

PAW PAW WAPPAW DOT COM

CHANGE/UPDATE LOG



**This log created to document
all additions and changes to
the website since it's initial
launch on 20 December 2013.**

*- Dan Smith
Website Janitor*

20 Dec 2013 – PawPawWapPaw.com officially launched via e-mail to Class of '63 and various other Alumni. Missing seven Middle School WapPaws and will solicit online.

23 Dec 2013 – Matt Bailly, PPHS c/o'02, offers to, and does, provide the missing 1996 and 1997 Middle School WapPaws on 28 Dec 2013. Returned to him on 30 Dec 2013.

24 Dec 2013 – Received e-mail from Robert "Butch" Hindenach confirming the existence of a Class of 1943 graduation "pamphlet," consisting of mimeographed pages. Butch will try to locate and recover a copy for the website.

01 Jan 2014 – Added Butch Hindenach's website, "PawPawRedskins.net" to Paw Paw links page.

02 Jan 2014 – Added JoAnn Kobe PPHS c/o'50, and Robin Racette PPHS c/o'72, to "Acknowledgements" page for their support of website per Darlene McKenzie PPHS c/o'63.

03 Jan 2014 – Received an e-mail from Toni Ross, (aka Wanda Gordon), with names attached to the Lyle School photos. This was added into the one-room schoolhouse file.

04 Jan 2014 – Ordered PPHS 2014 WapPaw Yearbook - \$61.00.

05 Jan 2014 – Received PPHS c/o'63 45-year reunion photo from Paul Moreno, PPHS c/o'63, and updated the "K-12+50" file on the "Miscellaneous" page.

05 Jan 2014 – Received current photo from Milo Plank PPHS c/o'63 and will add to "K-12+50" on next update.

05 Jan 2014 – Straightened out page order on the 1963 WapPaw.

06 Jan 2014 – Received class photo with names of Michigan Avenue Elementary 1965-66 Fourth Grade, from Kathryn (Smead) Pitcher, PPHS c/o'74, and entered same into file on "Miscellaneous" page.

14 Jan 2014 – Ordered the 2014 Middle School WapPaw. Only \$18.00.

16 Jan 2014 – Received missing 2011 Middle School WapPaw from Ben Flick, PPHS c/o'16, and entered same. Returned to Darlene McKenzie 17 Jan.

17 Jan 2014 – Received missing 1989 and 2006 Middle School WapPaws from Randy McKenzie, PPHS c/o'93, and Anella Cooper, PPHS c/o'10, and entered same. Returned to Darlene McKenzie 18 Jan.

18 Jan 2014 – Added blue skies and clouds to school pictures on the home page.

20 Jan 2014 – One-month anniversary of website launch. Analytics for first month are as follows:



Region ?	Visits ? ↓	% New Visits ?	New Visits ?
	4,452 <small>% of Total: 98.60% (4,515)</small>	58.54% <small>Site Avg: 58.38% (0.26%)</small>	2,606 <small>% of Total: 98.86% (2,636)</small>
1. Michigan	2,899	57.33%	1,662
2. Florida	291	41.24%	120
3. Illinois	177	68.93%	122
4. California	129	62.79%	81
5. Texas	109	56.88%	62
6. Minnesota	100	81.00%	81
7. Indiana	80	70.00%	56
8. Arizona	62	59.68%	37
9. Ohio	57	66.67%	38
10. Virginia	42	57.14%	24
11. Georgia	41	58.54%	24
12. New York	31	67.74%	21
13. Oklahoma	28	21.43%	6
14. North Carolina	26	80.77%	21
15. Wisconsin	26	57.69%	15
16. Pennsylvania	25	72.00%	18
17. Massachusetts	23	73.91%	17
18. Colorado	22	68.18%	15
19. Alabama	21	57.14%	12
20. Missouri	21	85.71%	18
21. Mississippi	21	76.19%	16
22. (not set)	20	90.00%	18
23. Kansas	19	52.63%	10
24. Maryland	19	73.68%	14
25. Oregon	19	57.89%	11
26. Tennessee	16	62.50%	10
27. Washington	15	53.33%	8
28. Connecticut	13	53.85%	7

Region ?	Visits ? ↓	% New Visits ?	New Visits ?
29. Iowa	12	66.67%	8
30. South Carolina	12	50.00%	6
31. Alaska	9	44.44%	4
32. New Jersey	8	62.50%	5
33. New Mexico	8	37.50%	3
34. Delaware	6	50.00%	3
35. Idaho	6	83.33%	5
36. Kentucky	6	66.67%	4
37. Arkansas	5	60.00%	3
38. Louisiana	5	80.00%	4
39. Utah	4	50.00%	2
40. District of Columbia	3	66.67%	2
41. Montana	3	66.67%	2
42. Nevada	3	100.00%	3
43. Wyoming	3	66.67%	2
44. Nebraska	2	100.00%	2
45. New Hampshire	2	50.00%	1
46. Hawaii	1	100.00%	1
47. Maine	1	100.00%	1
48. West Virginia	1	100.00%	1

Country / Territory	Visits	% Visits
1. United States	4,452	98.60%
2. Canada	10	0.22%
3. (not set)	9	0.20%
4. United Kingdom	7	0.16%
5. South Korea	7	0.16%
6. Belgium	6	0.13%
7. Australia	5	0.11%
8. Thailand	5	0.11%
9. Curaçao	3	0.07%
10. Israel	2	0.04%

23 Jan 2014 – Recopied and rendered 1987 Middle School WapPaw due to so many missing pages and “artwork” by students. Clean copy provided by Randy McKenzie received this date and returned to Darlene McKenzie 24 Jan 2014.

