**Congratulations**

**Birth**

♥ Theresa and Dan Vitro are the proud parents of Caitlin Nicole born on January 2nd in Yorktown heights, NY. Theresa is Ruth Ann & Michael Donovan’s daughter, Agnes Wilson’s granddaughter, #2 Frank’s great-granddaughter.

**Wedding**

♥ Paul Gucker and Barbara Starr were married on May 22nd, at The Presbyterian Church in Pluckemin, New Jersey. Paul is Dottie’s son, #7 Carlie’s grandson.

**Engagement**

♥ Melissa Keeley has announced her engagement to Chris. Melissa is Ken & Carole Keeley’s daughter, Gertrude’s granddaughter, #2 Frank’s great-granddaughter.

**Family Gathering**

Over the 1998 Christmas holidays, Gertrude Keeley’s family traveled to Clifton Park, NY, to celebrate her 80th birthday. It was held at her son Larry’s home and attended by her other two sons, Ken and Don and their families, as well as her nieces, Mary Agnes Dorney, Ruth Ann Donovan and Kathy Schofield and their families, and their cousin, Cecilia Lucke Guerand and her daughter. It was a great party and reunion.

**Correction**

Emma Kathleen Smith’s Birth Date is September 1, 1998

**The Bonds**

We continue the stories of the children of The Thirteen. There were 31 of us. In this issue we feature the children of #5 Elsie and Joe Bond: Virginia (Ginnie Ferguson), Joe Jr (Bud) and Ken Bond.
The Bonds

   b. Madison Reeves Devoe b. 7-Jul-1996, Nashua NH.
2. Jeremy David Hoerning b. 30-Aug-1972, Glendale, CA, Bapt 24-Sep-1972, Our Lady of Lourdes, Tujunga, CA.
A. Patricia Bond b. 19-Feb-1947, m. James McInerny b. 16-May-1947.
B. Barbara Bond b. 6-Jul-1950.
   3. Shaun Timothy Leggio b. 6-Jul-1977, Willows, CA, Bapt 6-Nov-1983, St Patrick's, Bay Shore NY.
   5. Kaitlin Samantha Leggio b. 5-Jan-1987, West Islip, NY, Bapt 9-Aug-1987, St Patrick's, Bay Shore NY.
III. Francis Kenneth Bond b. 30-Nov-1927, New Rochelle, NY, Bapt St Catherine's, Pelham NY, m. 12-Aug-1950, in Our Lady of Victory, Compton CA, Dolores Rita Burgan, b. 21-Sep-1928, Chicago, IL, Bapt St Catherine's, Chicago IL.
   1. Paulette Marie Young b. 19-Jan-1972, Whittier, CA, Bapt St Basil, Los Angeles CA.
   1. Justin Kyle Bond b. 16-Nov-1989, Upland, CA, Bapt St John Vianney, Hacienda Heights CA.
   2. Tyler Evan Bond b. 9-Sep-1994, Whittier, CA, Bapt St Dennis, Diamond Bar CA.
   1. Michael Jonathan Hover b. 11-Sep-1985, Whittier, CA, Bapt St John Vianney, Hacienda Heights CA.
   2. Kellina Mae Hover b. 27-Sep-1987, Whittier, CA, Bapt St John Vianney, Hacienda Heights CA.
   3. Jennifer Sarah Hover b. 7-Nov-1990, Upland, CA, Bapt St Margaret Mary, Chino CA.
Virginia (Ginnie)

Virginia was born in NYC and moved to Pelham, NY, at the age of 5. At age 6, while vacationing on Long Island, she went into a neighbor’s garage and found an opened paint can. She then proceeded to paint the neighbor’s car. She was in big trouble!

During the depression, she didn’t know her Dad had no job. He went into the City every day looking for a job. Her Mom had to get a job during December to get money for Christmas presents for the children.

After graduation, Virginia worked for AT&T in NYC. She met Bob Hoerning at a New Year’s Eve party and married him in 1941. They moved to Virginia Beach, Virginia, where Bob was stationed in the Army. After World War II, they lived in Mount Vernon, NY, where Bobby Hoerning was born in 1944. They moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1945 for a year. Richie was born in New York in 1947. Later that year, they moved to Levittown where Bruce was born in 1953. During the time that they lived in Levittown, they were elected Family of the Year for 1952. [See facing column]. In 1963, they moved to Nassau from Mount Vernon, NY.

