

**FAHS Dackel 2012
Reunion San Diego
September 6-10**

Scheduled Events

- Registration Desk opens Thursday at 3 pm in the Hospitality Suite.
- "Meet & Greet" in the Hospitality Suite at 5:30 pm Thursday followed by light meal.
- USMC will recognize FAHS at Marine Recruit Graduation Ceremony Friday morning.
- Hornblower Dinner Cruise Friday night. (Optional)
- Golf Tournament Saturday morning.
- Dinner/Dance at the San Diego German American Societies Club Saturday night.
- Annual Meeting of the FAHS Dackel Alumni Association Sunday morning.
- Reception Sunday night in Hospitality Suite at 5:30.
- Annual Awards Dinner, Class Photo Shoot & Roast at 6:30 Sunday in Hotel Pavilion A Ballroom.
- Hospitality room closes at noon on Monday.
- Do not delay sending in your registration. There are a limited number of hotel rooms and tickets to some events available at our FAHS Reunion rate.
- Registration contact:
Jim & Donna Skaggs:
jdsdaggs@cox.net
480-964-5775
- All other information:
Jane & Allan Rappoport:
ajrapp@san.rr.com
619-846-9888
- To receive a copy of this newsletter in color as a pdf attachment email:
johelmers@gmail.com
Enter SEND NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

DER DACKEL NACHRICHTENBRIEF

Volume 9 Issue 1

Spring 2012

ARE YOU READY FOR SAN DIEGO?



The Bayside City is ready for You!

THE 2012 REUNION of the FAHS Dackel Alumni Association will kick off Thursday night, September 6th, and won't slow down until the last *Auf Wiedersehen* on Monday, September 10th. Your reunion committee, chaired by Allan and Jane Gardner (FAHS '48) Rappoport and vice-chaired by Jim (FAHS '51) and Donna Skaggs, has a great schedule of events lined up for you.

We'll meet in the beautiful Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, a great base from which to enjoy both the reunion and the unique attractions of San Diego. Head for our Hospitality Suite on Thursday afternoon to register and then stay for "Meet & Greet" and light meal.

Friday starts with the thrilling sound of the Marine Corps Marching Band and FAHS being recognized at the Recruit Depot Graduation Ceremony. It ends with dinner and dancing while cruising San Diego Bay.

Saturday morning golfers will compete for bragging rights in a golf tournament and that night we'll enjoy authentic German food, dancing and entertainment at the German American Societies of San Diego Club. Festivities conclude Sunday night with a reception in the Hospitality Suite followed by the Annual Awards Dinner, Photo Shoot & Roast in Pavilion A Ballroom.

You don't want to miss it. If you haven't already registered, do it today. Details on left.



Above: We will cruise San Diego Bay on Friday night aboard a Hornblower Cruise Ship.

Left: The swimming pool at Four Points by Sheraton Hotel will be a great place to relax between scheduled events.

Meet Jane & Allan Rappoport, your hosts in San Diego

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Donna and Jim Skaggs

2012 Reunion Committee

The annual FAHS Dackel reunions are all the work of a small group of Frankfurt alumni and spouses who volunteer to assist the reunion hosts in the myriad tasks involved in staging a major event. All of the members of this year's committee have served in similar capacities in one or more previous reunions.

Members of the 2012 committee are:

- Allan and Jane Gardner Rappoport '48 — Reunion Committee Chairs and Hosts
- Donna and Jim Skaggs '51 — Vice-chairs and Registration Managers
- David Klinger '47 — Chairman of FAHS Dackel Association
- Joyce Dixon Helmers '52 — Media Relations and Public Relations
- Joe Hoffmann '49 — Hospitality Room Manager and Secretary of the Association
- Norm Matthias '48 — Hospitality Room Assistant Manager
- Jud Matthias '49 — Car pool Coordinator
- Georgia Matthias — Registraton Manager
- Mary Lee Matthias '53 — Name Tag Manager
- Mark and Vickey Kleinsmith — 2011 Reunion Committee Chairs

Gregarious duo invite you to another "WOW" reunion

ALLAN RAPPOPORT says that his first Frankfurt High School Dackel reunion in 1995 was a "WOW" experience.

Although he was well acquainted with his wife's background as a "military brat," it had been 50 years since she had seen most of her former classmates.