MIDDLE SCHOOL WAPPAW COLLECTION STATUS			
WapPaw	Remarks	WapPaw	Remarks
1969	Last Year 7th & 8th grades in High School WapPaw	1992	Have Middle School WapPaw
1970	Seventh Grade Dropped From High School WapPaw	1993	Have Middle School WapPaw
1971		1994	Have Middle School WapPaw
1972	Start of Junior High (Middle School) WapPaws (Have)	1995	Have Middle School WapPaw
1973	Eighth Grade Dropped from High School WapPaw(Have)	1996	Provided by Matt Bailly
1974	Have Middle School WapPaw	1997	Provided by Matt Bailly
1975	Have but Missing pages: 7-8, 17-18, 21-28, 41-42	1998	Have Middle School WapPaw
1976	Have but Missing pages: 38-39	1999	Have Middle School WapPaw
1977	Have Middle School WapPaw	2000	Have Middle School WapPaw
1978	Have Middle School WapPaw	2001	Have Middle School WapPaw
1979	Have Middle School WapPaw	2002	Have Middle School WapPaw
1980	Missing	2003	Have Middle School WapPaw
1981	Have Middle School WapPaw	2004	Have Middle School WapPaw
1982	Have Middle School WapPaw	2005	Have Middle School WapPaw
1983	Have Middle School WapPaw	2006	Provided by Anella Cooper
1984	Have Middle School WapPaw	2007	Have Middle School WapPaw
1985	Have but Missing Pages: 23-24	2008	Have Middle School WapPaw
1986	Have but Missing Pages: 23-24	2009	Have Middle School WapPaw
1987	Have Missing Pages: 13-14, 21-22, 31-32 - REPAIRED 1/23/14	2010	Have Middle School WapPaw
1988	Have Middle School WapPaw	2011	Provided by Benjamin Flick
1989	Provided by Randy McKenzie	2012	Have Middle School WapPaw
1990	Have Middle School WapPaw	2013	Missing
1991	Have Middle School WapPaw	NEED IT	HAVE IT

24 Jan 2014 – Decided to create this document as a running update summary file, on the “Miscellaneous” page.

25 Jan 2014 – Received missing 1980 Middle School WapPaw from Debi Haefner Goodman, Kalamazoo Christian c/o’84, and entered same. Will return to Debi on Monday, 27 Jan. Entry on “Acknowledgements” page made.

- 31 Jan 2014 – I have received photo of PPHS Class of 1894, with all students identified, from Duane White, New Braunfels, Texas. He also sent graduation photo of his Grandmother, Irmah Wilcox, Class of '94 Salutatorian and a copy of her hand-written Salutatory address. I have combined all items into one PDF file and placed it on the "Miscellaneous" page.
- 04 Feb 2014 – I received an original Paw Paw Centennial 1859-1959 Pictorial History Souvenir Program that I ordered from the *Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society of Southwest Michigan*. If you are at all interested in history, this is quite a rich resource. The original hard copy of the Souvenir Program was only \$10.00 and there are many other great publications at very reasonable prices. The Society can be reached at <http://www.vbrgs.org/> and I have also put a graphic link on the links page of the web site. The Centennial Program is on the *Miscellaneous* page. The first thing I noticed was the cover photo that says it's a view of Paw Paw looking "East" when it should have read "West." (Picture on back cover confirms it.)
- 08 Feb 2014 – Added Milo Plank to the PPHS Class of '63 "K-12+50" file on the Miscellaneous Page.
- 13 Feb 2014 – Made some major changes and additions to the "Miscellaneous" page thanks to items sent to me by Martha Jennings, PPHS c/o '66 from the archives of her father James Jennings, PPHS c/o'34 and other photos and items from Robin Racette, PPHS c/o'72 daughter of Fil Racette, PPHS c/o'44:
- Added 8 of 10 pages of the Paw Paw Courier-Northerner from December 8th, 1933.
 - Added new "PPHS Memory Chest" to park Sports/Band/Group Class Pictures/Sport and Event Programs/Charlie Maxwell Baseball Cards/etc.
 - Moved the Michigan Avenue Photo Book into the "Class Group Photos" file. The only pictures that will go into this file are the elementary/middle school pictures that did not make it into yearbooks.
- 14 Feb 2014 – Made corrections to all graphic images, rendered updated/new PDF files and uploaded to server.
- 27 Feb 2014 – Darlene sent me the elusive 2013 Middle School WapPaw, which was provided by Tom Otten, PPHS Class of 2018 – The collection is now complete. Also, received 1986 WapPaw from Mandy Leonard, PPHS Class of 1990, from which I was able to Copy the missing pages 23 and 24 to the website copy – Thank you Mandy. All additions/updates were placed online this date. Mandy's and Tom's books will be returned to Darlene tomorrow.
- 21 Mar 2014 - Butch Hindenach sent me a copy of his collection of short stories: "*Tales, Legends, Myths, & Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan*" – I converted to pdf file and placed download link on "Miscellaneous" page.
- 21 Apr 2014 – Some notable analytics from 20 Dec 2013 to 20 Apr 2014: Site has been visited 6,702 times by 3,494 users from 49 states (still no North Dakota), and 30 countries. Also finished making up the PPHS Alumni list and will add to Miscellaneous page. Now working on PPHS Alumni Memorial Section – it will still be awhile before it's ready to go live.
- 16 May 2014 – Completed first cut on Paw Paw High School Alumni Memorial Section and am putting it up. It will remain a work in progress that I will update periodically, when I get a significant number of new obituaries or information to put up. Hopefully the PPHS alumni, that are still above ground, will help me by finding names and obituaries that I don't have and forwarding them to me. In the meantime, I'll try and find as many as I can when I have free time on the computer.
- 29 May 2014 – Expanded the "Alumni List" from around 8,500 to around 10,500 names and the covered time period from 1939 back to 1869. Additionally, have located over a thousand more names and class years for the "Alumni Memorial List" and will add these shortly.