Virginia worked for Macy's in Bay Shore, NY as manager of the Men's & Boys' department. In 1965, her mother, Elsie, moved in with Virginia and her children in Islip, NY. Her oldest son, Bobby died in an automobile accident after serving 4 years in the Air Force, one of which was a tour of duty in Vietnam. Her son, Richie was ordained a Catholic priest in 1973. Her son, Bruce graduated in 1971 and a few years later moved to California.


The Family of the Year - 1952

Mr & Mrs Robert P Hoerning woke up this morning and pinched themselves to see whether they were dreaming or whether they were really going to Bermuda for two weeks. They are going to Bermuda, because the Hoernings and their children were chosen Levittown’s “Family of the Year” by the sprawling community’s Veterans of Foreign Wars Post last night. The announcement highlighted the VFW’s Fifth annual military ball at the Garden City Hotel attended by more than 200 persons.

Hoerning, an Army veteran, could only exclaim “Terrific” when he and his wife, Virginia, were told of the news. The Hoernings have two children, Robert Jr, 8, and Richard, 5, and expect another child after the first of the year. The selection means, among other things, a two-week all-expense paid trip to Bermuda’s St George Hotel. “We plan to leave three weeks from today,” Hoerning exclaimed. Virginia says the trip will provide a “wonderful rest before the baby comes,” which “better be a girl for a change,” she said.

Hoerning, who was stricken by polio in 1950 and left completely paralyzed from the waist down, is assistant to the School District 5 building and grounds superintendent.

Selected on the basis of civic and local interest, hobbies, religious activities and general living conditions, the Hoernings, who live at 15 Aster Lane, were among three finalists. The families received surprise visits at their homes last Saturday before the final selection was made.

Hoerning is a member of the VFW Auxiliary, Northside School Parent-Teachers Association, Levittown March of Dimes Committee and Civil Defense unit.

Married ten years, they were among the community’s first residents, moving there in 1947. Shortly after, Hoerning became a salesman for Levitt homes. They moved to Nassau from Mount Vernon, NY.

Other prizes the Hoernings will receive are a $100 savings bond, a $100 savings account and a set of silverware.

Mr & Mrs Leo O’Mealia of 14 Aster Lane, the Hoernings’ next door neighbors, will receive a $100 wardrobe and a Thanksgiving dinner for submitting the “Family of the Year’s” name.
**Family of the Year - Sequel**

Ginnie recently revealed a story about what happened during their vacation in Bermuda. It seems that, during dinner at their fashionable English hotel in Bermuda, Ginnie admired the imported demitasse spoons on their table. Wanting to give Ginnie a special gift, Robert pocketed four of the spoons. Meanwhile, thinking that she would be giving Robert a gift, Ginnie bought 6 spoons at the hotel gift shop. The next day, the police came to their room. It was not hard to identify Robert since he was the only patron who was in a wheelchair! The police charged them with theft and they were to appear the next day at court. Meanwhile, Ginnie went to the hairdresser, who advised her that she should wear a hat to court, since this was an accepted British custom. Fortunately the Judge allowed Robert to make restitution and the charges were dropped.

**Mothers’ Day: For a Special Grandmother**

Mothers’ Day is a day to remember your mother. Even though you are not my mother, you are a special part of my life.

You are the daughter of your mother and the granddaughter of your grandmother.

The love and specialness of Mothers’ Day comes from all the generations before us.

Being a part of the generations of mothers, I hope and I pray that I will be as special to Kelsey and her children, as you are to me.

*(A poem written by Shawna Devoe)*

**My 17th Candle**

When I first sat down and thought about my candle ceremony, the only candle I was a hundred percent positive of who I wanted was my 17th. My last and most important candle of this evening is for a very special person who means a great deal to me. Many call her by Ginnie, Mrs Ferguson, or Virginia, but I’m proud to call her Grandma, a title she well deserves.

