

Visit your Web-Sites <fsugymnastics.org><tallahassee-tumbling-tots.org> **Mike Mann, Webmaster**
(Which also includes all back copies of the FSU Gymnastics Newsletters)

FSU Gymnastics Records (http://www.geocities.com/nolefan_fsu/summary/) **Robert Perrone, Webmaster**

ANNIVERSARIES

Chick & Jennie Cicio	58 years, 59 in April, 09	Claire <i>Essig</i> (& Dick) Traynor	43 years of marriage
Don & Connie Holder	58 years, 59 in August, 08	Yoshi & Haruyo Hatano	44 years, 44 in Oct. 08
Benny & Carolyn Wallace	55 years, 56 in May, 09	Nancy <i>Lamb</i> & Bob Durocher	43 years, 44 in Dec. 08
Carmine & Daneen Regna	54 years, 54 in August 09	Dick & Susie Gutting	40 years, 41 in June, 08
Jim & Marlene Jackson	53 years, 54 in July, 09	Bill & Carol Beavers	41 years, 42 in July, 09
Don & Patsy Rapp	53 years, 54 in May 07	Terri & Cheri Morris	38 years, 39 in 08
Sam & Topsy Bailie	52 years, 53 in June 09	Wayne & Heather Thompson	38 years, 39 in January 09
Jon & Boots Culbertson	51 years, 52 in June 09	Derek & Nancy Lawler	36 years
Jay (& Ellie) Schwarzman	50 years of marriage	Gail & Bill Whitney	37 years, 38 in August 09
Roger & Tamara <i>Tucker</i> Webb	50 years, 51 in November 08	Harmer & Magdalena Weichel	36 years, 37 in December
(Jack &) Almira Sharp	47 years of marriage, October	Andy <i>Anderson</i> & Curtiss Long	32 years
(Lennart &) Karsthin Malmlin	47 years of marriage	Jimmy & Janie Hanks	29 years, 30 in November 08
Beverley & Bill Beaton	47 years, 48 in Sept. 08		

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | **51-55** | **Re: Gene Rabbitt**

“All: I must have missed something. I saw an address for Gene (after all of these years) and decided to write to him. As you may remember, we

were roommates there on Pensacola St. and Gusic had the other bedroom. I saw nothing about his death in the Newsletter so assumed he was alive. I send this in case you want to put it in the Newsletter. It may have info not previously known by his friends. I, for one, never saw him again after graduation.....BCW”...{For all that did not know Gene. He was a National Side Horse Champion and attended FSU as a graduate student.....jmm}

Response to Benny from Louise Crandell-Rabbitt Hi Benny, I'm responding to the letter that you wrote to Gene. It's with great sadness that I tell you that Gene passed away in August of 2002 after undergoing a procedure at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York.

To give you a little history of what happened in Gene's life after FSU; he joined Continental Can Corporation where he held several positions in Arbitration and eventually headed up Continental's Fiber Drum Division in Stamford Connecticut. During his tenure with Continental, he lived in Syracuse twice, Pittsburg and Manhattan. He of course was married to Sybil and had five children and 9 grandchildren. Sybil passed away much too early, as she was only 56 years old. After that Gene spent a number of years alone in Greenwich Connecticut until we got married in 1999. I knew Gene and Sybil for over 30 years as Gene and my husband Marty Crandell were roommates at Syracuse. Marty passed away when he was only 48. I feel blessed to have had two wonderful husbands however both for too short a time.

I hope I have given you a snapshot of Gene's life after FSU and I know he would have been so happy to have heard from you. Best to you, Louise Crandell-Rabbitt

Don & Connie Holder | **51-57** | **Re: Gene Rabbitt**

“Jack, Just to let you know, I sent Louise Rabbitt a few pictures of Gene. She surely appreciated the photos. Told her to keep in touch. Thanks to Benny

who did forward her info to me. Don

{Benny: Shocking, but very grateful to you for the news. I will put it in the newsletter and am copying to my Nephew Rob who is my brother Bob's son. My brother and Gene were teammates at Syracuse University. My brother and I trained and competed with/against Gene in the New England area as well as when he was in Tallahassee. As you know, Gene was a very very likeable guy and a beautiful pommeled horse competitor - as was my brother – both worked out together and were ahead of their time and worked with swing and grace and not the brute force as others did..... Thanks again Benny, Jack.....jmm}

