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OGN

Famous mall is must-see experience

The Mall of America is a must-see venue for those who attend Reunion 2005. Just seven miles from the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, it is the largest retail and entertainment complex in the USA. The hotel provides transportation to

strom. The mall also has 50 full-service restaurants and other eateries, 14 theaters and an underwater Adventures Aquarium containing sharks, sting rays, sea turtles and more than 3000 other exotic sea creatures. ▼

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Part of the seven-acre amusement park in the center of the Mall of America. The Reunion hotel provides transportation to and from the mall.

For some time, NAFYR Vice President Phil Wortman has been advocating a more polished and assertive marketing effort for membership. At the board's request, he has developed a marketing workshop. We have had limited success with an outside marketing specialist. But membership should be a responsibility of the members. Phil's workshop plan is a start. You, the members, must pick it up from here.

and from the mall throughout the day and evening.

In the center of the five-million square-foot mall is Camp Snoopy, a seven-acre amusement park featuring 30 remarkable rides and adventures. The Timber Twister roller coaster is the first of its kind in the world.

In addition to 450 specialty stores, there are four department stores, including Bloomingdales and Nord-

REGISTRATION WATCH

As of June 11, 199 persons have registered for "An Urban Renewal of Friendships," Reunion 2005, in Minneapolis, reports registrars Hank and Jo Bagelmann. The last week of May and the first week of June saw 40 people sign up to beat the deadline for the early registration fee.

NAFYR MISSION

The mission of the North American Fellowship of YMCA Retirees is to enable members to promote a nurturing, worldwide Christian fellowship that provides educational, social and charitable opportunities.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



JACK PEARSE

This month's president's column is written by NAFYR Vice President (Canada) Jack Pearse.

With exceeding gratitude to President Jim Lipscomb, I have the opportunity to highlight a developmental year in the life of the Canadian NAFYR chapter. Population concentration has been a major reason for the Copeland-Budge Chapter to be seen mainly as a Central Canada

entity. However, an expanded and energized executive committee has determined that priorities, practices and publications must be more reflective of all regions of our vast country. Hence, the following thrusts:

- Membership is an ongoing major activity. The combined efforts of our "Each One Reach One" campaign, the scouring of Retirement Fund records and diligence in contacting alumni nationals from Sir George Williams, George Williams and Springfield Colleges have generated a significant increase in membership.
- The appointment of four active regional vice presidents is designed to foster the formation of area clusters. It is hoped the combination of renewed fellowship and unique programming will eventuate in stand-alone chapters across the country.
- All chapter members have been encouraged by our secretary, Ken MacKeracher, to complete an updated information profile which has become the basis of a "Where Are They Now" column in the revamped "Tie-Lines," our chapter newsletter edited by Ron Bell. Equally popular has been a "Keeping Up With Our Past" column, edited by YMCA Canada Archivist, Ian Fleming, whose efforts to keep our past alive creates a buzz at our meetings by encouraging attendees to identify former colleagues in dozens of photographs spanning four decades of all kinds of Y activities, programs and locations.
- Changes of venue for the autumn 2004 "Gathering of Friends" and this spring's luncheon were both well received as we seek to broaden chapter program initiatives. Currently, two encouraging items are in the works: a pilot oral history project featuring audio interviews with retirees and the possibility of traveling by train to exchange luncheon meetings between the Ottawa and Toronto Clusters.
- We were pleased with the response of the chapter membership in supporting the World Brotherhood and *Secours Speciaux* campaigns under the leadership of Past President Ivan Eaton, Henry LaBatte, Gord Ramsay and Ron Bell.
- As we prepare for active participation in the NAFYR reunion in October, we pay special tribute to YMCA Canada for great encouragement and assistance in our endeavours and to the prodigiously enthusiastic Copeland Budge executive team.

Pope John Paul II had YMCA contact

Pope John Paul II had at least one brief contact with the YMCA back in the early 1960s.

A group of Americans, under the sponsorship of the YMCA Center for International Studies

(CIMS), was in Poland for meetings with Polish management and government leaders. CIMS was asked to participate by the U.S. State Department. John O'Melia, who was on the national staff at the time, was the staff director of CIMS.

