse.

{Sam found a lost treasure for us all. It was a **1950 Gymkana program**. It is now a part of the Web-Site and a great source of memorabilia for us. Many thanks to Sam. The Gymkana program notes that the show in 1948 was called "The Clown Prince of Trampoline" I forgot the guys name that did the one man show - although I'm pretty sure it was Larry Griswald (Not a FSU student) - I'll check with the Gutting's. In 1949 no show was listed, In 1950 it was Gymstravagana. Also it notes that Barbara Strode (In FSU Gymkana Troupe) was runner up in the Chicago Central AAU's in tumbling. Besides Bev Beaton competing in Canada and our girls team win, I wonder how many, if any, girl gymnasts competed out of state prior to coming to FSU, Smiling Jack}

Larry Bestmann | **55-58** | **Re: To the last sentence of above entry** "Hell, I was a member of Harold J. Frey's team at the U. of Illinois Undergraduate Division, Chicago. In an off-year, I was team captain & one of Frey's best mediocre gymnasts. Larry B." {Larry, I wrote that, I wonder how many, if any, girl gymnasts competed out of state prior to coming to FSU...Oh! I see...Oops.jmm}

Beverly Cude & Bill Beaton | **55-59** | "Happy Sunday afternoon, Jack: You have really piqued my curiosity with your last message about one Sam Baillie. I do not know the gentleman, and have been trying to figure out how he knows about me, of all people. I figured the best way to find out was to ask you, of course.

Was he ever a judge? In that case, it makes sense. If so, perhaps he was at the Canadian Dominion Championships...I know that Newt Loken (of Michigan State, I believe) was a judge there... in fact, I'm pretty sure it was he (Loken) who told my coach about Hartley Price regarding me and FSU.....I can't be sure of all the details, because I knew nothing about any of it at the time....my coach, Em Orlick, had to approach my parents first, before doing anything.

The only other thing I can think of, is this: I wonder if Sam Baillie is related to one Dave Baillie....a Canadian weightlifter who placed third in an earlier Olympics (don't know what year or where).Dave lived in Noranda for a while and worked at the Recreation Centre where "my" gym was, so naturally, he knew me. I have a funny story about him: at that time, our trampoline had a canvas mat. We gymnasts, silly teenagers, loved to egg him on to jump on the trampoline....he was a huge (man, pushing 300 pounds I'm sure. We'd lie on our tummies on the floor and watch him nearly drive the mat onto the floor. Once, inevitably, and it's the last time he "performed", he split the canvas wide open! I'm sure he hadn't been helping the springs much either! Your Canadian friend, Bev

Hey! I watched the video taken on Landis Green featuring you fellows. What I get is pretty fuzzy, but you are all recognizable...fun to see! You probably didn't know, but I used to like the flying rings a whole lot....never got to a very high level (certainly no fancy dismounts), but it always gave me a great feeling....I actually learned to do a back dislocate and was working on the front one. Almost had it before I went to FSU, but I admit to finding it a bit scary. And that was the end of that. Too bad the event was eliminated. It was very graceful, I thought. Do you know why it got dropped? TTUL, sir. Bon soir! {It was dropped at that time, as was rope climb, trampoline and tumbling, "in an effort to encourage gymnast to work on Olympic events", hopefully to improve the Olympic Teams performances. Every other year it alternated – still one year – swinging the next. The logic evades me. However, a personal point, Swinging Rings takes a lot of time to judge and it definitely speeded up the meets to eliminate the event. As a ring man I can say, it was the closest thing to flying I ever experienced and I still dream at night of flying on the rings...jmm}

Claire Essig (Mrs. Dick) Traynor | **59-62** | **Email address change** "Hi everyone: I finally became a 20th century computer geek and got DSL. My AOL will be closing soon so please update your address book and take note of my new e-mail address. clairefsu@earthlink.net Claire"

Stu Goldberg | **58-62** | **From Stu and Gail Jacoby to you** A good friend of Stu Goldberg and Gail Jacoby stopped in South Florida and called to convey greetings and salutations from Stu and Gail with so many nice things to say about our California based friends

Charlie Christian | **55-57** | **On the road to recovery** "Hi close friends, Today, Tuesday, {10/03} the bladder tumor was removed using laser surgery, sedation and a saddle block. The bladder was flushed with an amount of chemo medication. I was home this afternoon with pain pills, antibiotics and a catheter which will be removed on Thursday. From all indications the tumor was superficial and NOT invasive! We will know for sure when we receive the biopsy report in 4-5 days. I MUST rest for three days, if I can force myself to sit still. No strenuous activity of any kind for three weeks!!! Can you imagine me doing that??? More later when I find out the treatment necessary for the prostate CA. My PMA is STILL high!!! Me worry!?! My bp today was only 118/67. COOL, huh?" {I asked Charlie if I could put his good news in the Newsletter. This was his reply....jmm} "Jack, I had not considered it, but if you feel it may be helpful to someone to consider having regular health examinations, be my guest. My best, Charlie"

Bob Perrone | **FSU Historian** | **Re. Website**

“Mike, Thanks very much for the information. I guess a group of you paid your own way to the 1961 and 1963 NCAA Championships. FSU athletes scored a total of 11 points in 1961 - Jack Ryder took 1st place in Tumbling, and 3 points in 1963.

