



1966 ~ then
see you in 40 years!

Robert E. Peary High School Class of '66 40th Yr. Reunion

*****Dates to Remember *****

Oct. 13-15th, 2006



2006 ~ now
See you in Oct. !

Dear '66 Classmates.....

Now that I 've got your attention and hopefully a chuckle , we're **NOT** really that old , and still have a long ways to go. .

It's totally amazing to me that it's that time again and we're really looking forward to a wonderful 40th class reunion weekend.

Very Important Response Due Date :

"THIS WILL BE THE ONLY MAILED NOTICE" you will receive so please take note as I need to hear from EVERYONE by **June 1st** ..which is only about 3 ½ weeks from now.

*I have tried to either call or email each of you to let you know when the date was so you could make plans to attend. . I now have a situation and I really **need your help**. A little over a year ago when I contacted the Marriott and negotiated the lowest price possible I had to give them a estimate on the number of people that may be attending. The total cost is based on that number of people. I have to obligate myself for that number and hope we get enough people attending to cover the cost. I told them we'd have approximately 150 attending, which I knew we'd have at least that many for sure.*

*The maximum we can get into the ballroom salons we have now is 160 people. With each of our reunions we have more people wanting to attend which is a good thing as most reunions become smaller with time, ours continue to get **larger** and we'd love to see everyone attend. Now since I've talked to so many of you that said you were coming that it looks like we'll have closer to 200 or more. We've had about 185 in the past attending but from reunion to reunion it just has to be a guess on my part. The Marriott is holding another salon that they **could** open for us to accommodate up to 210 people, if ,I let them know by JUNE 5th at the latest, this would give us the extra space that we may need. Until I get a confirmed commitment (i.e. **checks from everyone**) and know exactly how many will be attending, I'm afraid to put my neck on the line and have them open up the extra salon. At present if we have more than 160 coming we won't have enough space and **I DON'T WANT TO TURN ANYONE AWAY !! This is why it is so important to get back to me ASAP and let me know if you're planing on attending. IF***

you're late in getting back to me and plan on attending , I have NO guarantee that we'll have room if we don't open up the additional salon.

Please fill out the last page where you'll find the Questionnaire and mail it back ASAP (no later than June 1st so I'll receive it in time),even if you don't plan on attending please fill it out anyway so we can include you in our reunion books. We want to hear from you !

Over the years we've enjoyed many reunions together (this will now be our 8th reunion ,plus in addition to the reunions we also had a 50th weekend birthday bash in June of '98, and a week cruise to Bermuda in May of '99 and have had many class luncheons together. Each reunion has brought more of you back to your home town to see your friends and some of your favorite teachers and staff that attend "the class of '66 reunions". New and closer friendships have been made and continued over the years that have become so valuable to us all. If you have never joined us before PLEASE try and make a point of attending this upcoming reunion in October. You won't be sorry and I assure you, you'll feel very welcomed as will your spouse or date. WE DON'T leave anyone out ! So leave any fears you have behind (if this is your first or you haven't attended one in a while) and come join us.

We have a terrific weekend planned and have now found many more that were on our misplaced persons list. I will not include those names now that we still can't find in this letter (a small number) but will be sending out an email after I see how many letters will be returned since some phones have been disconnected and can't be verified . I may need your help in re-locating some of them.

I am trying to take in account everyone's needs , especially those of you who will be traveling by air or driving long distances. To make it easier for people not to have to move from one location to another all events will be at the Gaithersburg Marriott at the Washingtonian center in Gaithersburg. I have secured a group rate of \$99.00 per night for a double room (verses their normal charge of 160.00) and if you plan on coming in early or staying an extra day ,til Monday), they will continue to honor that rate . You must make your own hotel reservations or you may go online to make them. I'll give you all that information in a tickler sheet before the questionnaire which is the last page. Tell them you will be attending the Robert E. Peary class reunion Oct. 13th weekend for your special discount rate. The Marriott is in a beautiful location which over looks a lake. This is where we had our 30th reunion and people seemed to really love it there. They have built many more stores , restaurants, and movie theaters. It also has a really nice walking path around the lake. The hotel reservations will be accepted until Sept. 22nd and we only have a certain amount of rooms on hold so I'd advise you to make your reservations now to make sure you get a room. Most rooms overlook the lake. If you snooze on making your reservation you may not be snoozing there! You're reservation can always be canceled if something should come up but do make sure you have a room if you plan on staying there. If you're flying in for the reunion you can take a shuttle directly to the hotel and not have to worry about transportation all weekend, and won't need a rental car. Many of our local classmates also stay there so they don't miss anything.