Barbara Sheehan Withers | **54-62** | **Vacation in Europe**

“Just got back from a week's visit with Mirek Ceska & his wife, Ann, in Vienna. Alma Claire joined us also after her tour of Germany. We

had a wonderful time and really enjoyed Vienna. Mirek sends his best to everyone and hopefully he will be with us next year. Hugs etc. Barbara”

Dick & Susie Gutting | **50-55** | **Vacation in Eastern Europe**

“Thanks Jack, What a heart warmer! { re. the Lion video..jmm}

We just got back from our trip to Eastern Europe and I was delighted to see this little video. Thanks again. Suzi” {re.Video of Lion returned to wild meets former young caretakers.....jmm}

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70** | **Up a creek with a paddle**

“Jack, The lion video was terrific. Did you see the Ivanovic/Dechy match? One of the best tennis matches

I have ever seen! Last weekend I talked Terry Morris (FSU gymnast of the late 60's) into entering a kayak race I usually participate in and he got first in his division in the 8 mile race. I was first in my division and 7th overall in the 10 mile race. Going to try to get more retired gymnasts to compete in kayak race events. I also won the Masters division (over 50) in the GA Flatwater Racing Series again this year. This is the most points accumulated in 7 races during the year...bill"

Dr. Frankie Hall | **FSU faculty** | **Email address change**

"My new email address is ncfrankie@att.net. Please change your address book. I will receive mail at old (ncfrankie@aol.com) until

about July 10, but either address is ok as of this very minute. :-}"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | **50-58** | **A Better Mousetrap**

{A CHEAPER, BETTER, MORE HUMANE MOUSE TRAP...

"I kept trying to catch a cute tiny field mouse that had found its way into the house and into a kitchen closet. At twilight, for several nights while at the computer, I could hear it rattling in and among the trash. Not having a spare mousetrap I devised a brilliant (If I must say so myself) devilish plan to catch the little guy. So I emptied and cleaned a med sized plastic trash bucketsprayed its' interior with furniture wax...plopped some peanut butter dead center inside the bottom of the bucket...set it in the closet and...the trap was set.

Bingo

The next morning there it was...totally exhausted from trying to climb out of the slippery slopes all night long. I took the bucket outside and gave him the flight of his life when I flung him over into the neighbor's yard.

It's those little successes that make life such a joy...P.S. The bigger the critter, the bigger the bucket.....jmm }

Mike Mann & Fran Millians | **57-67** | **Re. RKO Sportscope "Gym College"**

OK, folks, I got it. I'll have the complete and up to date copy on the web site later today. This now has segments with Joe Taylor and Dick Ireland and Don Holder's complete P bar segment which we did not have before. The quality is also much, much, better. I will also be making a copying DVDs and I will send a copy to anyone that would like to have it. Thanks to everyone that provided backup for me and don't throw them away just yet. Let's make sure that I really have it and have edited it well. Mike

Stan Levin | **Philly Gymnast & Friend of Stu Goldberg**

"Today I watched some of the men's gymnastics events of the Olympics . I was filled with awe and had frequent moments of

disbelief I also had pain in my heart because the two coaches in my life were not here to see what has spectacularly evolved in gymnastics ... and I missed anew my friends Bill Braverman and Fred Kasch {Coaches from Philadelphia.....jmm }..

Beverley Cude & Bill Beaton | **55-59** | **"She's been Googled" and giggled**

"Jack, it's as though I'm in some kind of dream. Margaret Powell. Never known as Peg to me, of

course I now remember her. Little kids, in elementary school together, best friends at 6, 7, 8 years of age who tried to keep in touch when separated by my family's move to the north, only to eventually give up. But not Margaret! After 6 & a bit decades (Yikes!) later she decides to track me down? What brought that on? What the WWW can do! What on earth made her think of me in 2008, to go so far as to "Google" me, and then proceed to contact you re. my location, presumably from the FSU website...Mike Mann is to be thanked for that, eh? I'll just have to ask Margaret myself, but I certainly will let you know what happens. I didn't even know I could be "Googled"....."