One of the key leaders of the Polish delegation was a board member of the Krakow YMCA. He invited his priest to provide the invocation at the closing banquet. The priest was Karol Wojtyla, who, of course, went on to become Pope John Paul II.

"He impressed me with his strong belief in East-West détente," says John O'Melia. "He entered into the discussion on establishing exchange programs on a regular basis between the two non-governmental organizations (CIMS and TNOiK, the Polish counterpart). I was impressed with him very much and loved the way his eyes sparkled along with his kind smile and his ability to speak English."▼

Editor: This information was taken from Messer News Notes, the newsletter of the Messer Chapter. Helen Wanek is the editor.



John O'Melia was impressed with the future Pope John Paul II.

104 attend International Assembly in Illinois

The 15th International Assembly drew 104 persons, including 17 Messer members on April 4.

The keynote speaker was Tom Beernsten, former national board chair, and Boon Chin Tan of the Y-USA International Group gave a presentation on tsunami relief efforts.

Two NAFYR members won prizes in a raffle that generated over \$650 for World Service. Ken Theil won an overnight stay at the Lisle-Naperville Hilton Hotel, and chapter President Wes Walker won a craft gift.

FROM THE CHAPTERS

Canadians meet in cluster event

Forty-two members of the Copeland-Budge Chapter (all of Canada) met at the YMCA named for retiree Ron Edwards in Burlington, Ontario, May 10. Ian Fleming, archivist for YMCA Canada, put on a display of national archival photos of "lost" people and places, inviting members to identify the subjects. NAFYR Vice President Jack Pearse led a discussion regarding the possibility of adding a special event or trip to the chapter's annual program, an idea that appeared to have significant support. Jack also suggested arranging for one-day rail trips between Ottawa and Toronto for the two cluster luncheons which might include viewing a local event or site. Ken MacKeracher circulated a rendering of a stained glass window honoring World War II auxiliary services, including the YMCA, which was to be unveiled May 26 at the University of Toronto's Hart House Memorial Tower. Jack Pearse, a Royal Canadian Navy veteran, has been invited to the ceremony. Kirk Wipper, a former YMCA staff person, navy veteran, college professor and camp director, was the featured speaker. Kirk is the founder of the Canadian Canoe Museum and recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario. *Reported by Ken MacKeracher*

Messer Chapter enjoys sailing tour

The Messer Chapter (Illinois) met April 29 for a sailing tour and luncheon. The group went through the Stained Glass Museum display at the Navy Pier before boarding a boat for a two-hour tour of the Chicago skyline from Lake Michigan. As a disk jockey played music, Ken and Alta Thiel, flashy dancers as they are, joined a group of young people in making good use of the music. *Reported by Helen Wanek.*

Hoosier-Buell returns to Shippshewana

Perhaps inspired by the successful Midwest NAFYR Reunion last fall, the Hoosier-Buell Chapter (Michigan and Indiana) returned to Shippshewana, Ind., for its spring meeting May 19-20. Twenty-five attendees enjoyed fellowship, shopping and a workshop on Life, Laughter, Love. New officers were elected. Paul Bradley of Kokomo, Ind., was elected president, succeeding Don Stetson. Don Reap of Tipton, Ind., was elected vice president. Jim Pratt, Indianapolis, will be vice president for membership. Other officers are: Gary Unruh, Brighton, Mich., secretary, and Virgene Price, Portage, Mich., treasurer. Larry Sehy, Niles, Mich., and Bob Howard, New Castle, Ind., were elected as at-large members of the executive committee representing their respective states. Don Stetson, Muncie, Ind., and Neal Allen, Dearborn, Mich., will serve as EAF representatives for their respective states. Jean Allen will be the editor of the newsletter. *Reported by Don Stetson.*

CHAPTER CALENDAR



CENTRAL ATLANTIC Joe Lind 302/994-8362
joestravel@comcast.net

CHAMBERS Dave Saunders 513/385-0131
dvbksaunders@netzero.net

June 8, executive committee and chapter meeting
Lancaster, Pa.

MARSTON Jorge Candon 858/530-1662
chilenet@earthlink.net

July 28, Chapter meeting, Pt. Loma, San Diego

MC COY Doug Sprague 530/541-8960
DougandGinny@kmtm.com

July 20-21, McKinleyville Cluster, McKinleyville, Calif.

