



# BOO-HOO NEWS

Hoosier Buell Chapter  
Volume 20, Issue 5, Oct. 2019

## CONNECT TRAVEL SERVE

### It's Time To Renew; Let's Get It Done



Look for your **national and chapter membership renewal notice** in early November. Why not reply early so it won't interfere with your holiday season.

Reply directly to our national office using the provided return envelope. This is a change for our chapter since **Don Stetson**, our Treasurer, has coordinated this task in the past. National Alumni records reflected the Hoosier-Bell member retention this past year was 87 percent, with 82 units and 142 members.

Here's an even easier and quicker way to manage it. Just click on button below and handle it all online.

*Don Stetson, Treasurer*

[CLICK TO RENEW](#)

## We Will Miss Neil Allen

We are saddened by the passing of Hoosier-Buell Chapter Past President **Neil D. Allen**. His wife, **Jean**, has been our secretary. Our thoughts and prayers are sent to her and his family.

A memorial service will be held **Saturday, Oct. 19** at 11 a.m., at the **Chapel at Henry Ford Village**, 15101 Ford Rd, Dearborn, MI 48126. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Neil's name to the **Henry Ford Village Model Railroad Club**, or to the **Dearborn Rotary Club**.



Neil, 84, of Dearborn, Mich., passed away Sept. 20, 2019. He celebrated 59 years of marriage in June with Jean, who survives him. Father of Beth Allen, Pamela Allen Griffith (Timothy), and David Allen (Neelam). Grandfather to Cassandra Walczyk (Mark) and great-grandfather to Jace, Jax, and Colt. Brother of John L. Allen (Jeanne) and Glenn Allen (Melissa), as well as the late Judith Miller (Delbert). He is also survived by 11 nieces and nephews, and several beloved cousins.

Neil leaves myriad friends worldwide from eight decades of enjoying life to the fullest. A graduate of George Williams College, he worked for 40-plus years with the YMCA, serving in positions in Ohio and Michigan, including director of the Dearborn YMCA.

He was a proud Navy reservist and had a lifelong love of anything related to ships and aviation. After retirement, Neil dedicated himself to model railroading and, most recently, took an active role in the large-scale renovation of the Henry Ford Village model railroad layout.

Neil's rich bass/baritone voice graced the back row of his church choirs and the Henry Ford Village chorus. Many from his YMCA youth director days will remember his campfire song-leading and bugle-playing at Y camps.

He served as President of the Dearborn Rotary Club in 1985-86, where he was very involved in youth scholarships, Santa Snaps, and helping youngsters fish in the pond at Ford Field during Homecoming. His involvement in Rotary led his family to host exchange student sister Kumiko Tanaka Suge, now living in Japan.



## Reunion '19: We Had A Great Time In Louisville



*Big and tall and small. Co-President Dan Sager (right)*



*Co-President Terry Jones, a member of the Reunion Planning Committee, took his job seriously and got into the Starting Gate for the Kentucky Derby. Sort of.*

poses with jockey Charles Woods Jr. at Churchill Downs.



A great time was had by all who attended the YMCA Alumni Reunion '19 in Louisville, Ky. Sept 24-26, including 11 from our chapter.. Some 145 people attended from all over the U.S. The workshops were fantastic and the various sightseeing trips and tours were enjoyed by all.

The many activities included a dinner cruise on the historic Belle of Louisville, tour of Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby, the Louisville Slugger museum and factory, Buffalo Trace Distillery, and more. The 11 workshops gave us the opportunity to learn more about chapter management, service opportunities, travel tips and destinations through the Travel Club. The next reunion will be in 2021 and hosted by the East Region.

*(Photo above: Our leaders and spouses talk it over at end of Reunion.)*

## Save The Date: Spring Gathering May 14-15

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### Heading Back To Amish Acres



Everyone enjoyed our spring gathering at Amish Acres so we are going back May 14-15. The Round Barn Theatre play, *Church Basement Ladies: A Mighty Fortress Is Our Basement*, will make for an entertaining evening along with our Thresher's Dinner in the Restaurant Barn. A more complete agenda will be included in our next newsletter, but **save the date**.

### Nominations For Officers; Welcome New Members

Are you interested in becoming more involved with our chapter? Contact [Lou Drexler](#) to put your name in the ring for the election to take place at our Annual meeting in May 2020. Officers to be elected are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

We look forward to our new members' participation in our chapter.

**Stephanie Alexander:** 7605 Stonehedge, Onsted, MI 49265

**Sylvia Robles:** 3722 Alsace Dr. Indianapolis, IN 96226

Reflection: YMCA At 175



It was **June 6, 1844** when the farm boy turned draper apprentice then department manager was appalled by the terrible conditions in London for young working men. **George Williams** gathered a group of his fellow drapers together to create a place that would not tempt young men into sin. That place promoted *Muscular Christianity* and became known as the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).

In 1851, retired sea captain **Thomas Sullivan** introduced the YMCA to men in Boston. The Y has grown into a powerful association of men, women and children for a myriad of social change and health.

As YMCA Alumni, we worked in many of our 2,700 national associations in 10,000 communities across the country. These members represent over 9 million youth and 13 million adults each year. The YMCA today serves more than 45 million people in 119 countries.

Thank you **Sir George Williams** and thank you **Hoosier-Buell Chapter of YMCA Alumni** for your dedication of service to the YMCA.

## Two Important Links: Visit Them Often



Plan to travel with YMCA Alumni in 2020. Just click on the logo and use the pull-down menu for each trip. Spaces are filling up quickly.



Visit our YMCA Alumni website regularly. It's a wealth of information and always up-to-date. Click on image.

## Hoosier Buell YMCA Alumni Chapter Leaders



Co-Presidents: **Dan Sager, Terry Jones**  
 Vice President: **Lou Drexler**  
 Secretary: **Jean Allen**  
 Treasurer: **Don Stetson**

Click on name in **blue** to send email.

*The mission of YMCA Alumni is "to enable members to promote a nurturing worldwide Christian Fellowship that provides educational, social, service and charitable*

*opportunities."*

