

Plain Brown Rapper

News for the Tandy and Grace Brown Family

June 2009

It is such a pleasure to dedicate this issue of the Plain Brown Rapper to the very best sister anyone could ever have. On June 29th our sister June will turn 90. Truly a giant milestone in life. With this in mind, it will be fun to pay tribute to her.

June was born on June 29, 1919. World War I had ended, the terrible Spanish Flu epidemic was over and the country was coming into a new era.

The fifth child of Tandy and Grace Brown, she was born while they lived at 805 South House Avenue on the South side of Cheyenne. Dad was working for the Union Pacific Railroad and mother was at home with her children.

Thinking of June (and Anna and Vivian) I often think they must have felt like permanent babysitters. As mother kept having children they were enlisted to take care of them on a regular basis. No wonder they all wanted to go to school and anywhere else they could to escape. After High School, June went to Hastings, Nebraska to the Presbyterian College to get an education in teaching.

She earned her teaching degree and went on to teach in rural schools, mostly in Goshen County. She was loved by her students and parents alike. Later June moved to Casper where she met and married George Smith. There are four fantastic sons from this marriage; Jim, Kerry, Greg and Kirk. All graduated from the Natrona County High School and pursued various degrees at the University of Wyoming.

June was a substitute teacher in Casper and later went on to work at the Employment Security Commission. Retired now, she enjoys her handwork and children.

June was a major part of my life and I will be forever grateful to her for paying for my piano lessons, lots of new clothes and shoes and haircuts at a real beauty shop and not dad's "dutch bobs." Thank you June for the role you have played in my life.

We all wish June the best birthday ever and as many of us as possible will be there for the celebration on June 20th at Kirk and Terry's home.

Congratulations to **Martha Wyrsh** in her new position with Vestas Wind Systems. She is now President of the Americas.

Vestas is headquartered in Denmark and traded on the Copenhagen Exchange. They are the world's largest manufactures of wind power systems. Martha and her family will be moving to Portland, Oregon this summer where the headquarters for Vestas is located. We encourage Martha to come to Wyoming where we have lots of wind or is it just hot air!!

Dick and family are currently in Oregon for some graduations and visited both **Alice Brown** and **Orpha Brown**. Alice is doing just fine and sends her best to the family. We need to keep Orpha in our prayers as she is slowly recovering. We all wish her the very best and a speedy recovery!.

We all know how important education was to our mother. She told us from the very beginning we would go to college – whether or not!!! Anna once said to me, “she told us we would go to college but she didn’t tell us we had to pay for it ourselves!!” And so, we had our opportunity and most of us went on to get college degrees.

This is such a proud time of year as families attend graduations. Sometimes fingers are crossed hoping the diploma will in fact be filled out and not blank but always with a sense of great pride in the accomplishments of our children.

So, without further comment, here are the 2009 graduates.

Vivian and Frank’s family: **Jason Beardslee** (Bob and Carolyn’s grandson) - (Bob and Kim’s son) graduated from General William Mitchell High School in Colorado Springs on May 28th.

Dick and Marty’s family: **Margaret Ruble** (Mary and Craig Ruble) graduated from Saint Mary’s Academy with a 4.2 GPA and honors for Academics and Volunteering. She plans to attend Colorado College in Colorado Springs in the fall.

Dick and Marty’s family: **Casey Richard Brown** (Charles and Margaret Brown) will graduate from Bellerman High School in Tacoma, Washington. He is currently working on a Pilot’s License and will enter Western Washington University in the fall.

Pat and Jim White’s family: This very proud Grandma has three graduations to share.

Julina White, Janet’s daughter graduated from American River Community College in Sacramento, California. Her major was sign language interpretation. Very active in Track and Field she did Cross Country, Sprints, Hurdles and Steeplechase. In Steeplechase she finished #1 at the Community College, #4 in the Regional and #8 in the State. Congratulations are also in order for her Beauty Pageant win as Miss North Sacramento and 2nd runner-up in the Miss Sacramento competition. Her Miss North Sacramento obligations are; parades, hospital visits, coffee hours and etc.

Patrick White, Janet’s son graduates from Cheyenne East High School. He is looking at colleges but no decisions. He will visit Julina and then has to get busy working so he can have some college money.

Gena White, James’ daughter is in Toronto Canada attending a top-notch movie and film school called, “complexions International.” She is learning make-up and special effects for movies, TV, theater and opera. Her course ends at the end of June and she plans to stay in Toronto with hopes of gaining employment in the theater or opera in the area. Pat says to “watch for her at the Emmy’s, Tony’s and Oscar’s!!”

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GRADUATES AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR ENDEAVORS.

You can always contact me on line dolfe96@aol.com