CONNECTIONS

Volume 1, Issue 13

January, 1997

"Connections" Now Published By-Monthly!!

Thank you to everyone who has sent notes about how much they enjoy reading "Connections". For many of our members, "Connections" is their main link to the Club and their former co-workers.

In response to your suggestions, we will now publish "Connections" six times a year (January, March, May, July, September, and November). By increasing the number of issues we produce, we hope to better fulfill the needs of both our long distance and local members.

We encourage members to continue to forward any suggestions on how the Club can better serve its membership to:

American Drug Stores Alumni Club Post Office Box 5176 Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Jerry Rutherford

to serve as "Assistant Editor" to Connections

With the increased number of "Connections" publications, Alumni Club Board Member, Jerry Rutherford has accepted the position of Assistant Editor. He and Editor, Susan Rini will work together



Jerry Rutherford, new assistant editor for Connections

to produce "Connections" by-monthly. If any of you would like to submit articles, or ideas for articles, feel free to call or write Jerry at: 1125 W. Concord Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60195-1813, or 847/991-0447.

Alumni Club Sets Dates for 1997 Luncheons

By letting you know the dates of the 1997 outings in advance, the Alumni Club hopes to be able to get a bigger turnout. Although the specifics are still being settled, the tentative dates for the 1997 outings are as follows:

Luncheon - week of March 17-21, 1997 Annual Meeting - week of May 19-23, 1997 Luncheon - week of August 18-22, 1997 Luncheon - week of October 20-22, 1997 The 1997 schedule of events is not limited to those dates listed above. Additional outings are currently being considered.

Please note that the *Annual Meeting* has been moved to May in an attempt to get a bigger turnout. Since no specific plans have yet been made for the Annual Meeting, we'd like to get your input on whether you prefer a dinner/dance, or dinner/theater outing. Please let us know.

If you have a favorite restaurant that you would like to recommend for an Alumni Club luncheon, or the Annual Meeting be sure to notify Chuck Good at 815/968-7607. We'll be happy to check it out! We will have specific dates, locations, and costs settled in time for the next issue of "Connections".



Taken from the October, 1965 issue of Osco News.

Meet "Mr. Construction"
Chester Cole



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Chet was born July 7, 1910, in Plymouth, PA. he moved to Chicago as a child and was educated in the public schools there, including Illinois Institute of Technology and Northwestern University. He is a licensed Professional Engineer.

During World War II, he was employed by the Tennessee Valley Authority, also by a private consulting firm, doing work on the Naval Air Bases in the Ninth Naval District. He was later employed by consulting firms in the Chicago Loop. Some of the more important projects worked on were the Sun-Times Bldg., and a number of the Hydro-electric projects in this country and South America. Approximately nine years ago, he came to Jewel as a Construction Engineer. Since Osco Drug became affiliated with Jewel, Chet has become more and more involved with Osco construction projects.

Chet and his wife, Lee, reside in Hinsdale where they built their own home. Chet's hobbies are music and sports, although working 23 hours a day keeping Osco expanding leaves him little time for either!

Meet "Mr. Real Estate" James Johnson



Jim was born March 23, 1930, in Moline, Illinois. He attended the Moline Schools for twelve years (grammar and high school). Beginning in 1948, his college years were spent at Augustana College for one year and the University of Illinois for three years. His schooling was interrupted when he served four years in the Air Force during the Korean War. He served in the Pentagon in Washington DC, U.S.A.F.

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His first job after graduating from the University of Illinois was with the Celotex Building Materials Company; he began working for Jewel in the Real Estate Department on August 4, 1958, and has worked for Osco Real Estate for the last two or three years.

Jim is married and his wife's name is Gloria. They have a daughter, Kristen. He enjoys all winter sports, and likes to play bridge anytime he isn't playing golf, which he likes anytime or anywhere. Traveling is another one of his likes.



WAS RIGHT!

by: Bryce Moulton - Rutland, Vermont

Yes, Yogi Berra was right when he said, "It's deja vu all over again" and here is my true story to try and prove it to you.

In the early 1950's I bought my father's drug store in Sharon, Massachusetts. It did not take long for me to learn some of the realities of life.

One of the most wonderful features in owning an independent corner drug store was the people. Most were so good that it was a pleasure to be taken into their deep confidence and to become an integral part of their lives. The sad part however is that in our society there is a very small percentage of those who are human leeches; those who prey on others. Yes, there are criminals out there. Those people who shoplift, break into other's businesses and homes, and those who will use weapons in open, aggressive armed robbery.

I have been a target and have experienced all of the above mentioned assaults and could talk or write for hours on those subjects, however for brevity this story is about armed robbery and the reasons I agree with Yogi.

In the days of the 50's Moulton Drug Company opened everyday before 7:30 a.m. and usually did not

close until 11:00 to 11:30 p.m. One Fall night I was working alone and very busy at the soda fountain which was at the front of the store and not far from the door.

For some reason I felt that eyes were watching me so I looked out the front window and saw two men I did not know watching me. They immediately turned and walked away. After about ten minutes I had the same feeling so I looked out again and sure enough the same two men walked by the window. By this time the shivers were running up and down my spine and I knew there was gong to be some sort of trouble.

