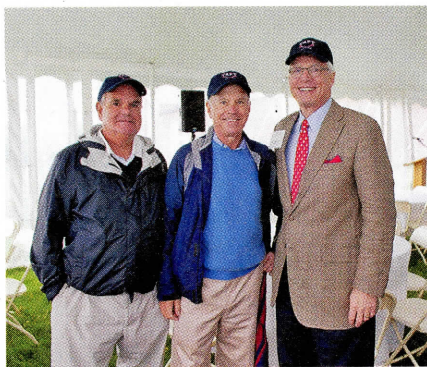




At Alumni Weekend 50 years of Taft lacrosse celebration, Ferdie Wandelt '66, Lance Odden and Ray DuBois '66.



Hem Merriman '67 and family enjoying Sanibel, Fla.



Jungle Jim Taylor '67 on a safari vacation in S. Africa fakes a photo opp with a stuffed cheetah.

to that of classmates. As Nick was Allan's "favorite roommate," his insights are highly valuable in understanding this troubling mystery. According to Allan, Nick was scarred emotionally as a boy attending the county fair near his home in Chappaqua when "he was denied access to a ride" because of the minimum height requirement, determined by a figure on a sign he had to stand next to. Young Nick fell a bit short that day and was greatly affected by this disappointment. Allan was reminded of this, not so much by seeing mention of it in this column, but by coming across the sign in question which is part of an exhibit dealing with 1950s memorabilia at the Heinz Museum in Pittsburgh. Forgive us for being so public about this, Nick, but Allan wanted me to let you know that he will gladly send you a photo of the offending sign if you're ready to face your fears. I can safely say that you will now clearly tower over the top of the figure you were measured against so long ago... a 4 ft. cardboard cutout of Howdy Doody. As we went to press, we were deeply saddened to learn that **Ferdie Wandelt** died suddenly. Headmaster **Willy MacMullen '78** said, "We lost a great man and a singular educator, the finest friend and wisest mentor, someone who served Taft with the most inspiring passion and love, and someone who changed the course of so many lives and indeed this school." The extended Taft community will grieve his untimely passing. A full tribute will appear in the fall issue.

1967

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Ken Rush writes, "Friends, there is a really great article (and video) online about Eli Miller, the 'seltzer man.' My 1993 children's book about Eli was reissued in June by Simon & Schuster! If you want more information, just Google *The Seltzer Man*." A nice surprise from unheard classmate **Ted Morse**: "Sorry that I have been so silent over the past years. I have sold my software consulting business and am now officially 'retired' from that line of work. Taking a new tack on life, I have joined up with the nonprofit RSVP of Montgomery County, Pa., as their dir. of corporate outreach. As such, I am responsible for designing plans for corporations in and around Philadelphia that have employees who would like to volunteer. If any Tafties are in or passing through the greater Philadelphia area and would like to stop by, just email me and let me know your travel plans." From **Hem Merriman**: "I have retired from Hotchkiss after almost 29 years of service, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time there. Our growing family is growing—three grandsons and one granddaughter—so Linda and I are blessed." And last, but certainly not

least, **Jim Taylor** sent some photos. First, Jungle Jim was on a safari vacation in S. Africa and found a stuffed cheetah they use for tourist setups. He told me it was alive. Second, Rascal Jim reports, "You took me to the Red Rooster in Greensburg to see the Rascals before they were really big, and I also saw them several times when we were at UNC—they broke up on 1970. I saw them in Dec. in Port Chester, N.Y., at their first concert in 40 years and had a picture taken with all four original members. I also saw them in April when they played on Broadway for 15 performances. I remember them well at Taft and had several of their albums. Dino Danelli, Gene Cornish, Eddie Brigati, Jim (the newest Rascal) and Felix Cavaliere."

1968 45th REUNION

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About 13 industrious souls gathered for our 45th Reunion: **Abramowitz, Burbank, Geupel, Grickis, Kinney, Legg, Mantius, Sandifer, Schonbrun, Sklaver, Smith, Tweedy** and me (apologies if I missed anyone). We had a rousing time at our Class Dinner and everyone looked quite well. **Bill Grickis** is still searching for those who stuffed his room, and I promised him that the perpetrators will someday be revealed! Bill told us some news about **Mark "Babs" Fischer**, who apparently is doing well in Delray Beach, Fla. **Lee "The Spider" Burbank** made his first reunion appearance in appropriate track garb and seemed delighted to visit with old friends. **Mike Sandifer's** wife, Heather, had an exhibit at the Mark W. Potter Gallery, which many of us had the pleasure of viewing (see p. 18). She is an expert at compressing leaves and flowers into works of art and also has an impressive collection of painted animals on the cliff behind their home in Greenwich. **Craig Kinney** was in great form and reports that he has played the Amen Corner at Augusta National with a score of par! Should we believe him? One daughter went to Taft, **Wallis '12**, and another works for NASA in Houston. But most startling was his announcement that he, Craig, is in fact *not* from Idaho! How did

Rascals