- 17 Jun 2014** – Made several corrections to the PPHS Alumni List and added in the PPHS Class of 2014. Corrected Bob Crocker c/o66 obituary link on PPHS Memorial List. Added three new obituaries to PPHS Memorial List.
- 15 Jul 2014** - Added twenty new obituaries to the PPHS Memorial pages.
- 07 Aug 2014** - Added another 140 new obituaries to PPHS Memorial pages.
- 01 Oct 2014** - Added 600+ more obituaries to the PPHS Memorial pages. Now have well over 1,000 obits linked to PPHS alumni. Added history booklet links for Almena Center School (1833-1951), and Palmer School (1860-1960), to the One-Room Schoolhouse document on Miscellaneous page. Booklets were provided by Carol (Burns) Rickli, PPHS Class of '63. During visit to Paw Paw, 20-30 August, I put up website posters at LaCantina, Sugar Bear and Family Food Store next to I-94. Also took picture of PPHS Class of 1901 and linked to the 1901 header on the Memorial Pages. I found obituary for the artist that painted the murals in the Michigan Avenue School and will make a drawer in the "Chest of Memories" on the Miscellaneous Page to place the obit and pictures into.
- 27 Oct 2014** - Added a couple dozen more obituaries to Memorial Page. Added a couple updated class pictures to the "Paw Paw Class Group Photos" drawer on the "Chest of Memories." Memorial pages have been updated and corrections to the "Paw Paw Alumni List" that have been noted, were made. List will be rendered and links added within the next two weeks. The 2014 WapPaws from the Senior and Middle Schools have been received and scanned, however, will not be put up until I get word from the PPHS Yearbook Coordinator, as I don't want this site adversely affecting yearbook sales.
- 08 Feb 2015** - It's been a few months since I updated this page. PawPawWapPaw was one year old on 20 December, 2014, and has had close to 10,000 visits from 49 states (still no North Dakota) and about forty different countries during its first year of operation. I have received many favorable comments, and will continue maintaining the website until I am too old or senile to do it any longer, at which time I will turn it over to the Village of Paw Paw or possibly the Paw Paw High School Media Department. Since the last update on 27 October, I have found and added over 100 new alumni obituaries to the website memorial file. Lastly, just this week, I have revised, rendered and republished Robert "Butch" Hindenach's book, *Tales, Legends, Myths & Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan*, which can be found on the "Miscellaneous" page of the website, adding eighteen additional people and stories to the book - very interesting and enjoyable reading.
- 23 Mar 2015** - Finally finished and put online, copies of the old PPHS school papers from 1887, 1917, 1962 and 1963. The 1962/63 papers I had in my mementos file from school. The 1917 WAPPAW papers, I found and purchased on ebay, while the 1887 "Progress" papers I came across while viewing the Van Buren District Library (VBDL) blog from back in 2011. Pam Pender of the Local History Section of the VBDL was most helpful in copying and sending me the four issues that they hold. The name on the top of each paper was "Percy Buck" who was an 1892 graduate of Paw Paw High. Unfortunately, Percy died of tuberculosis in 1892 at the young age of 19 years and is buried in Prospect Cemetery - the school papers he kept will remain his legacy. Also put up a couple dozen more obituaries, and am working on a page to honor the Paw Paw High School Hall of Fame members. It is complete and just awaiting copies of the individual write-ups, which Butch Hindenach is trying to procure for me, to go online.
- 07 Jun 2015** - Due to recent health issues, Butch Hindenach was not able to procure the PPHS Hall of Fame write-ups for me. Doug Falan-c/o63, Paul Moreno-c/o63, and Tammy Southworth-PPHS Assistant Principal, have taken over and provided me with a majority of the HOF write ups for the inductees. Only awaiting six more and some small clarifications and we will be good to go online, probably no later than the end of this month. I have also copied 17 additional obituaries to the Memorial Pages, which brings the online total to 1,213 alumni obits. Also added since last March is a "do-it-

yourself" PPHS yearbook made by Ruth Hinckley in 1920. The book was discovered and provided by Pam Pender, Local History Department of the Van Buren District Library, Decatur, Michigan. Also, last month, I added an "Early History" of LaFayette/Paw Paw, which is quite interesting, to the *Miscellaneous* page. Within that link, I added another link to an extensive history of Van Buren County. As of this date, our Google Analytic Statistics indicate a total of 9,674 new users from 111 countries, for a total of 14,949 website sessions. Finally, sometime around the middle of this month, I will put up last year's 2014 PPHS Senior/Middle School WapPaw's.

31 Jul 2015 - Since the last report, I've found and added 35 more alumni obituaries to the collection which now stands at 1,248 online.

New Google Analytics Stats for July 31, 2015:

Sessions ? ↓	% New Sessions ?	New Users ?	Bounce Rate ?	Pages / Session ?	Avg. Session Duration ?
20,030 % of Total: 100.00% (20,030)	61.64% Avg for View: 61.45% (0.32%)	12,347 % of Total: 100.32% (12,308)	50.00% Avg for View: 50.00% (0.00%)	2.15 Avg for View: 2.15 (0.00%)	00:02:40 Avg for View: 00:02:40 (0.00%)

Still at 111 countries. What's interesting is that I've got 1,200 users from Russia, although they don't stay online very long. Pawpawwappaw must mean something in Russian, although I can't imagine what it would be. The 2014 WapPaw's are online, as well as the PPHS Hall of Fame files.

I finally had a friend, that was going to a temporary job in North Dakota, log in from there, so I now have all 50 states represented in my stats. Also had 1500 PPWP business cards printed up (cheaper than doing it myself), and sent a supply and holders to the Paw Paw District Library, Sugar Bear Restaurant and La Cantina in Paw Paw. Also sent a supply to the Classes of 1960, 1965 and 1970 to pass out at their reunions this summer. Added a classic Paw Paw matchbook display, a Paw Paw Railroad 1873 Annual Report, and an archive album of old Paw Paw photographs, which will remain a work in progress.

Also sent my classic matchbook and post card collections to Diane Ross to add to the Paw Paw District Library History Archives. I received, copied and returned the 2015 PPMS yearbook to Diane. The PPHS yearbook will be distributed in August 2015. Sent a check to the Library for \$100.00 to cover cost of PPHS/MS 2016 yearbook purchases. Also received a "PPHS Class of 1960 *Golden WapPaw*" that was put together by Carol (Griffith) Vuillemenot for their 50-year reunion, and added it to the *Miscellaneous* page. Then, with Carol's permission, sent it to the PPD for the Local History Room.

Finally, I added a link on the Paw Paw Links page and in the Paw Paw Photo Archives, to the late Fr. Joseph Clayton Neiman's book: "*Post Card Views of Historic Paw Paw*" and actually purchased the book, which I will donate to the Paw Paw District Library when it comes in.