It was about 11:30 p.m. and all my customers had said goodnight and left. I knew this was the moment. I always kept a loaded revolver within easy reach near the two cash registers so I picked up the nearest one. It seemed like I had been in this situation before and I knew exactly what was going to happen. It was then that the two men walked in to the empty store, one several feet before the other. The lead man had his right hand in his pant's pocket. I was standing behind a counter as he approached.

There was something in his hand as he came close and just before he took the object out he noticed the revolver that I held loosely pointed at the floor in front of him. He stopped short, his mouth dropped open and with a kind of muffled squawk turned around to his partner and said, "Let's get out of here" and with that they both darted out the front door much faster than they had come in. Outside there was a car waiting for them.

A year went by and during that time a druggist in a neighboring town was killed and money and narcotics stolen. The police to my knowledge were unable to apprehend the perpetrator or perpetrators.

It was another fall night and I was again working alone late when an event happened and in every minute detail it was exactly as it had been the year before.

I had my moment's warning and for the second time I knew for sure what was going to happen . . . and it did. So I feel that again I can say to you, in all honesty, that despite the chuckles that his saying might evoke, Yogi Berra was right!





Count On People Who Care

Our Alumni Are Still Making a Difference . . .

We shouldn't be surprised that the people who helped bring about the success of Osco, Sav-on, and Skaggs, "Our Alumni" are now showing they care by their support of the needy, the sick and the elderly.

The more we communicate with our alumni, the more we find out how involved they are in helping the people around them. In this and future articles, we will share some of the wonderful work being done by our army of volunteers.

Please let us know what you or another alumni is doing to help make a difference so we can include it in future columns of "People Who Care".

ELKS HONOR OSCO DRUG

Alumni Board Member, Ron Green has worked with the Oak Lawn Elks' Neediest Family Committee for over 25 years. This group not only provides Christmas baskets for over one hundred families each year, but along with their donations of money and

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health care goods to needy families, they donate to: Wylers Children's Hospital, Cope, Coleletta Child Care Facility, Various Nursing Homes, Disabled Veterans and many other worthwhile causes throughout the entire year. Ron commented that even though a lot of work is done at Christmas, we need to remember that people's needs are not seasonal. The Christmas baskets included a whole ham or turkey dinner, plus other food and health care supplies. In addition the baskets included a gift for each member of the family (by age and gender if at all possible). "There is no greater reward then the look, or tear of 'thank you' seen when delivering these baskets," he says. Ron's son and daughter have joined their dad in volunteering to deliver these baskets; it was an experience they will never forget.



Ron Green

The Oak Lawn Elks No. 2254, 10720 S. Central, Chicago Ridge, traveled north recently to honor the employees of the Osco Reclamation Center in Elgin.

The Elks Needy Kids chairman, Ron Green said, "We couldn't be as successful in providing help to all the deserving families in our area without Osco's continued generous help."

Ron Green and other members of the Oak Lawn Elks have done a wonderful job. We applaud the Elks for their generous volunteer work. We applaud Osco as well for their generosity and support of these worthwhile charities. You really can "Count on People Who Care".



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Welcome to Our New Members



The following alumni have recently joined the American Drug Stores Alumni Club. Join me in extending a warm welcome to:

Frances Demos - Chicago, IL Casmier J. Klein - Bismarck, ND Lorraine McGann - Elgin, IL Freeman Mjolsness - Plymouth, MN Marvin J. Mucha - Terre Haute, IN Bernard S. Schelonka - Rockford, IL David Zanardi - Grand Rapids, MI

1997 DUES & DIRECTORY UPDATE MAILING GOES OUT THIS MONTH

You will soon be receiving your "Membership Dues" statement for 1997. This form will include space for any address changes that need to be included in the revised membership directory which is scheduled for release in Summer, 1997.

Your dues statement will act as either an invoice for dues you owe for 1997, or as a confirmation that your 1997 dues are paid. There are many members whose dues are paid through 1997 and beyond.

For those of you who owe \$10 for your 1997 dues: Return your payment immediately. You will be given the option of paying \$10 for your 1997 dues, or \$25 for your 1997, 1998, & 1999 dues (\$5 savings). Be sure to verify your address and telephone number on the bottom half of the form so that we can update the membership directory.

For those of you who have paid your 1997 dues: Your statement will confirm that your dues have been paid. You do not need to send any more money, but you still need to return the form so that we can verify your address and telephone number for the membership directory.

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A STATEMENT CONTACT: SUSAN RINI AT 630/858-4810.

Remember:

- -Everyone needs to return their statement in order to verify address & telephone numbers for the membership directory.
- Due date for return of your payment/and or address verification is March 1, 1997.



The American Drug Stores Alumni Club will once again be coordinating their group travel excursions with the Jewel Retiree Club. Plans are currently underway to put together another outstanding selection of trips for our fellow alumni and their friends. Included in this year's package selection will be trips to Branson, Las Vegas, Hawaii, and much, much more.

A detailed schedule, including dates and costs will be available in mid-February, 1997. All Alumni Club members will receive a copy of the schedule in the mail and it will also appear in the March issue of Connections.