"These people had not seen each other for so long and it was like they had never been apart," he said. "They were so close and so relaxed together. They exuded camaraderie, like when you're in a foxhole together you're buddies for life."

The Rappoportes have now participated in nine FAHS Dackel Association reunions. The 2012 reunion is the first they have hosted, although they have been active in planning others. When Jim Skaggs had surgery just prior to hosting the 2010 reunion, they pitched in and acted as an advance team.

Their suggestion of a possible optional night at Black Barts was a big winner.

Last year, when there was talk of discontinuing the reunions after 2011, they stepped up and volunteered to chair one for 2012. Within days they had won enthusiastic support and so they have proceeded, full speed ahead, which is their *modus operandi*.

In a "quick" phone interview that lasted well over an hour, it became evident that this is a couple who enjoy working together. Allan loves Jane's independent spirit, born from her early years as a military brat, and Jane loves Allan's tenacity, honed as a Marine and U.S. Customs official. When they put their heads together to plan our 2012 reunion, you just knew we were in for a great party.

Jane was born at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C., and was three months old when



Allan and Jane Rappoport

her father was transferred to the naval base in San Diego. The family followed, establishing a pattern that continued through her teen years.

By the time she enrolled in Frankfurt High School she had attended 22 different schools. She arrived in Germany in March, 1947 aboard the U.S.S. Henry Gibbons with her mother and brother. Her step-father met them in Frankfurt to take them to Rhein Main AFB and she saw something she has never forgotten—a little girl walking on one leg.

"I always thought of war as heroes and big battles," she said, "and when I saw her it hit me. This was war." It wasn't long before she became an active participant in another kind of war: a "Cold War." The family was housed in an area known as Zeppelinheim that had been built to house workers for a zeppelin factory. The airfield where supplies were loaded onto planes during the Berlin Blockade was a short walk from the family's quarters. Many of her classmates volunteered to help load the planes and she worked in the personnel office organizing morning reports.

Jane described her experience as a military brat in post-WWII Germany in an article published last year in *Tiger Flight*, the professional journal of the AF Security Forces.

Much of the article focuses on the American high school in Frankfurt. She entered FAHS as a junior although she was barely 15.

In all the moving around she had skipped two grades. It was the first year of the school's existence and officials were struggling to provide transportation for dependents housed in the military installations that surrounded Frankfurt.

"At first our vehicle was a weapons carrier enclosed in plywood," Jane wrote. "Later we received military buses."

She described the school itself with delight, writing "Our high school was a beautiful very modern building with the outer walls of the classrooms constructed of glass."

By the time she graduated in May 1948 things had improved, she wrote. "More students, more faculty and more books had arrived from the states and non-subject activities 'bloomed'."

She was 16 at that time and too young to obtain a work permit so arrangements were made to send her back to Washington, D.C. to live with family friends. A law firm hired her as a receptionist after she blitzed an I.Q. test and she studied English and History at George Washington University.

Subsequently, Jane joined the staff of the Copyright Office and, later, the staff of the Ways and Means Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

She was office manager of a downtown law firm when she met Allan. He had finished a tour in the Marine Corps and was teaching science at a high school in Arlington, Virginia. Their backgrounds were polar opposites. Allan was born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, which he describes as "Pollyannish, beautiful, and straight out of the movie *A Wonderful Life*."

"When I was a kid," he said, "it was so safe we could go all day—visit friends across town, go up on the steel pier and spend the whole day on the rides, shows, and nobody ever worried about us." But that was during the depression. The family moved

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Jane's picture from the 1948 yearbook, *The Dackel*.

“What Boat Did You Come Over On?”

THAT WAS THE QUESTION newcomers were asked when they showed up at Frankfurt American Dependents High School in those first years after it opened in October, 1946.

At first, there were just a few and they gravitated to one another onboard ship, on the trains and on station platforms as they journeyed to their new homes in the American Zone and eventually at the new school. FAHS was the creation of the newly organized American Dependent School Service which opened that year 38 elementary schools and five high schools in the European Command (EUCOM). In Frankfurt am Main the first high school student body included seventh and eighth graders as well as grades nine-twelve for a total of about 250 students. When the senior class graduated in July, 1947, it became one of the first graduating class in the Dependent School System. Few of them ever saw one another again until 1997 when the idea of a 50th reunion began circulating between Dave Klinger, Bob Baker and Pete Darlington.