Well, that's about it through the end of July. Heading for Canada in September to cool off a little. Until next time.....Dan

22 Aug 2015 - Started a feature I'd been thinking about for several months - Reunion Photos by Class Year. Memory was kick-started again by Carol Jaros-Nugteren who sent me a copy of her Class of '73 40-Year Reunion photo. Feature has been entered and is now awaiting photo solicitation results.

27 Nov 2015 – Not too much new. Have added 23 new obituaries since the last update. The Reunion photo feature is off to a slow start with only a couple of reunion photos submitted so far. May have to go on Facebook and ask for inputs. Restocked Paw Paw Sugar Bear's supply of PPWP cards and also sent Courtney Buhl a PPWP ceiling panel advertisement to run for two years at the Bear. I plan to get up to Paw Paw next year for the wine festival and will spend a few days at the Paw and Van Buren District Libraries chasing down alumni obituaries. I've taken the Southwest Michigan death index and meshed it with the entire PPHS alumni list and have been filtering out possible alumni obits over the past several months, so I will have a good list to hit when I get up to Michigan. That's about all for now.

18 Dec 2015 – In the last three weeks, my brother Joel Smith, Class of '76 passed away from cancer on November 30th and was added to the Memorial. Also added three class pictures with students identified, to the One-Room Schoolhouse section- two classes from 1950 and 1952 to the Dayton School and the class photo from 1927 to the old Riverside School. The 8th grade graduating class from St. Mary's was added to the class photos in the "Chest of Memories." All the above photos and names were provided by Carol Jaros Nugteren, PPHS Class of 1973. In addition, Carol also provided a photo with names from her class of 1973 40-year reunion. Finally, Dale Sommerfelt provided me with a photo and names for his PPHS Class of 1970 35-year reunion in 2005. Thank you Carol and Dale for your support of PawPawWapPaw.com. In two more days, the website will be two years old. I'll have to make another entry at that time.

20 Dec 2015 – Well, two years ago today, PawPawWapPaw.com went online for the first time. Happy Birthday! Just want to document my Google Analytics for December 20, 2013 to December 20, 2015:

Total New Users: 14,960 people
Total Sessions: 23,795
Geographical Breakdown: 127 Countries and all 50 States
Michigan Users: 4,895 for 10,271 Sessions
Foreign User Anomaly: 1,542 Russian Users for 1,723 Sessions

Kind of strange to get 1,542 people from Russia. Makes me wonder if "WapPaw" is some kind of Russian word.

Today I put out an annual Christmas and New Years greeting to the class. Also received word today that Gary Dafoe, a classmate from 9 grade, passed away on December 2nd, and put the word out to the class.

That's about it for now.

03 Feb 2016 – Well, we're over a month into the New Year. Not much to report. I keep adding obituaries to the memorial book and have gotten in a few more reunion group shots. This is going slower than I had anticipated, so I'm going out on Butch Hindenach's "*Paw Paw Now and Then*" Facebook page and solicit more reunion inputs. As of this date, I only have 7 classes that have responded.

One major development did occur last month. I had been working with the Paw Paw High School Yearbook Advisor, Mrs. Brandy Croak to determine how soon after it's published, to post a yearbook to the website. We had tried one year, with the 2014 yearbook not being put up until summer of 2015 at which time an analysis would be done to determine if there was a negative impact on the sale of the 2015 yearbooks. Last month, I received an e-mail from Kyle Gibson, the current Yearbook Advisor who conducted the analysis and determined that the lag time for the books is too short and did negatively impact the PPHS yearbook sales. As a result of this, the lag time for posting new yearbooks has been extended from one, out to three or more years.

22 Mar 2016 – Have made some significant changes this past week. I purchased a program that converts .pdf files into a flip-book format. I converted all of the PPHS WapPaws as well as selected documents from the Miscellaneous page. Also added a feature that allows anyone to download the yearbooks and select books as stand-alone (executable .exe) files. This last feature will take some basic knowledge of Finding and renaming files on the users part. If they can not figure out how to do it from the posted Notes, I asked that they e-mail me and I will send them more detailed instructions on how to work it. Failing that, I will call and talk them through the process if I have to.

During the past month, I also completed the review of the Van Buren District Libraries database of obituaries that I had combined with my list (in red) of Paw Paw obits that I'm missing. I then printed out and bound a copy that I plan to take to Michigan when we visit next September and should be able to locate several hundred more obituaries for the PPHS Alumni Memorial Book.

Still going very slow on getting reunion photos in for various classes. Have received a few. I plan to visit the Courier Leader when I get to Paw Paw and see what I can locate in their archives.

I also added the PPHS Hall of Fame selectees for 2016.

Well, that's about it for now. All appears to be going well.

01 Apr 2016 – I received a very nice gift yesterday, in the form of a 50-year reunion yearbook, provided by Dick Scotese, PPHS Class of 1957. I have converted it to exe, pdf and flip-book formats and placed it on the website, on the Miscellaneous Page, next to the PPHS Class of 1960's Golden WapPaw, which was sent to me by Carol (Griffith) Vuilleminot, PPHS Class of 1960. Thanks to both of these great alumnus for their input and support of pawpawwappaw.com.

10 Apr 2016 – The last week was kind of hectic for a little while. I had mailed out the yearbook library disk to all the Paw Paw School Libraries, as well as the Paw Paw and Van Buren County District Libraries and the Kalamazoo Central Library when I discovered that, basically, all of the yearbooks I had converted to "Flip Books" had the pages out of order, due to removal of a blank page when I converted the original scans to vertical scroll pdf files. This required me to rework each book to realign the pages for "flipping." This was made a little easier by looking at the page numbers – if they were on the inside of the pages, book was bad and a page had to be added to the beginning of the book to move the page numbers to the outside edges. I had to redo, copy, render and reformat all but four of the high school and middle school yearbooks. The project took me about thirty hours, and another sixteen hours to upload to my server. Final results are outstanding and books are now in perfect order, and corrected copies mailed out to all recipients of the earlier version. ****Whew**** Also went down to Jupiter, Florida for second annual PPHS Snowbird Reunion which was very nice. Had alumni from classes of 61, 63, and '65.