MC BURNEY-MORSE Bob Soong 908/889-1061
Lr_soong@hotmail.com

June 9, Chapter meeting, Ocean Grove, N.J.

Allen-Stone Chapter meets in Puyallup

The Allen-Stone Chapter (northwestern states), with 39 members, three guests and six staff members of the Tacoma YMCA staff, met May 19 at the Korum YMCA in Puyallup, a branch of the Tacoma Wash., association. Bob Ecklund, CEO of the Tacoma Y, presented a personal view of the Tacoma and Pierce County YMCA today and a vision for the future. An official board meeting followed with reports of membership, previous chapter events, World Service and EAF. Nominating committee co-chairs Don and Joyce Leak presented a slate of officers for the 2005-07 term, with Walt and Renee Shaw leading the slate as co-presidents. A complete re-write of the chapter bylaws was presented to and approved by the board of directors. It will be submitted to the membership at the fall annual meeting. Nominations, which had been made previously for the F. William Stahl Award and the YMCA Hall of Fame, were affirmed. The board went on record as favoring a process whereby individuals can make a nomination for the Stahl Award, eliminating the need for chapter approval. The board also advocates the development of a NAFYR award to be given to members who have given outstanding service to the Fellowship and for chapters providing exceptional member services. *Reported by Walt Shaw.*

"If you're fond of sand dunes and salty air . . ."

Sixty-mile-an-hour winds and torrents of rain did not dampen the fun for the New England Chapter (New England states), which met in West Dennis on Cape Cod. The ocean-front Lighthouse Inn provided a warm welcome, great food and a perfect environment for the well-received event. Some 50 members attended and pronounced the reunion one of the best ever. Although golf and kite-flying were rained out, all other programs proceeded as scheduled. The plan was for minimum

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

business and maximum fun and fellowship. After the opening hospitality tour, it was on to the lobster bake.



Barbara and Andy Anderson, registration co-chairs, check the list for the New England Chapter's spring reunion.

Evening entertainment was provided by the Cape Cod legend, Rocky King, with his unique blend of boogie-woogie piano, vocals and comedy. Following the entertainment, the high bidders in the silent auction were announced. Approximately \$600 was generated for a specific World Service project. Jack Lund, president



Nancy and Bob Hoffman were among the persons attending the reunion.

and CEO of the YMCA of Greater New York, brought the group up to date on the challenges and opportunities of managing what may be the largest YMCA in the world. Retirees left with an understanding and appreciation of the immense responsibilities faced by today's YMCA leaders. Deane Phillips shared a captivating tale from his book, *The Saga of Snoopy Seven*, which brought to life Deane's engrossing experiences in World War II. After the closing luncheon, those interested visited the only privately-owned, official operating Coast Guard lighthouse in the USA. The lighthouse, with a history dating back over 50 years, is accessible via narrow stairs and ladders and sits high above the top of the Lighthouse Inn. *Reported by Nancy and Chuck Goding.*

WE REMEMBER

the following colleagues whose devotion and faith enabled them to serve well and who have now passed on to life after life.

Elijah Beasley, 66, 3/31/05. Spouse: Theodora Beasley, 8544 S. Prairie, Chicago, Ill 60619.

Norma S. Christerson, 73, 4/15/05 Spouse: Ralph Christerson, 5126 So. Newton St., Littleton, CO 80123.

Arthur Lawrence Devlin, 81, 4/21/05. Niece: Patricia Petree, 303 Bent Oak Lane, Central, SC 29630.

Robert Howard Frers, 85, 4/26/05. Spouse: Irene Frers, 4 Aldine Lane, Nyack, NY 10960.

David R. Greybek, 57, 11/3/04. Brother: Dr. Adolphe Greybek, 162 Washington Valley Rd., Warren, NJ 07059.

D. Michael Hinshaw, 68, 4/28/05. Spouse: Carole Hinshaw, 6453 Walnut Way, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

Leslie Charles Kjar, 65, 4/29/05. Spouse: Norma Jean Kjar, Corpus Christi, TX 78414.

Dauphine G. Lang, 96, 2/28/05. Nephew: Milton Moyer, RD 1 Highland Park, Cooperstown, PA 16317.

Louis Monos, 94, 4/20/05. Daughters: c/o Carol Smith, 6216 Debora Dr., Lorain, OH 47802.