“After we got back to the states we had no contact at all,” Bob says. “I went to Oregon State where Pete Darlington’s dad was Assistant Dean of Men. I found out where Pete was and we communicated over the years. When our class was having its 50th I wrote Pete and he told me Dave had the same idea. We got together and we started hunting for classmates. I found Nancy Cox. Joe Oxley found a number of people.” The result was a reunion in San Antonio, Texas and the formation of the Dackel Alumni Association, named after the school’s first yearbook. A reunion has been held annually for the past 16 years. “Dave Klinger has been a real adhesive force for the group,” Bob said.

“What boat did you come over on?” was also the sub-title for a collection of articles by alumni when the Dackel Association published *Reflections of Frankfurt High School Students* in 2004. Credit for persuading alumni to put their memories on paper went to Katie Edwards Picek (FAHS ’47), who also transcribed the articles in Microsoft® WORD. Eugene Marteney (FAHS ’51) formatted the articles into a spiral-bound book and CD to make it widely available to alumni and other interested parties. A copy is available in the display of archives for review during the reunion.

Regrettably, both Katie and Eugene have passed away and are not available for updates to this very special work. However, as we look forward to celebrating the 65th anniversary of the first

graduating class, we think it is time to re-raise the question. So, what boat did you cover over one?

“We arrived in Germany on the General Tyler,” Bob Baker wrote in “Thoughts of Germany,” (page 96 in *Reflections*). Now retired after a career in forestry, Bob lives in Bend, Oregon, from which he recently emailed additional memories of the 46-47 school year spent in Frankfurt.

“Some of our school mates complained about having to be in Germany and missing home,” he wrote. “I felt privileged to be there and the opportunities for lots of travel. I really enjoyed traveling to different places with my folks all over Europe. We



A Rhine River Cruise aboard Hitler's Yacht was enjoyed by seniors from all five American high schools in 1947. FAHS seniors (clockwise from left) included Dick Thornber, Ellen Eidman Keith, Shirley Ward, Drake Wilson, Pat Browning Gorby, Jack Delamain, a ship's waiter, Unknown, Betty Berthelsen Kroupe, Jackie Heffner Bordley, Stewart Gordon, Janet Southworth, Dave Klinger, Bill Couch and Marianne Poinier.

lived in four different towns starting with Kassel and the last one was Fulda.”

Because Kassel was 50 km from Frankfurt, Bob lived in the dorm during the school week along with other brats whose parents lived too far from the school for a daily commute. This included Barbara McLain Holt and Patsy McCartney Boone, who also lived in Kassel. At first they shared a building. “The boy’s dorm was on the lowest level and the girl’s dorm was far away on the second floor,” he wrote.

The high school basketball team beat most of the Army teams, he remembers. “During a scrimmage game I fouled the coach and the next time down the floor he showed me how easy it would have been for him to put me on the floor. He was able to demonstrate the move without his even breaking stride.”

One of Bob’s favorite memories is spending a night in Bad Nauheim as Dave Klinger’s guest to see a show highlighting the 1946 Army football team with Glen Davis and Doc Blanchard.

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Reflections

How is that, after more than one half century of experiences with other schools, family and work relationships plus the myriad of social relationships associated with all these things, we still have strong memories of a brief time in our youth returning again and again?

Often accompanying those memories are questions that cause us to wonder, “How is that old friend?” and “I wonder if they think about me, too?”

Why not memories of some intermediate period? Some would say that age always brings thoughts of “the good old days,” when cares were few and concerns were of the present rather than the future.

My own perspective on this is somewhat different. First, teenage is a powerful period in the development of personal and social relationships.

Second, it would seem that we were experiencing a unique world condition first hand and that we were at the peak of our personal and social development that slowed those conditions to influence our developing character.

Thus, our memories focus not on things or places, but on friends and activities involving friends and related social events.

Eugene Martenay '51
August 2004



Close-up of the two logos on a man's pocketed shirt.

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER POLO & T-SHIRTS

Wally Campbell, FAHS '48, has announced that this will be the last chance to place an order for the FAHS Customized Apparel before the San Diego reunion.

The deadline for orders is 15 July, 2012. Get your order in now so it can be delivered to you at the 2012 reunion in September.