15 Jun 2016 – Not a lot of action the past month and a half. I've added another 10 or so obituaries (even found one, with photo, for Roscoe Broughton, PPHS Class of 1871). Looking forward to my upcoming Wine Festival visit, during which I have a list of over 800 obits that I believe are held by the Van Buren District Library. Also added my personal comics collection (over 1,200 newspaper comics), via a "ghost" (invisible) link, as they are copyrighted and I can't put them openly on the web site. (Don't know how many of y'all read this update, but if you do, the collection can be downloaded by clicking on the eyeball of the top right fishing lure on the "Miscellaneous" screen). Well, that's about it for now. Hope y'all have a great summer.

27 Jun 2016 – Added a couple more obits. Received Paw Paw High Class of 2016 graduation program from Darlene McKenzie and added new graduates to the PPHS Alumni List. Also changed the links on the class year section to to bring up Flip Book WapPaws vice the PDF file when year is clicked on. The flip books load much faster.

27 Jul 2016 - No major changes. Added twelve alumni/teacher/support obituaries over the past month.

17 Nov 2016 – Again, no major changes. Have added a few hundred alumni obituaries as a result of my September visit to Paw Paw/Decatur Libraries. Also have received a few class reunion group photos which will be posted shortly. As for today's analytics, a total of 20,098 unique users and 31,357 sessions, which is pretty good considering there have only been a little over 11,000 PPHS graduates. I'm still curious as to why I have 3,023 unique users and 3,436 sessions from Russia.

I received an e-mail from China stating that they want to name a pharmaceutical product: "pawpawwappaw," and asking if I had any objections to them using the name. I replied that I had no objection as long as it didn't affect my web site. I also asked them what the medicine was to be used for and a picture of the package – no response to date.

Received an e-mail from Diane Ross at the Paw Paw District Library, that the 2016 high school and middle school yearbooks have finally come in, and she is sending me one each to copy and return. They won't be going online for a couple of years yet, per agreement with the schools. (2015 WapPaws will be posted in January 2018). Well, that's about all for now. I'll continue putting up obits as I can locate them, and updating other parts of the site when I receive corrections/info. I've also decided to forgo the indentation on this document, as it is just a waste of space. If you're reading this before they happen, I wish y'all a Happy Thanksgiving, Blessed Christmas and Prosperous 2017 – It should be a very interesting year with the regime change in Washington.

25 Dec 2016 – Happy Birthday Jesus, and thanks for lifting the sin load off my shoulders (considerable load after 31 years in the United States Navy and 20 years as member of a biker gang). Well, PawPawWapPaw sailed smoothly past it's third anniversary on 20 December. Still hunting and adding obituaries at the rate of about 10 to 20 a month. I found Percy Buck's (PPHS Class of 1892), obituary while reading through some old copies of the Paw Paw *True Northerner* newspaper – I had been searching for it for over a year. The PPHS papers *Progress* were donated to the Van Buren District Library from Percy's estate and are included in the PPHS newspaper collection. Besides putting him in the Memorial Book, I linked his obit to his name on the newspaper home page.

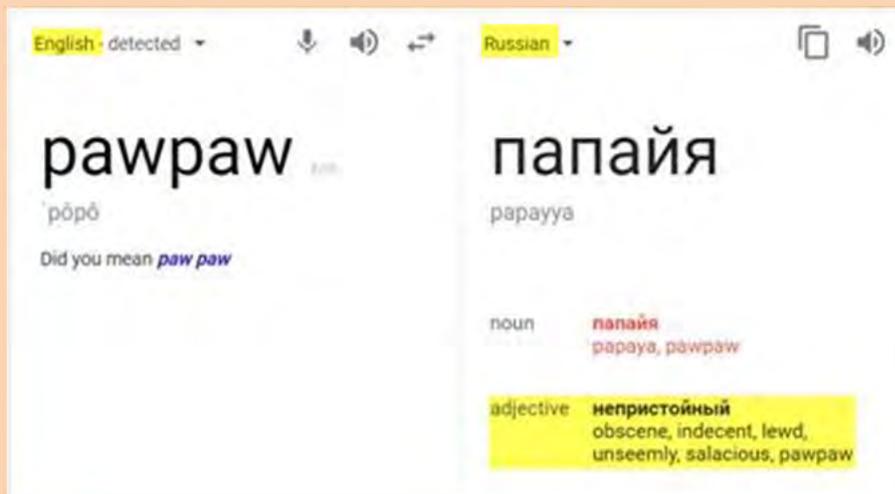
Butch Hindenach sent me several interesting new entries to add to his "*Tales, Legends, Myths and Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan,*" on the Miscellaneous page of the website.

Also this month, I was finally able to solve the great mystery of why I'm getting so many (over 3,000) hits from Russia. Here is what cleared it up:

PPWP Website Analytics:

Country	Acquisition		
	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
	32,093 % of Total: 100.00% (32,093)	63.95% Avg for View: 63.66% (0.47%)	20,525 % of Total: 100.47% (20,429)
1. United States	23,286 (72.56%)	53.55%	12,470 (60.76%)
2. Russia	3,643 (11.35%)	85.04%	3,098 (15.09%)
3. (not set)	1,264 (3.94%)	99.21%	1,254 (6.11%)
4. Brazil	603 (1.88%)	99.83%	602 (2.93%)
5. India	365 (1.14%)	91.78%	335 (1.63%)
6. United Kingdom	324 (1.01%)	98.15%	318 (1.55%)
7. China	272 (0.85%)	98.53%	268 (1.31%)
8. Kyrgyzstan	179 (0.56%)	81.01%	145 (0.71%)

Here's what I found:



Looks like Ivan should stick to hacking our politicians. 😊

Well, that's about it for 2016. It was a good year, and 2017 is looking even better.

10 March 2017 – Here we are, over two months into 2017. I spent a few days converting the graphics database I got from the Van Buren District Library from .tif format to .pdf to pdf OCR. I was then able to search and locate about 130 new obituaries and obituary updates.

Butch Hindenach has sent me several new "notables" and I have edited them and incorporated into book. I also suggested we start using photos in his book, to which he was very receptive. As of this date, I'm waiting for one more input. When input is received I will convert, render and publish a revised edition.