{This has happened to me thrice now....One from my High School Gym Team in '46, One Philadelphia Acrobat also from my high school years, and one a photographer I worked with when I was pursuing an entertainment career in the 60's....Thanks to Google, Mike's Web-site, and email friends. It's opened up a great new world.....jmm }

Carrie Englert Zimmerman | **TTT** | **&** | **Alice Englert** | **(Carrie's Mom)** | **Re. Olympics and Cade's Blog**

"Hi Yah'all,

This was much too valuable and timely to wait for the next FSU Gymnastics Newsletter. This blog had been created by Cade Zimmerman, one of former Olympian Carrie Englert Zimmerman's sons. They were all at the Olympic Site and the blog is extremely well written telling of their everyday adventures and happenings in China. It has all the sights, smells, tastes and sounds of the going's on....almost as if you were there with them. Included are pictures with former Olympian Ron Galimore and Gold Medalist swimmer Michael Phelps. I really enjoy it...Jack The blog was updated every day at 2:00 AM.

<http://www.tallahassee.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=200880809022>

Joe Greene | **59-61** | **Olympic review**

"Jack, I know all are watching the Olympics, and especially the gymnastics for men, but I can't understanding the judging. Our men looked so damn good, and no matter how great

they hit their routines, the chinese all received 1 whole point more. What's up with that?? I am still in CA and enjoying the weather. Going back to Gainesville in Nov. How was the reunion at alligator point? Was Joe Gusic and Rick Miller attending? Joe" [Sorry neither attended last reunion.....but you should see how many confirmed they would be at the next reunion.....jmm }

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | **50-58** | **The Daredevil**

{My wife told me a funny story that happened during the seventies when

most of her college friends enjoyed a little "weed" now and then...especially one male undergraduate who always seemed to be smiling and happily stoned. Well, one school day she and several of her girl friends walked up on this same guy and discovered that he had just got a job painting the outside of a three story building. When they saw him way up on third level of the building painting

away, they shouted warnings and cautioned him to be very careful up there and that he might fall. With a cavalier attitude he allayed all their fears and assured the girls that he that was very safe because he had tied himself off with a safety rope to the building with the other end strongly around his waist. They ran inside the building, ran up the stairs and found the widow nearest the painter and saw that their beloved friend had securely tied off the other end of the safety rope to.....a table lamp.....jmm}

Charlie Christian | **55-57** | **Re. Olympics**

“Hi Jack, **Hi Yah'all**is Yankee, in the South it is **Hi y'all**. Oh-well. What cha gonna do with a transplant? I'll try opening the site with my SLOW dial-up later tonight..., Thanks,

Charlie PS---I wasn't impressed with the men's gymnastics! At least they received a Bronze! It looks as though the Chinese are taking over in more ways than one.....I'm proud I have to retract my earlier statement about being disappointed with the showing in our USA Women's Gymnastics Team. I missed watching the night they won the Gold AND Silver for “All-Around” . I understand that was another **FIRST** for the **USA. Fantastic!!! Charlie”**

Beverley Cude & Bill Beaton | **55-59** | **Re. 2008 reunion**

“Jack, I'm sure that you recall that I took many pictures this 2008. I was late (end of June) editing them and getting them off to Mike. Then he was tied up most of the summer and wasn't able to post them. However, he e-mailed me last night to say they're there....and sure enough they are....all 65 of them. All of this is to voice a concern that, seeing as they are up so late, maybe people are not checking out the photo gallery that much any more. I wonder if you could let everyone know that my set is there now, either through your next newsletter if it's coming out soon, or by forwarding this to your long list of recipients, if it's not too much trouble.

In that regard, I must say I think there are some pretty good shots of the crowd. If anyone would like to have copies of particular ones, I'll be happy to e-mail the originals to whoever wants them, seeing as Mike's can't be pulled from the web site. Those interested just need to indicate to me the ones they want by stating the name beside the photo(s) concerned.

It's also best, I guess, that people send e-mail to me now via gmail. Yahoo, on this obnoxious old computer, is still not letting me send even though I can still receive. So, I opened a new account with rival gmail and can now be reached as well at: bcudebeaton@gmail.com Now, time for more amazing Olympics. I hold my breath and hope for success for your gymnasts as they perform their (for me), unbelievable feats. Am enjoying the swimming and diving as well. Thanks, Jack.... Bev”

Dick & Susie Gutting | **50-55** | **The holy “Trinity”**

{Dick Gutting reports that at his next National Sports Acrobatics convention held in Las Vegas 48' Olympian, Vince D'Autorio; Fitness Guru, Frank

LaLaine; and Trampoline Inventor, George Nissan who are all 93 years old will be interviewed at the that convention and are supposed to all hold handstands for the press.