When I was little, all of my grandparents passed away but Ginnie has taken their place in my life. 16 years of growing up is a pretty long time and through it all she has taught me a great deal like needlepoint and latchhook. There aren't many things a teenager looks forward to doing but I do look forward to my lunch dates with Ginnie. She's always there to listen to my problems and was even brave enough to take me on a trip to Florida. I can always count on her words of encouragement and advice and after having a rough day, it's nice to know you have someone to cheer you up. I know sometimes I get so busy and forget to call or visit but she still loves me and I love her. And no matter how much I hate to hear an adult's perspective on life, it's always acceptable coming from a wiser and older person like Ginnie! I love her more then words could ever say. I don't know what I would do without her.

Ginnie, I'm so proud to call you my Grandma and I would be honored if you would come up and light my 17th candle.

*(A letter from Annie Ceccarini)*

**Joseph (Bud) Bond**

Joe married Peggy Gaiser, and they lived in West Babylon, NY. They had three daughters, Patricia, Barbara and Susan. Unfortunately the marriage ended in divorce in 1961. Peggy moved to California with the three girls. In 1969, Joe married Tina Malchuski and they lived in Bay Shore, NY. All this time, Joe worked for the LI Water Company; later, when the company was bought by Suffolk County Water, Joe stayed on with them for the remainder of his working career. He retired after 36 years.

Joe was an avid golfer; although he wasn't "championship" calibre, he took the game very seriously. Joe was very fond of sweets, especially milk and cookies and ice cream. On the other hand, he was pretty "health conscious" and worked out regularly at a local spa. He went on diets about two weeks prior to each scheduled doctor’s checkup. Joe loved to travel and eventually bought a Holiday Rambler Motor Coach. He and Tina made several trips to Florida and later, Joe traveled to California to visit his daughters.

Joe and Tina separated in 1993. Joe took up semi-permanent residence in his daughter Susan’s yard, with his Motor Coach. In March 1998, Joe took an “assisted living” residence in California, near his daughter Patricia and his other daughter Barbara.
brother Ken. That July he returned to Long Island. Shortly thereafter he was hospitalized at Good Samaritan Hospital and died September 3, 1998.

_The following was submitted by Patricia Bond McInerny._

Stories about my dad are hard to come up with, since our time together was sporadic. We didn't grow together as a family, as my parents were at odds with each other and finally after a long and difficult time, divorced. My dad, to me, was my safe-haven.

I remember a vacation trip with Dad and my sisters, Barbara and Susan. We went to northern New York near the Thousand Islands. We were all quite young and impressionable. One of the first days up there we were at a small luncheonette and Dad was having one of his favorite sandwiches (a BLT) and POP!! out came his false front tooth. Well, were we ever surprised and shocked to see our toothless Father! With his vivid vocabulary he had to struggle to stay in control with these three young girls sitting in front of him with their mouths hanging open. Of course, curiosity got to us and we wanted to know if the Tooth Fairy was going to visit him that very night. You know it was difficult for all of us to look at Dad with that big hole in the front of his mouth. He had to be careful of what to eat the rest of the trip and that didn't put him in a good humor, because if you knew Joe Bond, you'd know that he loved his FOOD. Needless to say, the first thing he did when he got home was to call the dentist for a quick repair appointment.

I wish I had more stories to tell, but after that there really weren't any more vacations and my sisters and I really didn't see much of Dad until we were adults. Nevertheless, I have lots of fond memories of my Dad.

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**Kenneth Bond**

Ken was the third and youngest child of Elsie and Joe Bond. Being the youngest had its advantages and disadvantages. The good part was he was spoiled but the bad part was being picked on by his big brother and sister; of course they would deny this.

During their early childhood, the family moved to different homes a lot. Not realizing that it was during the depression years and not aware of the financial problems that existed at the time, they just accepted the moving as part of life.

Mom (#5 Elsie) had a very good friend, Aunt Molly, who visited often; they would talk to each other in German, but the kids would always say to them "speak in a good language".

During Ken's high school days Mom was offered a job in the next town, which meant moving. This would mean leaving school and friends, so Ken put up quite a scene. He won the case; they didn't move.