Ron Labadie wrote and asked if it would be possible to advertise their class reunion on the site. This gave birth to a new idea for an item on the "Miscellaneous" page to publish information on upcoming reunions, the first entry of which was Ron's class of 1967 reunion on 15 July 2017.

I ordered and received another batch of Paw Paw WapPaw business cards, and also got 200 black metal pens with a stylus tip that the pen point goes right thru when the button is pushed, and had them laser-engraved with:

WWW.PAWPAWWAPPAW.COM
PAW PAW HIGH SCHOOL, MICHIGAN
ALUMNI, HISTORY, YEARBOOKS AND MORE

For the past couple of months, I've also been putting together a nomination for Doane Harrison, PPHS Class of 1912, for posthumous induction into the Paw Paw High School Hall of Fame. I'm still tracking some leads out in California, but will have it submitted well before the next PPHS HOF Committee meeting. Doane was an amazing alumni and among other things was film director Billy Wilders mentor and right-hand man, received 3 Academy Award nominations, and edited/associate produced over 100 films from the black-and-white silent movies to the color stereophonic movies, while working with almost every well-known movie star of those days.

Well, that's about it for now. I don't know if anyone even reads my updates, but if you do, drop me an e.mail to dirtydan@pawpawwappaw.com, and I'll send the first 50 people that respond, prior to June 1, 2017, one of my fancy new stylus-tip pens.

23 May 2017 – Added another couple dozen obituaries to Memorial Pages. Received E-mail from Mary Hop Griffin, PPHS c/o1973 proposing a section for photos of the different class rings over the years. I asked her to provide photos of five different class rings and I would start it..... pending.

With the kind permission of the creator/photographer, Terry Gruber, I placed his book: *Cat High – The Yearbook*, on the Miscellaneous page. Very funny and enjoyable book. Since publication, Terry has formed a company of now world-class photographers that are very visible throughout the country. Also thanks to Paul Bernabe, a friend and associate of Terry, that offered to help me in any way he could.

Still working on Doane Harrison's Paw Paw Hall of Fame input. I did find out where he is buried, but still cannot locate an obituary.

So far, I've only had to give out one pen to Paul Moreno who read this update. I sent Butch Hindenach fifty pens and fifty LED Flashlight Keychains to distribute to Paw Paw Alumni. Darlene McKenzie gave out PPWP pens at the Class of '63 ladies luncheon on 9 May. I sent her 20 of the flash lights to give out at the next luncheon. Also contacted Ron Labadie, who will give me a number for alumni attendees at the Class of '67 50-year reunion in July, to which I will send pens and lights.

Well – that's about it for now. Florida is getting hotter by the day. Now's the time I wish I still lived in Paw Paw. Oh well..... Later.

24 July 2017 – During the past couple months, I sent Ron Labadie fifty each PPWP stylis-pens and keychain led flashlights for distribution at the class of 1967's 50-year reunion. Ron says reunion was a huge success with 53 of their alumni attending.

Have heard nothing from Mary Hop Griffin on the class rings, so apparently it's a dead issue.

Mary Ann Mulrenin-Ford sent me reunion books from the classes of 1942 and 1943 50-year reunions. I then moved the 50-year reunion yearbooks and documents from the "Miscellaneous" page and instead, put on a link to a page with all the reunion yearbooks and publications. This also freed up a couple spaces on the Miscellaneous page for future entries.

Updated the Paw Paw High Hall of Fame with the names/accomplishments of the 2017 inductees that were provided by Paul Moreno, PPHS c/o'63.

Added more alumni obituaries. Sorrowfully, one of them was my best friend, the late Dave Lanphear's grandson, Matt Buskirk, PPHS Class of '06, who died of injuries received in an automobile accident.

Finally, this month, I've started work on a publication: *"The Care and Feeding of PawPawWapPaw.com"* which will be a pass down book on caring for and maintaining the website for whomever I decide to pass it on to.

We're presently in the hottest part of the year in Florida. Even though I live in Northeastern Florida, it's still like living on the sun. Heat and humidity miserable. Received e-mail from Mary Ann Mulrenin-Ford today telling me how present Paw Paw temperature was mid-70's, low humidity and cool breezes – perfect Paw Paw day. That's ok. I'll get her back next Dec/Jan. That's it for now.

20 October 2017 – The largest issue since the last update is that the early alumni lists I had received were missing a substantial number of classmates, over 170 have not been included in my alumni list to date. It was called to my attention by Ellen Dorstewitz Stephenson who sent me an e-mail with a copy of the class of 1924 commencement listing which showed I only had about half the class listed. I got out my hard copy of the old

alumni list that runs through 1966 and began to compare. All of the missing names were pre-1939, as that is the year I went to the yearbooks for the alumni lists.

After working a couple of weeks, I got all the missing names added. I then added every alumni that graduated before 1940 to the PPHS Memorial List, and went on a hunt for obituaries. I was able to add about 85 new obits to the memorial list.

Sent an e-mail to Diane Ross at PPDL inquiring about status of 2017 Middle and High School yearbooks, but have not heard back yet. Diane recently retired and only goes in every week or two.

Ordered and received some more neat promotional items to share at reunions. Now have flashlight key-chains and two types of pens. Haven't gotten much done on the pass down book, but will attack it seriously this winter.

I did renew the PawPawWapPaw.com domain for a period of nine more years, and purchased five more years of hosting by Go-Daddy. That's about it for now. Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, a Blessed Christmas and a and a prosperous 2018. Until next time - - see ya.

1 January 2018 – PawPawWapPaw is looking good, going into its fifth year online. Since the last update, I've added approximately 40 new obituaries. I have also taken the largest file sized obituaries and reformatted them down from pdf to jpg with no loss of quality, to speed up loading. I added the 2015 High School and Middle School yearbooks, and also placed a notification pop-up when any 2016 or above yearbook is selected, outlining my 3-year-no-post agreement with the school and a link to the WapPaw purchase site. Now waiting for Brandy McCleese, the PPHS yearbook advisor to confirm that the yearbooks are still available in the quantities listed. Also moved copy of the PPHS order page to my website and linked Brandy's e-mail to it. I was very pleased to see that PawPawWapPaw.com now has a link on the [Paw Paw Public Schools website](#).