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70** | **Re. Press article sent about George Nissen**

“Jack, I'm amazed he is still living. When I was Awards Chairman for the NACGC, he

would always press a handstand at the head table during the banquet after the Nissen Award was announced. He usually stole some of the thunder from the honorees, but it was always impressive and a highlight of the evening! Bill”

Carrie Englert Zimmerman | **TTT** | **Re. Press article sent about George Nissen**

“Awesome story. Mr. Nissen had a front row seat at the trampoline prelims. I went and said

hello, but had no idea he invented the trampoline. I only knew him because Dick Mulvihill always used me to try out his new innovations. WOW. Thank you. Carrie”

Larry Bestmann | **55-58** | **Re. Press article sent about George Nissen**

“Thanks, Jack I haven't seen George since I photographed his 80th birthday celebration. Bruno Claus

& many others besides Bob Bollinger attended. George did a handstand on his table. Larry”

Don & Connie Holder | **51-57** | **Re. Press article sent about George Nissen**

“Thanks Jack for the info concerning George. He is great man and did much for Gymnastics. Last time I saw him was at his factory for the first professional Gym meet, (1967) in which I took 2nd place on rings while into my 40th year, competing against kids half my age. Made \$350.00 which made me a PRO. Don”

Benny & Carolyn Wallace | **51-55** | **Correction for my records**

“A look back in gymnastic history - NCAA Championship April 1955. The final appearance of Benny C. Wallace. The following morning he was escorted out of town and entered the USAF.”

Bill & Carol Beavers | **57-61/69-70**

“Jack, While in Oklahoma City a couple of weeks ago for the USA Sprint Kayak/Canoe Nationals, I stopped in the International Gymnastics Hall of Fame. [www.http://ighof.com](http://ighof.com)

It is a nice display and well done. Thanks to Jamile and the others that made this possible. It is housed in a hands- on science museum that is geared mainly for children. Under the large sculpture of the "Flair" by Richard Macdonald and against the backdrop of all the famous inductees are mats for children to tumble on. Kind of a nice touch. They had a set of old pommels there on display and it gave me an idea. I have a set of old round pommels circa 1950's that I think I will attach to a walker. When I get too old to paddle and walk, I can perhaps still do leg cuts in the retirement home! Bill

ps. Won three golds at the Maters Nationals in OK City for the 500 meter sprints in a single,(K1) a double, K2 and the most exciting race the K4. It was held in a state of the art facility where the Olympic trials were held. Our team from the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club took first in the K4 D division which is an average age of the four paddlers of 55 to 65. Actually, our crew had a 75 year old,

me (69), a 50 and a 30 something. We beat four other boats including the Wash. DC club entry that had two 30 year olds. Our time was 02:26.690 to DC's 02:26.978! That was a perfect setup for me watching the Olympic events with all of the close times in the various sports. Photos of my K2 partner and the "fearsome foursome" at [www.http://picasaweb.google.com/beaversbill/USSprintNationalsOKCity](http://picasaweb.google.com/beaversbill/USSprintNationalsOKCity).....Sorry, the addresses should read; www.ighf.com and <http://picasaweb.google.com/beaversbill/USSprintNationalsOKCity> , I hope! bill"

Ron & Loree Galimore | TTT | Back from the Olympic Games "I hope all is well. I just returned from China. Still getting use to this time zone. It was great seeing Carrie Zimmerman and her family in Beijing. Ron Galimore"
 {I had a wonderful, all too short, time with Ron & Loree when they vacationed in Ft. Lauderdale just before the Olympics. And Ron just informed me that they will attend the next reunion. That boy is a part of my heart walking around.....jmm}

Bob Christians | 58-60 /61-62 | That Flying Trapeze guy. "Hi Jack and fellow FSU Gymnasts, Would love to have made the reunion... have not retired, my work of making and developing Flying Trapezes sees me out-of-the country half the time... Keep up the good work and Newsletters coming. Thanks, Sincerely, Bob Christians" {Bob also said he would probably attend the next reunion.....jmm}