I have wheeled and dealed my best to put on a classy , weekend affair worth coming back for, while trying to keep costs to a minimum. There are a great deal of expenses that go into putting together a reunion like we have, to make it a lot different from all the other reunions other classes have. . Those that have attended have no problem with it and will be back regardless since they have expressed what a great time they've had. It is going to be another

wonderful weekend for sharing old friendships and making new ones. Last reunion I included 2 ½ pages of notes from the spouses as well as notes from (classmates that attended their first reunion) on how much they enjoyed the reunion and felt so welcomed so I won't do a repeat this time just know that all are welcomed and we look forward to seeing you and promise it will be a great time. As we're continually told by Dr. Dunn, Miss Thomas, Mrs. Glass, Mr. Hill and several of the other teachers "there was always something so very special about the class of '66" and it's been carried out throughout the years. We are truly blessed! **So don't miss this one!**

Jim and I are thinking about moving south within the year (after the reunion) so as far as me running future reunions there is no guarantee that I will be able to continue to do this. Tho, I will try and do my best, we'll have to see what life holds.

****Peary web site** For those of you who aren't aware the school has a wonderful web site that has been maintained by Bob Lau (class of '76) for the last 9 ½ yrs. It's called the MSO - Midnight Sun Online (after our school newspaper) it's a free site maintained by people's generous donations. We owe BOB a lot for his long hard thankless hours that he spends each month maintaining the site. Check it out and register your email address with them. Find old high school friends and teachers and read all the latest neat information that it has to offer plus it even plays our school song?

The site is www.pearyhs.org so if you haven't signed up you might want to do so and check it out.

To Those that will be in our hearts forever

Many of you have asked which classmates have passed away. It was requested that I included that in this letter. Tho, it really saddens me to write each and every one of these names I thought I'd let you know and the year in which they passed away. We are so blessed to have had these people in our lives, tho, for much too short of a time, but they will remain in our hearts forever and I know several of them that always attended our reunions will be there in spirit with us that weekend. They will also be listed in a special area in our reunion books.

Allan Burfoot '04, Scott Campbell '96, Gary Chuppella '93, George "Dennis" Clark '75, Linda Cornett '05, Waldo Groves '92, Denise Hall '73, Tom Johnston '01, Louis Mac Connell '81, Jeannie Manning '86, Jerry McKay '93, Joe Monto '04, Cynthia Pruett -Brant '05, Sheila Semler '2000, Nancy Van Meir '01 and our class sponsor, art teacher and beloved friend Mrs. Mintie Glass '05. So to our dear friends - **Until we meet again.**

Jim and I have formed so many wonderful friendships with people at the reunions that neither one of us knew in high school and they have become very near and dear to our hearts and very special people in our lives. These reunions go far beyond a once in a 5 year gathering. Thank you for caring and your friendship over all these years for that's what keeps these reunions going.

Don't worry about the lack of hair, the 30 plus extra pounds, the laugh lines, thinking you are the only one who looks older, or any physical disabilities you may now have, or that life didn't work out like you thought ... **remember without a doubt it's what's on the inside and not the "OUT"!**

*** All Activities will take place at the Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian Center ***
9751 Washingtonian Boulevard Gaithersburg, Md. 20878 Phone : 301-590-0044
October 13-15th , 2006

DON'T Miss Friday night !!! Some fun times await to kick off the weekend.

Friday Night, Oct. 13th Ice Breaker /Weekend Warm up Party
7:30 p.m. ~ 11:30 p.m. On the outside Terrace overlooking the lake.
Dress: Spiffy Casual, Jeans, or County Western Wear , Music,
Hors d' oeuvres/cash bar , name tags provided and surprises.