On a sad note, Katlyn Slater, a 2013 PPHS graduate and recipient of the Class of '63 scholarship, who also donated her PPMS yearbooks to the website, passed away November 11th, 2017, after graduating from collage, and awaiting entrance to medical school. RIP Katie.

During this period, I also reworked the PPHS Class of 1894 yearbook to make it more pleasing to the eye, plus added obituaries for every class member but one. I made contact with Ronna (Rhodes) Bryant, PPHS Class of '63, and one of the first to donate her yearbooks to the site. It seems Ronna is a semi-professional genealogist and has offered to help me find obits on our deceased alumni. I received another order of promotional flashlights and pens, which I will distribute next summer when we head to Paw Paw for the Class of '63 55-year reunion. That's about it thru the end of 2017. It was a very good year and 2018 is also looking good. L&r - Dan

1 July 2018 – Time for a semi-annual update to the old log:

Not a lot to report, as the website chugs along to it's 5-year anniversary next December. I have received and copied the PPHS Class of 2017 WapPaw, as well as the 2017 Middle School yearbook. Since the first of the year I have added a total of 55 new obituaries for alumni from 1869 to 2005.

I'll be attending my 55-year reunion this August and plan to visit the Paw Paw District Library and review their obituary files for any alumni that I have missed or have been added since my last visit. On that note, Martha "Marty" Deming Maytnier has succeeded Diane Ross who retired from her position as the PPDL Local History Librarian. When I returned the 2017 yearbooks to Marty, I also sent some PPWP pens, flashlights and cards for distribution, as well the original hard copy of the "Cat High" yearbook and a check for \$100.00 to buy the 2018 yearbooks and send to me.

I sent a box of PawPawWapPaw pens, keychain flashlights and cards to Debbi Schrump-Haney to distribute at the 50-year reunion of her PPHS class of 1968 50-year reunion later on this month in Paw Paw.

Butch Hindenach is going to publish his *"Paw Paw Myths Legends Tales and People of Note"* as a soft-cover book to give to the local libraries and sell to people that want a hard copy. I helped Butch get the book ready and added some more photos to it. Butch recognized me in the Forward to the book, which was very gracious of him.

Butch was also able to purchase the original copies of the Paw Paw High School paper *"WappaW"* for the first half of 1921, that were collected and saved by Miss Rosalin Burk, PPHS Class of 1921. Once I copied and entered the papers on the website, I forwarded them to Marty at the Paw Paw District Library for their archives, as a donation per Butch's desire.

Lately, I've been working on the Class of '63 55-year reunion, sending out monthly "nag" e-mails and have created event name badges with magnetic "pins" that won't put holes in the clothing..... also colorized the photos for this years reunion. I'll also be bringing my PawPawWapPaw promotional items to pass out to the class.

I moved my website to a new "Go Daddy" hosting site (Linux), which is much faster than the old site and added security to the site. The site is paid for thru June of 2028, when I'll be 83 years old. By then I should be able to find some tech-head to take it over. I need to get busy and complete the turnover book to help whoever takes over from me.

Finally, I added a link for *"Radio Paw Paw"* to my links page.

That's 'bout it for now. Will write more when I have more to write - Dan

20 December 2018 – End of the year update – Happy Birthday PawPawWapPaw.com – Five years old today and still going strong. Since the last update, I've added twenty-nine obituaries, total obits is two-thousand and ten. I've also changed the format of the home page, adding a link button so user can see history and old photos of each school. Still need to get more info on the last two high schools..... next month's visit to Paw Paw.

In a major update to the Alumni List, I added links to class group photos and commencement articles where available. As the early years didn't have yearbooks, the commencement articles paint an interesting picture of the proceedings during early graduations.

"Radio Paw Paw" has apparently blown a fuse, as it is no longer available and the link has been removed from the website. However, I did add a link (not Paw Paw related) to YouTube historical photo collections, to which I've become addicted.

I still have not received the PPHS Class of 2018 yearbook. Apparently, my "great" idea of ordering it through the District Library has not worked out, so I am going back to ordering the books directly from the school and donating the book anonymously to a deserving student when I have finished digitizing it.

On a very positive note, the PPHS Hall of Fame nomination I submitted for Doane Harrison (one of the top film editors and associate producers of the 20th century), PPHS Class of 1912, was approved, and Doane will be posthumously inducted into the Paw Paw High Hall of Fame in a ceremony on 9 January 2019. A plaque with his photo and accomplishments will be placed in the school HOF case, and an identical plaque given to me in his name. As I cannot locate any living relatives, I will forward the plaque to the Motion Pictures Editors Guild in Hollywood, California for display with their archives. You can read a little about him in Butch Hindenach's *"Tales, Legends, Myths and Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan,"* which Butch informed me has sold out and is going in for another printing. If you would like more information on Doane Harrison, e-mail me and I'll send you a copy of the nomination package I put together. This is a great opportunity for me to spend several days in Paw Paw researching at the District Library.

Well, that's all I can think of, so 'bout it for now. Until next time.....

Tick.... tock.....tick.....tock.....tick.....

12 June 2020 – WOW!! It's been a year and a half since I last updated. Hard to believe, but I'm proof that the older one gets, the faster time flies. I just passed my 75th birthday and my website is on its seventh year, with the server paid up thru the summer of 2028. I also plan to leave a considerable amount in my will to purchase annual yearbooks and keep the website going ad infinitum.

