

WESTPORT~NEWS

On the Home Front

Bi-monthly column by: Linda Skolnick

Memories of Westport

Over dinner last week, a few of us were talking about the good old days in Westport. We remembered buying corn at Buster's Farm Stand (which is now Graystone Farm Lane), Sole Luna Restaurant and of course Barneys on Main Street! We enjoyed listing all the places we could remember, and remarked about how much has changed. So, I thought, why not ask other Westporters about their favorite memories. My intention was to recall places that are now gone...but many Westporters instead chose a moment that made the past a special memory in Westport. I thought, how great! So, here are some of your neighbor's responses!

Julie Migliaccio- The Remarkable Book store, Soup's on', Atticus Bookstore and Café, Dorrain Drugstore, Ship's Restaurant, Barney's New York, Gristede's grocery store.

Avi Kaner-Wings on Thursday night at the Duck

The Burris Family- we were renting down on Burnham Hill, and we used to be able to walk down to Allen's Clam House for a(n) (expensive) pick up dinner. We continued to go back frequently, loving the silly, casual, damp ambience of the place.

Monica Chusid- my daughter Hannah and I were in Starbucks downtown. Mike Meyers walked by. We ran like crazed teenagers to catch up with him. He was so gracious and kind while he gave us an autograph! That's one of the things I love about this town – you never know who you are going to run into!

Ellyn Myers - the beauty of its seasons: the energy and exuberance of the Compo beach area during the summer, the absolutely magnificent fall foliage, the mild and very civilized winters (wishful thinking), and the hint of warmth as spring approaches.

Jamie Camche- The day that I brought Elizabeth home from Norwalk Hospital to meet her brother Jon.

Elyse Tessler- Post Corner Pizza...and summer Compo Beach Baseball Parties

Andi Frimet- Onion Alley...not too long ago!

Jeff Millar- Summer tennis at Owenoke and all the different types of players that came to play.

Lou Rosenfeld- the evening about a year ago or so that I (almost) bought 3 houses in one night!!!!

The Lehrman Family- The first time we ventured to the patio bar at Splash a mere six years ago when we first moved here and were greeted by many of the

same people we now consider to be our closest friends. Little did we know how lucky we were in choosing such a wonderful place as well as such a wonderful broker.

Karen Wingate-Thinking back 9 years ago when I had recently moved from Manhattan - and was looking outside my kitchen window - crying hysterically on the phone to my girlfriend back in the city asking, "Where are all the taxis ... all I can see is deer!!"

Allison Narins- walking hand in hand down Compo Beach with my husband and my (for the first time) THREE girls on a beautiful, sunny day and thinking how lucky we are to be there.

Larry Bartimer - watching the July 4th Fireworks on Compo Beach and walking in the Memorial Day Parades with my kids. This gives me the hometown feeling as a parent, of having set roots in a great community.

Mimi Bartimer -My 2nd day in Westport when a smiley policeman let me off without a ticket for (knowingly) driving the wrong way down a "One Way Only" street.

Nadja Streiter - My surprise "40th " birthday party, on my 39th birthday.

Alan Streiter - When the team of Streiter, Platte, Greenspan, Gerla, Becker, Jacobs, Hirschberg and Feinstein destroyed the bad guys in the only football game that really mattered in 2003.

The Barsantis - The beach with the kids when they were little. It's not the same with-out the kids. They are at summer camp or have gotten wise to the fact that beaches exist with smooth sand and blue water and big waves. It was great while it lasted.

Jennifer Freedman - The big top which was located where McDonalds now is. It had the best burgers and BBQ chicken and the Pink Ice-cream Parlor. It was located on the Post Road across from Playhouse Square. They had penny kind of desserts with the must have wax lips and things. The place was pink even the parking lines were pink. They also had the old fashioned crank movie machines. It was a wonderful place to go as a child with my parents.

The Kessler Family - The Walker Family...Denise, Hank, Kate, Matthew and Jack, and the treasured times we've spent together!

Glenn Camche - A jelly in every store!!!

Liz Kaner – few years ago a family of 15 or so wild turkeys descended from the woods and decided to cross Hillspoint Road, I thought that even though Westport feels like an extension of New York City in terms of sophistication and being in the fast lane, these wild turkeys remind us that we still live in a rural area, peopled not only by wild turkeys, but by deer, raccoons and even foxes.

Jill Steinberg –after years spent in NYC, any time we spent on our porch, in the snow, at the beach, on the grass, on a ball field and in a car without a meter."

Sherri Raifisen - Fuddrucker's and then Post Corner Pizza - the BEST location for B-day parties with The Great Abate!

Susan Glick - sitting at the BBQ area on Compo Beach late August, watching the sky turn to pink and orange as the late summer sun sets...It is absolutely beautiful....

We have all had some incredible memories in Westport. Although much of the landscape has changed, the personality and vitality is still strong and evident! Best wishes for more memory making moments in 2004.