NORSK HOSTFEST

A CELEBRATION OF HERITAGE

Alumni Club members Tork & Geri Fuglestad, and Dan and Norma Baranick attended Hostfest in Minot, North Dakota last October. This annual celebration of Scandinavian heritage is an internationally known event drawing over 60,000 visitors.

The Baranick's and Fuglestad's kept quite busy at this carnival atmosphere event. There was plenty of food to sample and entertainment to enjoy.



Geri Fuglestad and Norma Baranick pose with a couple of Scandinavian "Trolls"

Thor Heyerdahl, probably the most famous Norwegian alive was one of the distinguished attendees who was inducted into the Norsk Hostfest Scandinavian-American Hall of Fame this year. Mr. Heyerdahl is an author, archaeologist, anthropologist (and all around adventurer!) He was presented with the International Scandinavian Cultural Award.



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Heyerdahl is best known for his legendary 1947 voyage of the Kon-Tiki, a daring 4,300 mile Pacific journey by balsawood raft, designed to prove his theory that Polynesia was settled by South Americans rather than Southeast Asians. Heyerdahl made similar ventures in other seas as well to affirm his long-held belief that ancient civilizations far removed from one another geographically had contact nonetheless though transoceanic travel.

Have you recently taken a trip?

I'm sure there are plenty of other Alumni who have a special trip recently! WE'D LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT IT!! Just drop us a short note and a picture (if available) to, or call:

Susan Rini at P.O. Box 5176, Glendale Heights, IL 60139, 630/858-4810 or,

Jerry Rutherford at 1125 W. Concord Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60195-1813, 847/991-0447

We hope to hear from more of you soon



We'd like to thank the participants of the Medical Benefits Survey for their patients as the Alumni Club Board works on compiling the data collected.

The information is still being compiled. Once collected and summarized, we will share our findings with American Stores. We will continue to keep you up to date on the status of this project.

A special thanks to board members, Ron Green, Nan Duwe, and Tork Fuglestad for all their work in pulling this information together.



My Life With Skaggs contributed by: Rollie A. Robison - Corvallis, OR

Alumni Club member and long time Skaggs employee, Rollie Robison, has provided us with a collection of material about the memories of his career with Skaggs. Look for a series of articles we will be publishing based on Rollie's collection.

The Beginning . . .

For myself, providence has always placed me with bright, clean and industrious people starting with my parents, family and friends. The privilege of good honest labor with amazing people like Sam Skaggs and the American Stores fine families, have certainly provided me with a forever satisfying and pleasant life.

In retrospect, it seems since day one, with my family in Idaho the name "Skaggs" denoted the Great American Spirit. That was the feeling I remembered while living in Oregon and my body told me that the joy of heavy work had to change. It was an easy choice. I knew I could be a good Pharmacist for Sam Skaggs and still enjoy the motivating satisfaction of responsibility and long hours. Brilliant and motivated people showed me that age 46 was still very young.

Wait Dean, Ted Austin, Clyde McCoy and H.R. "Pinky" Greason, Jack O'Connell, and Fred Dearborn were all great encouragement to an old plug farmer to try harder. Handicaps are also great incentives to try harder.

Alaska ...

I recall going to work early one day to organize the Rx Department for a busy day. Sam Skaggs was upstairs and busy. In his magic way he suddenly showed up in the Rx Department. As usual noting every detail in a glance he said, "Rollie this information is not out yet, but will you go to Alaska

with us?" He continued, "I am enthused about Alaska commercially and you should see the big, gorgeous salmon my boys caught. We should close the deal for some stores there after the final bidding for oil leases in Prudhoe." I was very excited. My supposition was perhaps for as much as Head Pharmacist in one of the stores. It would have been a great adventure!

The oil leases went much higher than expected and the deal fell through. Sam was very disappointed. Sam's word is his bond and in his genius when he gives his word it is a good deal for all, even and including the guy who scrubs the floors.

Great Assistants . . .

In all honesty I have to say most of the Assistant General Mangers that I worked with were great people, and probably more knowledgeable than myself. They were people like Al Hoskins, Bob McBride, Harris Dickey, Don Petty and Dick Lund not to mention many others.

Every Job is Important . . .

Probably my one brightest maneuver when I started as 3rd Pharmacist in Boise was to keep the men's restroom clean. Whether it was in my own stores, farms and warehouse, I chose to do the low level and so-called "dirty jobs". I felt it was important for all jobs, no matter which ones, to be done right. I would never require my people to jobs that they possibly felt were demeaning, unless I did them as well. Even as a Manager I continued to keep the rest rooms clean. As it turned out, I always had plenty of willing help.

Thank you Rollie, for taking the time to put together the memories of your life with Skaggs. There will be more to come in the March issue of "Connections".

Alumni Club Coffee Mugs

ORDER FORM

Name:	Make Checks Payable to:
Address:	American Drug Stores Alumni Club
City:	Post Office Box 5176
State: Zip:	Glendale Heights, IL 60139
Mugs @ \$5.00 each = \$	JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!!!

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Post Office Box 5176 Glendale Heights, IL 60139