Judith A. McCaul, 62, 5/5/05. Children: c/o Donald Patterson, III, 24 Sand Dune Dr., New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169.

Miriom Zusman, 80, 4/4/05. Nephew: Amos Onloesky, 71 Brookside Pl., New Rochelle, NY 10801.

Richard W. Wilson, 81, 5/20/05. Spouse: Jackie Wilson, 120 N. Bridge St., Chillicothe, OH 45601.

Philip S. Brain, 89, 5/5/05. Spouse: Delores Brain, 5800 St., Croux Ave., Apt. C-228, Golden Valley, MN 55422.

Third of a Series

Y's integration hinged on one comment

By George Williams, Green Sulphur Spring, W. Va.

Charleston, West Virginia, was, culturally, a southern city during the 1960s. Like others, it was racially segregated. Blacks could not eat in white restaurants, stay in white hotels or join the white YMCA.

The Fight for Freedom

Myron Lewis was the executive of the Y when I began my career in 1957 in Charleston. Myron began a quiet, but determined, effort to integrate the YMCA.

The white Y building, though erected in 1909, had been upgraded and contained 33 residence rooms, two gyms, a pool, handball courts, a weight room and several all-purpose rooms. A black YMCA, located just three blocks away, was housed in an old brick house with no physical facilities.

One evening a young black man in a military uniform came to the desk seeking a room for the night. It fell to me to tell him he could not stay there. I was both angry and sad.

The plan to integrate was discussed in committees, but progress was slow. But two external events hastened the process. A sit-in at a local upscale department store restaurant sent a shock wave through the town. Citizens did not want to believe Charleston was prejudiced.

Then, the bombshell! Charleston, very near the home town of West Virginia University basketball star, Jerry West, was a basketball-crazy city. Promoters brought a professional basketball game to town. The new Charleston Civic Center was sold out for the game. One of the players was Elgin Baylor, an African-American and one of the NBA's greatest players. He was denied a room at the city's best hotel and told to go to a rooming house where "Negroes" stayed. Baylor said if he could not stay with his team, he would not play in the exhibition.



George Williams retired as president of the Long Island, N.Y., YMCA in 1993.

The power structure of the city quickly met and decided Baylor could stay at the Daniel Boone Hotel. Almost overnight, the city's restaurants and hotels integrated.

The YMCA board of directors was divided by a generation. The power people, mainly older men who were financially successful, strongly opposed integration. Younger men, many from successful families, were strongly in favor. The challenge was to integrate the association without splitting the board and endangering the support, financial and otherwise, of the old guard. The pro-integration effort by board members was led by the young president of a large local department store.

After much discussion in committees (and, no doubt, in private conversations), the board met to consider the issue. Neither side would give an inch. The older members would not budge, using all the old arguments. The younger ones argued just as hotly in favor. The tension was high.

Finally, one of the older members, a prominent businessman spoke up in his whiny voice and said, "Boys, the more you stir a t___, the more it stinks. Let's get together on this."

Everyone broke up and relaxed. A vote was taken, and the Y was finally integrated. ▼

NEXT MONTH: "Breaking the Blue Ridge Leaders' School Color Line"

OGN

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OGN, a messenger of human interest and Christian fellowship, is sent to all members of NAFYR; no subscription fee is required of members. OGN subscription is available to others for \$12.00 per year, payable to the treasurer.

Smith Symposium will hold parallel events

NAFYR, in conjunction with the YMCA of the USA, the Association of YMCA Professionals (in the USA), Springfield College and the YMCA Retirement Fund, will host two symposia this fall on the Christian purpose of the YMCA. They are scheduled at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado, September 11-13 and the Silver Bay Association in New York State on September 15-17.



The Smith Symposia are so named to honor former Retirement Fund President Harold Smith for his advocacy for the Christian mission of the YMCA.

The titles of the symposia are "Wholeness, Wisdom, Witness."

The core topic for the events, the concept of wholeness, has foundational importance to both Christianity and the YMCA's mission and heritage as a Christian organization. The theme seeks to:

- Help us find ways through dialogue to continue to reflect on and understand the role of the Christian purpose in the YMCA, both historically and in the future;
- Engage us in examining the mission and sense of direction present or needed to sustain the movement; and,
- Lend itself to interfaith participation and commentary.