These items consist of Men's and Women's Polo & Golf Shirts, Men's and Women's T-Shirts and Baseball Hats. All items come with either one logo (eagle) or two logos (eagle and dackel on a stool). Men's Polo shirts start at \$30.00 and Women's Polo shirts start at \$24.50.

For a complete list of prices and colors see the 2011 Order Form that was included with your Fall Newsletter.

To place an order or for more information, contact:

Wally Campbell
Phone (706) 454-0667
Email <nkcampbell@plantationcable.net>

or David Klinger,
Phone (509) 548-5480
Email <dklinger@nwi.net>

What boat did you come over on?

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He may be the "Big Daddy" of the Dackels but Dave Klinger says without the involvement of a lot more people the Dackel Association would not exist.

Dave's first memory of Germany was the train ride south to Bad Nauheim. He arrived aboard the President Tyler in August, 1946, and boarded a train to the American Zone. The first stop was in the city of Kassel. In "My Year in Germany, 1946-1947" (page 64 in *Reflections*) he wrote, "I remember talking to teenagers on the station platform who welcomed us to Germany. The next stops were Marburg, Giessen, and then Bad Nauheim. At each stop we talked to American teenagers on the station platforms." Once he had acclimated himself to his new surroundings, he said "the highlight of each week was to meet each boat train with newly arriving dependents. We would welcome the new teenagers and help speed their assimilation into the community."

When school started he ran for vice president of the Student Body with a proposal "that the students control the halls and that a student patrol be formed for that purpose." When he was elected he found himself "organizing and operating the student patrol. Students would man a desk in the hall checking permission slips of students out of class. It seemed to work well most of the time and we had a lot of fun in the process."

For Granvyl "Bud" Hulse, Germany was a cultural shock. He wrote "None of us were prepared for the event, and nothing before, or during the trip over gave any of us a clue as to what we were getting into."

Bud made the journey aboard the George W. Goethals in July 1946 and immediately boarded a train to Frankfurt. In "Frankfurt Memories," (page 38 in *Reflections*) he writes that "the

sights that I saw through the windows of the train as we traveled south were as impersonal as looking at pictures in *Life Magazine*. I don't think that any of us really became aware of the change until we stood in the bombed out Frankfurt Bahnhof and started saying our good-byes to our new friends. It seemed as if everything went from color to black and white. Like walking from a warm house into the cold chill of a bleak winter, and yet it was July. In short, it was 'unreal.'"

Joan Byroad Cooper spent her first three weeks in Germany in a castle, feasting on the "beautiful creations" of a "marvelous cook." She came on the USS America in September 1946. In "Highlights of My Youth in Germany" (page 44 in *Reflections*) she described what it was like living in Seeheim Schloss "I have never been treated so royally. Having all your wants catered to was a delight to a teenager."

Even so, she worried whether there would be other teenagers. In October the family moved to Darmstadt and she enrolled as a senior at the new high school in Frankfurt.

Her sentiments summing up the experience are those many of us share: "I made many friends and consider my Germany days the highlight of my life."

Meet Jane and Allan Continued from page 2

to Baltimore where business was better. He attended high school and junior college there and graduated from American University in D.C.

Jane and Allan were married in 1958. He left teaching to become a civilian employee with the Corps of Engineers and later with the Treasury Department. In that position he was moved from department to department, and was with U.S. Customs when he was asked to take on a difficult five-year project.

Although he agreed reluctantly, his success was later rewarded with a two-year assignment in San Diego, which he describes as "the most desired location in Customs." The Rappaports moved to San Diego in 1978 and after two days asked themselves, "Why would we want to leave San Diego?"

MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1947

Anthony C. (Tony) Albrecht
Robert J. (Bob) Baker
Elizabeth (Betty) Berthelsen Kroupa
Kate Breckinridge Prewitt*
Ann Brier Whitesel
Jack Brown
Patricia (Pat) Browning Gorby
Robert B. (Bob) Bunting*
Joan (Joanie) Byroad Cooper
Jeannine L. Carder
William E. (Bill) Couch*
Nancy R. Cox Smith
Laurence E. (Pete) Darlington (MAJ)
Frederic J. (Jack) Delamain (COL)
Katharine (Katie) Edwards Picek*
Ellen V. (Dee Dee) Eidman Keith
Stewart L. (Stew) Gordon (PhD)
Jacqueline (Jackie) Heffner Bordley
John H. (Jack) Hennrikus*
Granvyl G. (Bud) Hulse Jr. (REV)
Edward S. (Ed) King *
David M. (Dave) Klinger (COL)
A. A. (Mickey) McNamee (COL)
Barbara (Bobbie) MacLain Holt*
Brian R. Nelson
Marianne (Skipper) Poinier Stephan*
Barbara Smith
Janet (Jan) Southworth
Richard W. (Dick) Thorner (LTC.)*
Mary Jean (Jeanne) Werrell Brady*
Drake Wilson (MG)
*Deceased

Allan's career eventually led through a series of promotions to District Director of U.S. Customs for San Diego and Imperial Counties. He retired in 1990. Jane worked for the Port of San Diego, retiring in 1994.

They may be "retired" but they've never been busier. Allan serves on several boards of directors and for the past 15 years Jane has served with the San Diego Police Department Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol. They also enjoy travel, golf, their family (which includes their son Paul, daughter Patti and five grandsons) and Frankfurt American High School reunions. Jane's stepfather retired from the Air Force and her mother also retired from the Air Force as a civilian employee.

Association Minutes — To be approved at Annual Meeting on September 9

DACKEL ASSOCIATION MINUTES 2011

10:00 AM, Saturday, 9 September 2011
Doubletree Guest Suites

7270 Cedar Street, Omaha, Nebraska

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Dave Klinger (FAHS '47), Dackel Association Chairman, convened the meeting at 11:10 AM, and welcomed all present.

Class Representatives present were:

1947: Bob Baker

1948: Wally Campbell

1949: Joe Hoffmann, Secretary

1950: Bob Fletcher

1951: Jim Skaggs

1952: Jo Dixon Helmers, Publicity

1953 and later: Ted Robinette

Others present were: 1947: Pete Darlington; 1948: Jo Hoffmann Thomas (Archivist), Norm Matthias, Jane Gardner Rappoport, Doreen LaMotte Sherbert, Harriett Stubbs, Roger Brislawn, Ede March Prendergast, Jan Barker McKelvy; 1950: Tom Bagley, James Gamerdinger; 1951: John Howard, Peggy Ganzert Bartlett, Doug Torgerson; 1953: Mary Lee Bradbury Matthias, La Nedra Rushing Reynolds, Bobbie Katz Kleinsmith; 1955: Gary Silver, Carolyn Dixon Money. Also present: Mark & Vickey Kleinsmith

2. MINUTES OF 2010 MEETING

The minutes of the 2010 meeting, published in the Spring Newsletter, were available for review and were approved.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Secretary: Joe Hoffmann had nothing to report.

B. Treasurer: In the absence of Treasurer Barbara Harris Finch, Dave Klinger reported as follows: The check book balance is the same as this time last year, \$3377.54. No seed money was required this year. There are some outstanding expenses to be submitted in the amount of \$286.57 resulting in an unencumbered net worth of \$3090.97.

C. Archivist: Jo Hoffmann Thomas reported that attendees who had personal items displayed on the tables containing the archives should secure them by the end of the day. She also noted that the archives are increasingly bulky and would be quite costly to ship. There was some discussion of how to handle the archives,

and the suggestion was made that the materials be digitized. It was agreed that volunteers should be sought to convert to digitized format. There were no volunteers from those present.

D. Chair, 2009 Reunion: Ede March Prendergast reported that she is still recovering from her experience.

E. Chair, 2010 Reunion: Jim Skaggs had nothing to add.

F. Chair, 2011 Reunion: Bobbie Katz Kleinsmith reported that all is going well

G. Shirt Project: Wally Campbell listed the prices for tee shirts and hats with single and double logos. He will place a production order when he has received enough orders. Wally gave us his telephone number should we wish to order : 706-454-0667.