Did you know a similar thing happened to the volleyball team? They lost varsity status after the 1957 season and decided to pay their own way to the US Volleyball Association Collegiate Championships in 1958 and they won the tournament. This was the official organization that crowned collegiate volleyball champions, the NCAA did not do this until 1970. {Yes, we did Bob. Most of those guys were our very close friends....jmm}

I would just like to tell all of you, from the little research I've done, your gymnastics teams were fantastic. I'm glad you have a web site up to promote your accomplishments. I've recorded all of the rosters and meet results from the records I have and have posted them here http://www.geocities.com/nolefan_fsu/summary/

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | **57-67** | **Response to above**

“Bob -It was 1960, I believe, I was rooming with Bill Beavers (ccing with this so he can correct if I am wrong) in the fall of 1961 and spring of 1962 when he graduated. It was an extremely difficult year financially for us since he did not have his scholarship any longer. I believe he was coaching the Tots some for extra income. I finally dropped out in the spring to take an extra job. I recall spending my last few bucks on three bottles of good German beer to celebrate his graduation; one for Bill, one for his girl friend Sherry Harris, and one for me. They went to the evening graduation ceremony and I took a short nap before going to my night clerking job at the Holiday Inn on Appalachee Parkway.

Bill also did some assisting with Dr. Price in the sixties while working on his MS and may be able to fill in on some later activities and records. Jack Miles may also have some information because he just liked to stay informed on the Tallahassee situation. He always seems to have knowledge of things when I know he wasn't around Tallahassee. Mike”

Bill & Carole Beavers | **57-58/60-61**

“Mike, et al - Rechecked the yearbooks & other sources and I believe we had a varsity team in 1960 and completed the season. The team was dropped sometime between the Fall of 1960 or the Spring of 1961, the year I graduated. We may have even completed the 1961 season (Winter) as a varsity team. The yearbook of 1961 shows an empty gym and the headline "Disputed Status For Varsity Gym Team. "The NCAA allowed non-varsity individuals and perhaps even teams to compete in the Championships during the 60's, In fact Jack Ryder won tumbling in 1961 and I competed as well in the NCAA 's with Jack at the U of Ill. Later when I was coaching the club, Don Hervig was the last NCAA qualifier by winning the Vault in the SIGL's, but the school would not fund him to the championships at the Univ. of Oregon. I believe this info is accurate, & hope it clarifies the issue. Bill”

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | **57-67** | **Response to correction by Bill Beavers to above**

“Thanks for the correction; I realized mine was wrong almost as soon as I sent it. I graduated in 1963 and I was living in my little trailer in the Kelly Trailer park next door to Andy Wasilewski. He, his girl friend Pam and I all got our degrees on the same day, Andy and MS, and Pam and I with our BS. We, of course, had lived that brief period a Goodwood before that.” “I believe I am expecting some materials from Jack, Beverly and maybe some others for the web site but things have been slowing down a bit as we are preparing to leave town for a few days. We have been getting the van ready for the trip. We will leave here around noon on October 4th, and will stop in with Bill & Carol in Atlanta that evening to look over, and maybe cart away old Tally Ho's if anything in them is good for the web site. We'll depart there early on the fifth the make it to Jonesborough, Tenn. before five to pick up our tickets for the National Storytelling Festival”. See (<http://www.storytellingcenter.com/festival/register-fest.htm>) professional storytellers from all over the USA and some foreign countries gather for two and a half days of storytelling. There are about six to eight big circus tents spread around this small town and storytelling going on in all of them all day long. They are on the same schedule, telling stories for an hour and then breaking for a half hour. In that half-hour you can walk from a tent on one side if town to the other in case you want to catch some one there. The stories are usually funny, often inspirational and sometimes both at the same time. Friday's are sampler days with two tellers sharing the stage in a tent for an hour so that you can try several if you don't know them. Saturday each of the tellers will have a stage for an hour to themselves. Friday nights, about dusk, they start telling ghost stories in a cemetery. The also have "OLIO" in several tents on Friday's which is another chance to hear several tellers in a short span of time.

The stories during the day and at the OLIO's are strictly "G" rated, they have a "Midnight Cabaret" at 10:30 on Friday and Saturday nights where the stories are not "G" rated. There are also several places for amateurs to try out their skills and to hear them. Fran and David have been going since 1980 when it first started. My crew and I have been going since 1996 or so and it has almost gotten to be a joint family reunion every year. Several of the local churches serve "Bean dinner" and similar lunches and dinners in their recreation halls, bowl of Pinto beans, cornbread, slaw or salad and a piece of homemade cake or pie and a beverage for about \$5.

One of our favorite tellers, Donald Davis, when he does a tape/CD the title piece is usually just funny and the second is funny but also inspirational in some way. Last year on one of Fran's Atlanta trips she found out that Donald Davis was making a presentation in David's class that she had not known about and she got to see him there. This was in something like April or May and he said he had just come from Jonesborough. He said the "tellers" always gather there in the spring to tell each other stories. He said they are all working in October and can not get around to hear each other so they gather in the spring to tell each other stories. He had also just published a textbook designed to teach young kids to write and David is using it in his class this year and says that it is great. (<http://www.storytellingcenter.com/festival/2006FestivalSchedule.pdf>).

{Hi. Check out the web site; http://www.studio10.tv/day/tuesday/segment.aspx/39202/Perenich_Carroll) then click on "Learn more about tobacco litigation" link to see a TV clip. The young lady helping to explain things is Mike's youngest daughter, Kate.....jmm}

“Jack -I don't really consider that Newsletter material but go ahead if you want. I am extremely proud of both my girls. The oldest was recently kicked out of a Ph D program in Neuroscience at the University of Illinois because her major professor considered her too ill to perform the duties of a Ph D. I have been on a Nebulizer for a little over a year; she had been on one since she was six. If I had to have put up with the breathing problems I have had in the last couple of years since that age there is no way I could have accomplished what she has. Kate got her Law degree after getting divorced and while supporting two daughters. The gals both have a hell of a lot of courage and intelligence. Mike” {Kudos' to Mike and his girls....jmm}