

McLean County Museum of History

University High School Reunions Collection

Processed by
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 Boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1918-2020
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	See also University High School Collection

Brief History

Illinois State Normal University was established in 1857. In 1862 grade school and high school classes were held in the Model School located in Old Main on what would become ISNU's campus in Normal. Tuition was \$20 per year. As a large percentage of those applying to the Normal University had little more than an eighth-grade education, high school and liberal arts courses became essential to develop better teachers. By 1890 conditions were very crowded with high school teachers instructing University language courses, as well as most of the high school courses. The Board of Education abolished the Model School in 1895.

The school was re-established in 1909 and officially named University High School. The green and yellow school colors were chosen at an all-school election in 1909. The scope and aim of the high school changed greatly when it was re-established. In the beginning it had aimed to prepare pupils for college and the Normal Department with a correspondingly narrow scope. The re-established high school aimed at courses for many different occupations.

Classes were held on the ISNU / ISU campus until the opening of University High School in 1965.

Scope

The University High School Reunions Collection consists mostly of books containing class lists and lists of names and addresses of alumni attending class reunions. The collection is organized chronologically by year of the graduating class.

Box and Folder Inventory

Box 1

Folder 1: Classes of 1918, 1937, 1938, 1940

- 1.1.1 Class of 1918, Letter from Gene Funk, Jr. regarding 60th reunion, names and addresses, June 23, 1978, 5pp.
- 1.1.2 Class of 1937, Letter to Donna Karr Jurenas from Verlyn Myers Zehr dated March 18, 1985, covering lists of names and addresses, two letters from classmates, 5pp.
- 1.1.3 Class of 1938, 40th Reunion, August 19, 1978, program.
- 1.1.4 Class of 1938, master list of names and addresses, plus teachers, 4pp.
- 1.1.5 Class of 1940, "Looking Back Fondly: A Last Hurrah!" by Jean P. Karr for 50th Reunion, June 30, 1990, 7pp.
- 1.1.6 Class of 1940, Program and biographies, for 50th Reunion, June 30-July 1, 1990.
- 1.1.7 Class of 1940, "Our Time" A Chronology of the Years of Our Youth," by Jean P. Karr, for 55th Reunion, September 22-24, 1995, 15pp.
- 1.1.8 Classes of 1943 and 1944, Program and information sheets for 60th and 60st Reunion,

2004.

Folder 2: Classes of 1943 and 1944

- 1.2.1 Program, addresses and biographies for 50th Reunion, 1994.
- 1.2.2 Program, class history, addresses for 55th Reunion, October 8-9, 1999.
- 1.2.3 Program and information sheets, photograph with identifications, 60th and 60st Reunion.

Folder 3: Classes of 1945-1947

- 1.3.1 Class of 1945 memory book, 50th reunion, October 6-8, 1995. Includes senior class photos.
- 1.3.2 Class of 1945, "'Our Time Continued': A Chronology of the Years of Our Youth Also" by Carol Ann Karr King, 50th Reunion, October 6-8, 1995.
- 1.3.3 Class of 1946, 30th Reunion Directory, U-High class of 1946, Metcalf Class of 1942, June 17, 1977, 26pp and list of names and addresses, 2pp.
- 1.3.4 Class of 1946, 50th Reunion Directory, July 20, 1996.
- 1.3.5 Class of 1946, Alumni Class Newsletters for: Fall 1998, Fall 2000, Spring 2001, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Fall 2003.
- 1.3.6 Class of 1947, class picture, 30th Reunion, 1977.
- 1.3.7 Class of 1947, Addresses from 45th Reunion, 1994.
- 1.3.8 Class of 1947, 50th Reunion, 1997, includes color photos of individuals and couples.
- 1.3.9 Class of 1947, 60th Reunion, September 15, 2007, includes announcements, list of names and addresses, group photos.