They didn't take vacations away from home in those days, but often visited the Magee family at their summer place on Long Island Sound at Fairfield, CT. Uncle Ed would pick Ken up on a Friday night and bring him home a week later.

Ken always had a great time with Eddie, Bobby, Betty and Jimmy Magee. The one part he wasn't too keen about was when Bobby took him out in his rowboat to catch crabs. When he brought them aboard and they would be crawling all over, Ken was ready to abandon the boat.

Soon after high school Ken joined the Navy and was transferred to California where his life changed from being an Easterner to a West Coaster. It was during those Navy days in California that Ken met Dolores Burgan, who has been his wife for close to 49 years. After completing his time in the Navy, they returned to Pelham for two years but their hearts were out West so in 1949 they moved to California and have been there ever since. During those two years back in Pelham Ken had the good opportunity to play some softball and basketball with cousin Bobby Magee.

Once settled in married life in California, Mom came to visit. With Mom and mother-in-law, the family took a trip in the old Dodge to Las Vegas, then up to Reno and across the
mountains to San Francisco and back home. The trip through the mountains was on a narrow, hilly and very curvy road. Mom sat in the back seat of the car praying her Rosary. That's what got us through safe and sound!

Ken and Dolores have three children, Nora, Kevin and Catherine, and they have produced seven grandchildren. Ken has been back to New York several times, most recently for his brother Joe's funeral last September, which also gave him a chance to visit with Virginia.

Ken has been retired for 13 years and enjoys fairly good health.

The following was submitted by Kevin Bond.

I remember that my Father was quite active. He was a hard worker, always finding time to be with his family. He was a Little League baseball coach for many years. I was on one the teams he coached. Dad really loves sports, especially golf.

I also remember the wonderful camping trips our family took to nearby lakes. We had a boat and Dad loved to have us water-ski.

Another thing I remember is that my Dad kept in contact with Uncle Bud and Aunt Ginnie. A few years ago they had a reunion and they really got along great.

The following reminiscences were gathered during a recent vacation period when Anne and Bob Magee and sister Betty were visiting with Florida residents Jim and Pat Magee.

Virginia

The earliest recollection Betty has is of her mother (#10 Margie) taking her to visit Virginia after the birth of her first child. She was living in an apartment on Gramatan Avenue in Mount Vernon. Bob and Anne remember the many Lucke Family picnics where Virginia was present and, in particular, the one at which her son, Richard, celebrated Mass. Bob and Anne also remember visiting Ginnie and her husband Ferg at a fun-filled get-together at their home in Greenfield Hills, CT.

Joe

Bob and Anne remember Joe's loyal participation at the annual Lucke Family picnics. They also remember with genuine pleasure that Joe and Tina made the long distance trips to attend three of their daughters' weddings as well as visiting with them in Florida on one occasion. Bob remembers Joe as the kind of person who always "went the extra mile".

Ken

One summer when Kenny came to visit the Magees at Fairfield Beach, Bob decided that he would teach Kenny, the city cousin, the art of catching fish. So off they went in a small rowboat, propelled by a struggling 2-horsepower motor toward a menacing reef, which stretched out some two miles. Bob told Kenny that the secret to fishing was patience. After several hours of waiting and no catches, Kenny's patience had run out and he wanted to head for home. Bob took Kenny to shore and returned to wait for the fish to bite while Ken walked back to the house. Not too long after, Bob came home triumphant with 13 fish. Bob said, "Didn't I tell you that all it takes is a little patience?"

Kenny and Bob lived in the neighboring towns of Mount Vernon and Pelham and although they did not see each other often, Bob remembers reading in the local newspaper about Kenny who was a 3-sport athlete at Pelham High. In 1947 Bob (quite an athlete himself) found himself on the same softball team, with Kenny as 2nd baseman and Bob as shortstop. They won the Westchester County Tournament three years in a row. Kenny and Bob also played together as teammates on the Pelham Sun Inn basketball team that went on to win the Town Recreation League three times running.

It might also be mentioned here that Betty, sister of Bob, Ed and Jim Magee, had a huge crush on Kenny during her High School days, saying he was the best looking boy she had ever seen. As usual Bob and Jim disagreed with her, insisting that Kenny was merely a close second to their brother, Ed.