Charlie Christian | 55-57 | Correspondence to Bart and Nadia "Bart, While viewing the 2008 Olympic Games on TV I was fortunate to catch and interview with Nadia and you. You both still look GREAT! I have no idea what influence you may have with the IOC but I disagree with the ruling regarding a tie for the Gold, Silver or Bronze in a gymnastic event. I understand there may NOT be a judge from a country representing any on the contestants. However, when the possibility exists the chosen judges may have little or no experience in the event and/or may have the qualifications necessary to adequately and fairly judge I do object. In order to assure judges are adequately screened and found qualified prior to being selected, I feel the current rules should be changed.. I would appreciate learning your opinion on this issue. My best, Charlie Christian FSU Gymnastics '56-'57"

Jack Miles & Nancy Dye | 50-58 | FSU Recognition Event {Dick Gutting & Ed Fernald have been working on an event which would honor all those gymnasts who were on winning National Gymnastics Championship Teams. The requested a list from me. I sent it to them and those gymnasts plus the girls team members who won the first woman from any college or university in Florida to win the first national title. It was called in the 50's "Team Drill" today they call the event "Rhythmic Gymnastics" I have sent this before, nonetheless here attached is the list of the gymnasts on those team members. Dick and FSU have been trying to contact all those on the list. At a *Gymnastics Reunion and Reception* the group will be honored at the Varsity Club in the Stadium Friday 4-6 P.M. on September 12th and at half-time at the Football Game the following day on the 13th.....FSU Vs.UT-Chattanooga - Don't know if it is an afternoon or evening game. After many years absent from our group Dick Ireland will also be in attendance. Also Thursday evening, Sept 11th, Barbara Withers will be hosting an informal get together for all involved at her house. Sounds like a heart warming and interesting time to be had by all.....jmm}

Jack Miles | 50-58 | 2009 Annual Reunion {After sending out a *Gymnastics 2009 Reunion Questionnaire* I receive a terrific response and it looks like we will have one of the best reunions ever attended. The reunion team is reviewing all the messages sent and a final report is due at the end of September. Here is an early list of those people who wrote that they would be in attendance, This is by no means all that are expected to attend....jmm}.

Reunion - Response to 2008 Questionnaire as of 08/30/08

YES they will attend in 2009	
Barbara Withers	Jay Swarzmman
Beverly Beaton	Jim & Arlene Fadigan
Bill & Carole Beavers	Joe & Carol Regna (Maybe)
Bob Christians (Maybe)	Joe & Dottie Taylor
Carmine & Daneen Regna	Jon & Boots Culbertson
Chick Cicio	Larry Bestmann
Claire Traynor	Mike Mann
Dave & Judy Carmolli	Oscar Brock
Don & Connie Holder	Roger & Tamara Webb
Ed & Christine Jonas	Ron & Loree Galimore
Frank Dennard	
Jack Miles	
Jamile Ashmore	

Jack Miles | 50-58 | Newsletter {In the questionnaire I also mentioned my feelings about maybe not continuing with the Newsletter. The response was an overwhelming vote of support to continue with their very heartfelt and heartwarming feelings. There were many ideas. A large majority replied, "Please don't quit". Predominately they wanted me to continue and for my ease possibly make it a quarterly. I could send you a copy of their responses, but that would be too much like self aggrandizement.

Completely of my guard, one response hit me right where it counts the most – right smack in the heart and into my conscience.

But first I have to offer this prelude.

Jack Sharp and I were bonded at the hip as boys, young men, and old men. He was my greatest mentor and guide. We always helped each other. At his Memorial Service I spoke and said to his children. “Knowing your Dad as I do I am sure, that with the values he cherished, he would want me to say to you right now, “Take care of your mother”

Well..... Almira sent me her message wherein she said,

“ I have thoroughly enjoyed reading about the friends who were a part of Jack's and my lives in the early 50's and again in 1960. Jack's notification that he was to be inducted into the FSU Sports Hall of Fame made the last few months of his life joyful. Almira”

It was then I realized that I owed big time to Jack and Almira, and to all of you for the joy and support you have given me for over a half century. Yes, the Newsletter takes time but it is a nice payback for all the help and love you have shown me. I'll do my best. We are a team you know.