

Bruce Eyster, Class 1965

I'll try and give you a brief summary of some of events in my life for the past forty some odd years. Edit as you see fit and if there's anything of interest or worth sharing, feel free to do so.

Shortly after school I went to Chicago, becoming involved in the civil rights movement, then the Democratic Convention (riots etc.) At some point I heard of a big rock and roll festival in a place called Wood Stock and since I'd always wanted to see New York, I went.

I had worked in community theater in St. Louis and knew an actress who lived in New York so I stayed with her until I found my way around the city. The first time I went to Greenwich Village, I got out of the subway at Waverly Pl. Being new to all this, I asked a man in front of me , who was wearing a sheep skin jacket and cowboy hat ; "where's the Village"? He turned looking at me with a knowing smile saying: "This is it ." To my amazement it was John Sebastian of The Lovin' Spoonful! I soon met some of the Warhol set and eventually Andy, himself. This led me into meeting all kinds of other people I'd only read about .

New York in the late sixties and early seventies was like a small town, in that, there were always places to go but there was a social network, in which, everyone knew everyone and if you had any talent in the arts you were invited to participate in the Off Broadway productions, gallery and media events .

I loved New York from the very first moment but I still had a deep longing for travel and I went from coast to coast several times, always meeting people who'd turn up in my life at the most unexpected times.

I was able to be at the closing of the Fillmore East and The Fillmore West!

In the seventies a woman who does back up singing, asked me to take her to an audition . When we arrived I found the man holding the auditions was someone I knew from Chicago. Seems he'd been cast in the role of Berger in the musical HAIR and now had his own touring company. After a few minutes of reminiscing he asked me to sing! Well, one thing led to another and I ended up touring America as one of the main characters. I was also working freelance for some designers at the time. Then in the mid seventies I was cast in the European road show of HAIR . It's funny but I still get called on to do shows with the original Broadway cast of HAIR (which seems to be an endless list of amazing people) for fund raising benefits, etc.

I'm currently spending most of my time painting, doing photography and working on and off stage on some new projects with old friends. My artwork has been and is, in some major galleries and collections. The theater is still a great outlet for me.

As for family and friends, I am currently in touch with Diane James, Karen Carter and my Nephew Eric, son of Gary Eyster ('61). He seems to be causing quiet a stir in St. Louis and the surrounding territory with his band: SHAME CLUB. If you get a chance, please go to see his performance. It's very LOUD!!

He seems to be doing well in the river front band events in St. Louis.

I'm always happy to hear from or about the old gang . Some of the items in the Flashlight really brought back a lot of memories, Thanks!

If anyone would like to drop me a line, I'm at : eyster@verizon.net.
My unconventional life seems to be an open book so don't be shy .

This is one of the most recent photos I have of myself. It's from an Arts Festival which I participated in last year



Thanks Again,

With Love and Blessings ,

Bruce Eyster

post script

I lettered in Dramatics and still have it, in mint condition, as well as all my year books. LOL