Saturday Morning, Oct. 14th Breakfast Buffet at the hotel.
7:00 a.m. ~ 12:00 p.m. \$15.95 per person

Ladies and Gentleman's Golf game.

Time to be announced Golf game for those who are interested. Check the questionnaire
And I will get in touch with you thru email to let you know details.

Saturday during the day They have an indoor pool (last reunion we had a ball in the pool),
Socialize or take a nap (hopefully NOT while you're socializing.)
LOL
There is also lots to do around the complex.

Saturday Evening ~ Main Event

6:15 p.m. ~ 6:45 p.m. Again we will have a group prayer time in Jim and Gale Privette's
Room. All are welcomed.

7:00 p.m. ~ 8:00 p.m. Registration, Reunion Books, Name tags, souvenirs, appetizers
and Cash bar. Lots of laughter and sharing with old and new
friends

8:00 p.m. ~ 9:30 p.m. ** Dress ~ Business attire to cocktail dress ~your choice.
Dinner ~ (speciality Stations) Lots and Lots of great food !

9:30 p.m. ~ 12:00 a.m. Class Photo taken (the cost is included in the reunion Price
and will be mailed out after the reunion). Dancing,
Socializing, reunion Program and some surprises !

12:00 a.m. ~ til ? Night owl party in the Privette's suite ~ for those of you who
want to continue visiting. Lots of snacks, sodas and bottled
water provided along with some other goodies.

Sunday Morning, Oct. 15th Breakfast Buffet at the hotel. \$15.95 per person
7:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m. Meet up with friends before everyone departs . Check out of
the hotel but continue to visit with friends as they are many
places to visit and walk around the lake. I never want it to end!
Saying good bye is always hard .

Again the weekend will be video'd and will be for sale after the reunion. I will email you with the
details. The video's have always turned out GREAT ! This company does a truly awesome job !

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.
Gale Senseman-Privette home phone. 301-840-5787 Email address: gale78@verizon.net .

Tickler Sheet of Important dates and Information

Reservations and Monies due date: Make check payable to:
"Gale S. Privette Peary '66 reunion."
Reunion weekend October 13 ~15th , 2006

What I need by June 1st ~

Please Fill out the questionnaire and mail it back to me with either your full amount for the reunion charge of **\$135.00** per person or if you're not able to do that ~ send half of your reunion registration now and the other half will be due me by **Aug. 1st**. If you plan on attending I need to know NOW! If you sign up **after JUNE 1st** I can't guarantee we will have space available , it depends on the response now and if the other salon will need to be opened for us. If you sign up for the reunion **after June 1st the cost will be \$150.00 per person.**

*****Cancellations: Full refund for cancellations until Oct. 1st.**

Now thru June 1st.----- Early Bird special ----- \$135.00 per person
August 1st ----- 2nd half of deposit due if you send in half now.

After June 1st. -----discount price -----\$150.00 per person
and no guarantee that we will have space available. (Anyone who plans on attending after this date MUST call me to check availability~ or if you have sent in your money on time and decide to bring your spouse or guest call me) Gale 301-840-5787 We highly recommend NO WALK ~INS or JUST SHOWING UP AT THE DOOR !

July 1st ----- deadline for all reunion book information to be submitted and placing orders if you can't attend and would like to purchase a reunion book or class photo that will be taken the night of the reunion. The earlier we hear back from you the better .

Sept. 22nd...cut off date to make a room reservations. AS I stated, I suggest you do it now.

Make hotel reservation **Now** to make sure you get a room. Go on Line to make your hotel reservations at <http://www.stayatmarriott.com/RobertEPeary/> take a virtual tour of the beautiful rooms (you'll want to check in tonight) ! Also get directions to the hotel at the same site. If you prefer to call the hotel to make reservations call 1-800-228-9290 and make your reservations for the special rate of \$99.00 per night for a double. Tell them you're with the Robert E. Peary High School Class of '66 ~40th reunion Oct. 13-15th 2006 weekend. Group code (ROBROBA)

Peary web page : www.pearyhs.org sign up and check out the current missing person list in the '66 class section. Many of you need to update your email addresses they have listed. Thanks .