The purpose of the symposia is to bring together inquiring, curious, committed professionals and volunteers from the YMCA movement in the United States with the best thinking as represented by academic, theological, intellectual, moral and ethical voices doing research, publishing and lecturing on the selected theme.

The audience at each site will consist of approximately 100 individuals in key leadership positions with the YMCA in the United States. Some international guests have also been invited to attend.

"Harold Smith is the named honoree by virtue of his vision and leadership," said Mark C. Johnson, director of national executive initiatives at the YMCA of the USA. Harold will be present at both venues. The first seminar, held in 2000, was in honor of Harold's retirement.

WE WELCOME

the following members into the fellowship of YMCA retirees, linked together by our common heritage and our service to humanity.



Hope Jones, chld care dir, YMCA Hammond, Ind. 7218 Southeastern Ave., Hammond, IN 46324.

Nancy Biersack (Spouse: Dan), dvlpmt mgr, Camp Manitowish YMCA, Boulder Junction, Wis. 506 State Street, Oconomowoc, WI 53066. E-mail: nbiersack@charter.net

Michael Connell (Jeanie), ex dir, YMCA, Panama City, Fla. 7101 Melissa Elaine Dr., Panama City Beach, FL 32407. E-mail: sparkle1228@juno.com

Louis Brown (Sarah), br exec, YMCA, Roanoke, Va. 303 Brittany Ln., Salem, VA 24153.

Margaret Horvat, chld care spvsr, YMCA, Northbrook, Ill. 3616 Countryside Ln, Glenview, IL 60025.

Peter King, 1533 Apple Ln., Spruce Pine, NC 28777.

John Baughn, prog dev, YMCA, Indianapolis, Ind. 1502 Washington St., Columbus, IN 47201.

Sandy Nelson, tchr, YMCA, Kokomo, Ind. 404 Jeff Dr., Kokomo, IN 46901.

Cindy Furman, adm asst, YMCA, Sunbury, Pa. 120 Oak St., Northumberland, PA. E-mail: ldgrammy@hotmail.com

NAFYR is represented in the planning process by Bill Phillips of Henderson, N.C., and Bill Cameron of North Wales, Pa.

Persons who desire to attend or who have a colleague, staff member, board member or community leader who should attend, should direct a statement of interest to Mark Johnson. He is staffing the event on behalf of the sponsoring entities. Mark can be reached at mark.c.johnson.@ymca.net ▼

Linda Reinke, Williamsburg, Va., helped establish a chapter of Faith in Action. The organization reaches out to homebound seniors.



Terry Horak, Fresno, Calif., is working this summer as interim property manager at Sequoia Lake. He is also organizing a reunion of the South Valley Y's Men's Club. **Mike Starr**, La Habra, Calif., has indicated his attendance.

Kent Rea, Nashville, Tenn., who has been "about 35" times to the Kentucky Derby, was the subject of a big feature in the *Nashville Tennessean*. Kent, making good progress after a major accident (hit by a car while jogging), has a hobby of collecting memorabilia from the Kentucky Derby. His collection fills a two-car garage.

Harvey and Rose Ray, West, Miss., will be on a one-to-two-year mission to Papua, New Guinea, beginning this month after a 10-day training program. Harvey will be teaching English at a Christian school, and Rose will be working at a medical clinic doing laboratory procedures.

Bill Newton, Orangevale, Calif., is finishing a term on his church's Youth Improvement Team and as co-chair of Rotary's Community Service group.

Jack Kane, Murietta, Calif., who is on the board of directors of the San Diego YMCA, will be a delegate to the YMCA National Assembly in Chicago November 3-4. He now runs a travel agency.

Betty Olson, Folsom, Calif., was chair of the "Bodacious Book Sale" for the Friends of the Library and the Orangevale Rotary Club. **Al** is on the planning committee for the "Rotary House," a place to stay for the families of children undergoing long-term treatment at nearby Shriner's Hospital.

Audrey and Len Covello, Prescott, Ariz., were volunteers for the 27-year-old Whiskey Row Marathon. The race, sponsored by the Prescott YMCA, attracts some 1500 runners who start at 5300 feet elevation and reach 7000 before descending. They man a water station along the route, dispensing water, oranges and bananas. Audrey reports they will attend the Minneapolis reunion in October.