Now, let's review what's been happening here the past year and a half:

- First, I've added 468 alumni obituaries to the site for a total of almost 2,500.
- I tried to donate Doane Harrison's PPHS Hall of Fame plaque to the Motion Picture Editors Guild in Hollywood, California, however after attempting to contact them three times and receiving no reply, Doane's plaque now hangs in the Van Buren County Museum for all to view; and just in case you haven't visited it yet, check out the museum photo-book on the "Paw Paw WapPaw dot com Links page."
- A major improvement to the site was the addition of the Community Education yearbooks and alumni/GED graduate lists on the "Miscellaneous" Page. Thanks go out to Amy Schuring of the Cedar Street Campus for her support in providing me the yearbooks and student lists.
- Having worked on a few reunion committees, I know how hard it is to instill interest and enthusiasm for class reunions, so I added a sub-feature to the "Approaching Reunions" section with "Ideas" on how to promote your reunion and nag your classmates to attend.
- Updated and added several Paw Paw "Notables" to Butch Hindenach's "Tales, Legends, Myths and Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan." Butch actually published this book and donated all the profit to local charities.
- Of course, I added the 2017 PPHS/MS yearbooks to the site, as well as listing the PPHS Class of 2019 in the PPHS Alumni List on the Miscellaneous Page.
- I purchased the 1941 WapPaw, Commencement Program and "My Senior Memories" book that once belonged to the late Mary Huey and added them to the site.
- Butch Hindenach found and purchased a complete 1921 (Jan-Jun) set of the WapPaw school paper, from which the yearbooks apparently were derived. All the papers are from the collection of the late Rosalin Burke who had the foresight to collect and save them for future generations. After digitizing and entering them on my website, they were forwarded to the Paw Paw District Library, Local History Archives per Butch's desire.
- The Hall of Fame feature was updated with the 2019 inductees. I'm waiting on the school to forward me pictures of the 2020 inductee plaques so I can enter them for this year.
- I updated all of Butch Hindenach's PPHS Sport History and Statistics book thru 2019. Don't know how 2020 sports are going to fare, due to the panic over the Corona virus.
- Added a couple more Paw Paw matchbook covers that I found online.
- Finally added links through the "Central Michigan University Digital Michigan Newspapers Page" to several thousand searchable/downloadable issues of nine Paw Paw newspapers from 1853 to 2018.

I'm presently working on a "Paw Paw Hero's" page featuring our local patriots that were killed in action or died while serving our country during the Civil War, WW-1, WW-2, Korea, Vietnam and The War on Terror. The page is centered around the beautiful "Maple City Veteran's Memorial Park" created by McGowan-Johnson American Legion Post #68 and the citizens of Paw Paw. I'm hoping to put it online this coming fourth of July.

I also want to create a feature: “Paw Paw Then and Now” – an obvious rip-off of Butch Hindenach’s “Paw Paw Now and Then” Facebook page (Butch is aware and helping me). It will be a photo album with old pictures of Paw Paw alongside photos of the same area today. I had planned to do this the first part of May 2020, as my wife wanted to go to the Holland Tulip Festival, but Corona spoiled it for me, so we’re planning on doing it next spring.

On a very sad note, December 19th last, we lost Darlene Kay McKenzie, Paw Paw High Class of 1963. Darlene was instrumental in getting pawpawwappaw up and running. She was my eyes, ears, voice and boots on the ground in Paw Paw while putting the website together; but more than that, she was a lifelong friend, from our antics at Cedar Street Elementary School to the very end. Rest in peace Dar – I’ll see you on the other side.

That’s all I can recall right now. If I eventually remember more, I’ll write it down and add it in the next update. Until then, please enjoy the website and let all your Paw Paw classmates and friends know about it. It’s been averaging 350-400 hits a month for the past year. Lastly, comments, suggestions and ideas are always welcome and can be sent to me at DanSmith@pawpawwappaw.com .

15 December 2022 – WOW WOW – Double WOW!! It’s been over two years since my last update summary. The older I get, the faster the time passes. I did the last update when I had just passed my 75th birthday and now I’m looking at my 78th year in March. My website starts its 10th year the 21st of this month with the server still paid up thru the summer of 2028. I have left a considerable amount in my will to purchase annual yearbooks and keep the website going ad infinitum.

It’s been an interesting couple of years with the Covid pandemic and the questionable and dirty elections playing on both sides. Hopefully America is strong enough to recover and resume its place as the beacon of strength and freedom in a crazy world. Enough politics. Let’s get to what’s been happening with good ol’ PawPawWapPaw the past couple years.

- Alumni Class Lists have been updated with the classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 by name and class year.
- 2018, 2019 High School and Middle School yearbooks entered. 2020 will be entered next month, keeping with the policy to lag new yearbooks by three years so as not to affect sales of new yearbooks.
- The Community Education did not publish yearbooks in 2020 or 2021 due to Covid, however they are back with entry of the 2022 yearbook to the site.
- The Hall of Fame did not induct anyone in 2021 due to the pandemic, however six alumni were inducted in February 2022 (including yours truly). Citations have been entered into website Hall of Fame feature.
- Almost 600 new alumni obituaries have been entered since the last update, bringing the total to well over 3,000 obits.
- On the “Websites” page I entered a link to the “Red Wolves Network” over which you can get live stream during Paw Paw High sporting events. Also, a link to order Martha Jennings’ entertaining and nostalgic book “A Pivotal Time” about growing up in Paw Paw in the 1950’s and 60’s.
- Added a couple more matchbook covers to “Close Before Striking” feature.
- Added some drone videos I took of Paw Paw by air, with runs down Red Arrow as well as a trip thru town during the purple bike bath and back-in parking I recorded back in 1978.
- Martha Jennings gave permission to publish her book: “Thanks For Making A Difference” with stories about Paw Paw High School teachers back in the 50’s and 60’s.
- The 1873 Van Buren County Atlas received from Ronna Rhodes’ mother’s collection copied and published.

- A 1906 property map of Paw Paw with property owners' names also entered on Miscellaneous page
- Put up a photo/info booklet with inside/outside pictures of the beautiful Van Buren County Courthouse.
- Paw Paw Classic Postcard Collection of dozens of postcards from the early days of the Village.
- Paw Paw Then and Now – A collection of early photos around Paw Paw with current photos of the same areas.
- Would you eat a Paw Paw? – A short video on the paw paw fruit.
- Butch has updated his “Tales, Legends, Myths & Notable Citizens of Paw Paw, Michigan” with several more interesting people. He will also be updating his PPHS Sports Statistics books shortly.

Well, again I've reached a dead-end on what changes I can recall over the past couple years. Hopefully it's not going to take so long for the next update. Until then please continue to enjoy the website and let all your Paw Paw classmates and friends know about it. It's still averaging 350-400 hits a month and remains very popular. Finally any comments, suggestions and ideas are always welcome and can be sent to me at dirtydan1@comcast.net.