Folder 4: Classes of 1948-1950

- 1.4.1 Class of 1948, 25th Reunion, includes list with addresses and short bios, 16pp.
- 1.4.2 Class of 1948, 50th Year Reunion, October 2-4, 1998, includes photos and bios, class hymn.
- 1.4.3 Classes of 1949, 1950, 1951, 50 Year Reunion, October 5-8, 2000.
- 1.4.4 Classes of 1949, 1950, Reunion Book, June 29, 1989, includes color group photo.
- 1.4.5 "Fifties Reunion" Group photo, with identifications, September 3, 1988.
- 1.4.6 Group photo, not identified by year, black and white, undated.
- 1.4.7 Class of 1950, 20-year reunion directory, August 22, 1970, 13pp.

Folder 5: Classes of 1952-1954

- 1.5.1 Class of 1952, 50th Reunion, 2002, includes names and addresses, short bios.
- 1.5.2 Class of 1953, 35th Reunion, September 2-4, 1988, 8pp
- 1.5.3 Class of 1953, 40th Reunion, July 23-25, 1993, 12pp
- 1.5.4 Class of 1953, 45th Reunion, October 2-4, 1998, includes 1-page bios.
- 1.5.5 Class of 1953, Memory Book, Celebrating 50 Years, October 10-12, 2003, includes 8th grade class picture, Metcalf School, June 1949, with identifications.
- 1.5.6 Class of 1954, group picture, 1953, no identifications.

Folder 6: Classes of 1955 and 1956

- 1.6.1. Class of 1955, Memory Book, Celebrating 50 Years, September 30-October 2, 2005.
- 1.6.2. Class of 1956, information sheets from alumni, undated.
- 1.6.3. Class of 1956, Memory Book, Celebrating 50 Years, September 22-23, 2006.

Folder 7: Class of 1957, Part 1

- 1.7.1 Class of 1957, 25th Reunion, 1982, includes two group photos, unidentified.
- 1.7.2 Class of 1957, 30th Reunion, 1987.

Folder 8: Class of 1957, Part 2

- 1.8.1 Class of 1957, 35th Reunion, 1992.
- 1.8.2 Class of 1957, 40th Reunion, July 18-20, 1997.

Folder 9: Class of 1958

- 1.9.1 Class of 1958, 40th Reunion, August 8, 1998, includes list of names and addresses.
- 1.9.2 Class of 1958, 50th Reunion, October 3-4, 2008, includes full-page bios and photos, informal reunion group photos.

Folder 10: Classes of 1959 and 1960

- 1.10.1 Class of 1959, 50th Anniversary Directory, October 9-10, 2009.
- 1.10.2 Class of 1960, Letters from reunion committee, names and addresses leading up to 25th reunion, July 20-21, 1985.

Folder 11: Class of 1961

- 1.11.1 Class of 1961, 10th Reunion booklet, 1971
- 1.11.2 Class of 1961, 20th Reunion book, 1981.
- 1.11.3 Class of 1961, 25th Reunion book with bios and yearbook photos, 1986.
- 1.11.4 Class of 1961, 30th Reunion book with bios and yearbook photos, 1991.
- 1.11.5 Class of 1961, 35th Reunion with photos including 30th reunion class picture, 1996.
- 1.11.6 Class of 1961, 45th Reunion booklet with bios and current photos, August 11-12, 2006.

Folder 12: Class of 1962

- 1.12.1 Class of 1962, 50th Reunion, September 20-22, 2012, loose pages of book including senior yearbook pages, current bios and photos.

Folder 13: Classes of 1963, 1965, 1967

- 1.13.1 Class of 1963, 30th Reunion, August 6-8, 1993, Program and book with bios and contemporary photos.
- 1.13.2 Class of 1965, 35th Reunion, October 6-7, 2000, Program and book with short bios.
- 1.13.3 Class of 1967, 25th Reunion, August 1, 1992, list of names and addresses, 15pp.
- 1.13.4 Class of 1967, 30th Reunion, July 12, 1997, list of names and addresses, 12pp.
- 1.13.5 Class of 1967, 35th Reunion, July 20, 2002, book includes addresses and short bios.

Folder 14: Classes of 1968 and 1969

- 1.14.1 Class of 1968, 20th Reunion, August 20, 1988, book with lists and short bios.
- 1.14.2 Class of 1969, 30TH Reunion, July 24, 1999, book with addresses and short bios.
- 1.14.3 Class of 1969, list of names and addresses, noted after the reunion.