H. Publicity/News Editor: Jo Dixon Helmers noted that there have been some complaints about non-receipt of the Newsletter. One problem may be that not all member addresses are current. The next issue is due out about the end of October. Anyone who has not received a copy within a reasonable time after that should notify Dave Klinger to assure use of the correct address. On the PR side, Jo noted the need to assure that the Dackel web page is current. The URL (web address) for the web page has been in the Newsletter and will be included in future issues. Dave reminded us that there is a difference between the Dackel web page (our site on the web), and the Dackel list (which is for e-mail). It having been announced earlier that Jane and Allan Rappoport have volunteered to organize a reunion for 2012 in San Diego on September 6 - 10, Jo noted that she would be coordinating with Jane and Allan on public relations for San Diego.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Vacancies: Biographical Book - - The bios are in need of updating. Wally Campbell offered to help in the updating. Dave asked for volunteers for the position of Video Editor. The next Newsletter will contain a comment on this matter.

B. Insurance: A question was raised as to the reason for the provision of insurance in the contract with the hotel. Jim Skaggs explained that at Flagstaff it was for the protection of the hotel against liability arising from actions of members

of our group. Insurance was not required in Omaha.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2012 Reunion: Dave reported on the results of the survey related to the proposed reunion. Three responses were "no" to holding it in San Diego; 3 were for San Diego, but for later dates; the remainder were "yes" on San Diego, and for either the proposed dates (Sept. 6 -10) or earlier. Allan told us that the proposed dates, following the Labor Day weekend, were very favorable for both travel and lodging. He also distributed handouts containing details of the arrangements thus far agreed to with the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. He pointed out that the rate offered by the hotel would be hard to find anywhere in San Diego, but added that final agreement would be deferred pending discussions with one or two other facilities. He stated that the deal offered by the Sheraton would be difficult to match.

B. Future of Dackel: To be addressed following the 2012 reunion.

C. Class meeting locations: All agreed that this year meetings were not needed.

D. Other items: The question was raised as to the possibility of inviting faculty to future reunions. It was proposed that a database be established, and that it include the names of deceased faculty. Jim Skaggs volunteered to work with faculty members in exploring the matter further.

6. OFFICERS

As there were no volunteers, it was agreed that we would continue with the current incumbents. At the same time, there was agreement that the matter of succession planning should be given attention during the coming year.

7. APPRECIATION FOR 2011 REUNION COMMITTEE

Dave Klinger led the group in a round of applause in appreciation for a great reunion put on by Mark, Vickey, and Bobbie.

8. FINAL COMMENTS

Mark announced that he would be providing rides to the airport, and would be leaving the hotel at least two hours before flight times.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Dave adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

THE DACKAL ASSOCIATION
(An Association of Early Frankfurt American High
School Alumni, Frankfurt Germany)

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Email: dklinger@nwi.net
Web Site: <http://www.usroots.com/dackel>

Editor: Joyce Dixon Helmers, FAHS '52



*POSTMASTER: RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED*

ADDRESS:

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN



Dave Klinger

Dear Classmates and Friends,

By the time you get this newsletter, each alum should have received a letter with a Survey Form from the Dackel Association asking questions about where the Association goes from here.

Your answers will help us make a decision about our future as an organization. I ask each of you to fill out and return the survey as soon as possible, even if you only fill out the first part.

If you did not get a survey letter, please contact me at once and I will get one to you.

As a group we are aging. More and more of us are affected by health issues and loss of energy to do the things we did a few years ago. That includes maintaining a viable organization. Volunteer support is harder to find as interest wanes, free time vanishes and family interests take priority. It is time for younger people to take over the tasks of leadership. The challenge is there for anyone to accept.

The deadline for returning the survey is 15 July, which will allow time to process the results prior to the reunion

and also allow us to develop a course of action for the future. I hope to have another mailing with the survey results etc. prior to meeting in San Diego. So get those surveys back to me please.

I want to thank all those people who over the years have given their time and talents to keep the Dackel Association going. They include the Class Representatives and Officers of the Association, the Archivists, various News Editors over the years, those who Chaired reunions and those who served on Reunion Committees. There were special projects such as Wally Campbell's Shirt project, Katy Edwards' Picek and Eugene Marteney's book and CD projects, and special projects that people undertook at my request. Thanks also to those who attended one or more of our reunions and all of you who supported us in various ways. We would not be here today without you.

Lastly, I want to encourage each of you to join us in San Diego from 6 to 10 September. At present we do not have any prospects for a reunion in 2013 so this may well be our last annual reunion.

I thank all of you for your support and encouragement. I wish you all good health and happiness in the future.

As Ever, Dave