Joan Madsen, Southport, S.C., is a volunteer for Communities in Schools. She also performs as a clown.

Joan Pearl, Savannah, Ga., is a hospital volunteer.

Ken Thiel, Northbrook, Ill., was recognized by the Northbrook Rotary Club for his more than 40 years of membership. A past president of the club, Ken has recorded 38 years of perfect attendance.

Whitewater paddling enthusiast **Chuck Hines**, Asheville, N.C., has been listed in the 2004-05 *Who's Who in U.S. Aquatics*. It is the first time anyone representing that category has been selected.

NAFYR sends four to Beijing

Four YMCA retirees are headed for Beijing, China, under the auspices of NAFYR's International Senior Service Corps, reports Peg Andrews, chair of the committee. Muriel and Ray Jacoby of South Hero, Vt., who served for six months beginning in November 2003, will return to advance their previous work of teaching English and to advise the Beijing YMCA in other areas as requested. They will leave in October.

Larry and Carole Lieving of Sarasota, Fla., will also leave in October for ChengDu, China, for a six-month stint. "It'll be something different," said Carole, in a telephone interview. "We'll give it our all."

"China has been very pleased and appreciative of ISSC volunteers," said Peg. "We hope other countries begin to know of the value of the knowledge and experience of YMCA retirees."



Carole and Larry Lieving will leave in October for China as part of NAFYR's International Senior Service Corps program

Membership workshop developed for NAFYR

NAFYR Vice President (East) Phil Wortman has developed a workshop to assist chapters to identify their primary market for membership and develop a plan to attract them. A written copy has been sent to chapter presidents.

The workshop is designed to be conducted at chapter meetings. Phil suggests that a facilitator, someone outside the chapter membership, facilitate the program. It should be a person with experience in leading workshops.

The workshop publication is outlined in detail, giving suggestions to facilitators. It begins with a statement of the case for membership marketing and identifies six target market segments. It also lists societal changes that impact NAFYR membership.

Four small group discussion topics are recommended:

- Top three reasons for being a member of NAFYR
- Worth of membership
- Identifying the target market
- Focusing on the primary target market.

A total group discussion on the image of the chapter is suggested. An important part of the workshop is the development of action steps with timelines and responsibility determined.

A three-hour block of time is recommended for the workshop. ▼



GOLDEN TREASURES



Married 63 years

Martha and Bob Bryan, Green Bay, Wis.—July 31

Married 62 years

Ann and Wally Musselman, Gadsden, Ala.—July 15
 Elsie and Cecil Miller, Tempe, Ariz.—July 17
 Marge and Keith Meyer, Xenia Ohio—July 25

Married 60 years

Beverly and Richard See, Newbury Park, Calif.—July 8
 Marty and John O'Melia, Wheaton, Ill.—July 29

Married 59 years

Helen and Ernest Busby, Newark, Ohio—July 11
 Aleen and Dan Hester, Lancaster, Ohio—July 13
 Dorothy and Fred Haines, Lansdale, Pa.—July 27

Married 57 years

Verna and Raymond Brundage, Janesville, Wis.—July 2
 Phyllis and Don Brownell, Spring Hill, Fla.—July 4
 Ruth and Jack Johnson, Tulsa, Okla.—July 26

Married 55 years

Dolores and Bob Ross, Xenia, Ohio—July 8

Married 54 years

Nancy and Pat Scott, Carlsbad, Calif.—July 7

Married 53 years

Nell and Joe Robertson, Jackson, Miss.—July 6

Married 52 years

Dee and Pres Johnson, Green Valley, Ariz.—July 18
 Pat and Bill Eckelkamp, Spring Hill, Fla.—July 25
 Verle and Bill Lander, Erie, Pa.—July 25

Married 51 years

Patty and Wayne Ray, Clackamas, Oreg.—July 1
 Marjorie and David Rymer, Roswell, N.M., July 3
 Judith and Forest "Pete" Hill, Ludington, Mich., July 31

NAFYR E-MAIL DIRECTORY



Below are changes in the NAFYR e-mail directory

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Chuck Holmes, Bloomington, Minn.

chuckholmes05@earthlink.net