Folder 15: Classes of 1970 and 1973

- 1.15.1 Class of 1970, 20th Reunion, 1970, book with names, addresses, short bios.

- 1.15.2 Class of 1970, 30th Reunion, August 5, 2000, book with names, addresses, short bios, loose.
- 1.15.3 Class of 1970, 50th Reunion, October 2-3, 2020, postcard, attached post-it note: Canceled due to Covid.
- 1.15.4 Class of 1973, Memory Book.
- 1.15.5 Class of 1973, Emails regarding reunion in July 2005, 3pp.
- 1.15.6 Class of 1973, packet for 30th reunion, July 15-16, 2005.

Box 2

Folder 1: Classes of 1975 and 1978

- 2.1.1 Class of 1975, 10th Reunion, August 31-September 1, 1985, class directory.
- 2.1.2 Class of 1975, 10th reunion, notes and individual information sheets.
- 2.1.3 Class of 1975, 25th Reunion, 2000, book with individual bios.
- 2.1.4 Class of 1978, 15th Reunion, July 31-August 1, 1993, booklet, includes groups photo with identifications.

Folder 2: Class of 1979

- 2.2.1 Class of 1979, undated, pages with short bios.
- 2.2.2 Class of 1979, 20th Reunion, 1999, information sheets on classmates.

Folder 3: Classes of 1981 and 1983

- 2.3.1 Class of 1981, 10th Reunion, July 20, 1991, Book, loose pages.
- 2.3.2 Class of 1981, 30th Reunion, September 30-October 1, 2011, postcard.
- 2.3.3 Class of 1983, 20th Reunion, October 10-11, 2003, includes small photos from 10th reunion, July 1993.

Folder 4: Class of 1984

- 2.4.1 Class of 1984, 10th Reunion, August 13, 1994, Book.
- 2.4.2 Class of 1984, 16th Reunion, May 6, 2000, Book
- 2.4.3 Class of 1984, 20th Reunion, September 25, 2004, Book includes information and small photos.
- 2.4.4 Class of 1984, 20th Reunion, September 25, 2004, Book includes information and small photos.

Folder 5: Classes of 1985 and 1987

- 2.5.1. Class of 1985, 10th Reunion, book with information sheets.
- 2.5.2. Class of 1987, 10th Reunion, September 26-27, 1997, booklet.of addresses, yearbook photos.

Folder 6: Classes of 1990, 1992, 1993

- 2.6.1 Class of 1990, 10th Reunion, book with addresses, yearbook photos.
- 2.6.2 Class of 1992, manuscript with memories.
- 2.6.3 Class of 1993, 10th reunion, October 3-4, 2003, announcement card.

Folder 7: Alumni Association, Miscellaneous

- 2.7.1 University High School Alumni Association Constitution, 5pp.
- 2.7.2 Alumni News – Spring 1985, Winter 1986, Spring 1987.
- 2.7.3 Press Release. Recipients of 2000 Alumni Awards, 2pp.
- 2.7.4 Information on 2001 Awards to Richard T. Dunn, Distinguished Alum; Jane Legg Bower, Brian Fisher, Grace Eckert Wiant, Pioneer Hall of Fame; Ginni Hestrom Pedersen, Alumni service; and Marcia Basolo, Friend of U-High.
- 2.7.5 Information and photos on 2005 Awards for Chris J. Wiant, Pioneer Hall of Fame; John H. Williams, Alumni Service; Gilbert C. Barner, Distinguished Alumnus; Steven L. dams and Juliet Pritner, Pioneer Hall of Fame; and Bruce Hurley, Friends of U-High.
- 2.7.6 Postcard for Homecoming 2009, October 9.
- 2.7.7 Postcard for Homecoming 2010, October 8.
- 2.7.8 Program for Alumni Association Awards, Homecoming, September 28, 2001.
- 2.7.9 Postcard for Homecoming 2013, September 20.
- 2.7.10 Postcard for Homecoming 2014, September 26.
- 2.7.11 Pamphlet, Questions Answers, University High School Alumni Association.
- 2.7.12 “Pioneers of the Prairie: A History of University High School” by Dixie Lee Lewis.
- 2.7.13 Homecoming 2019, Alumni Association Awards and Recognition Program, October 11, 2019,