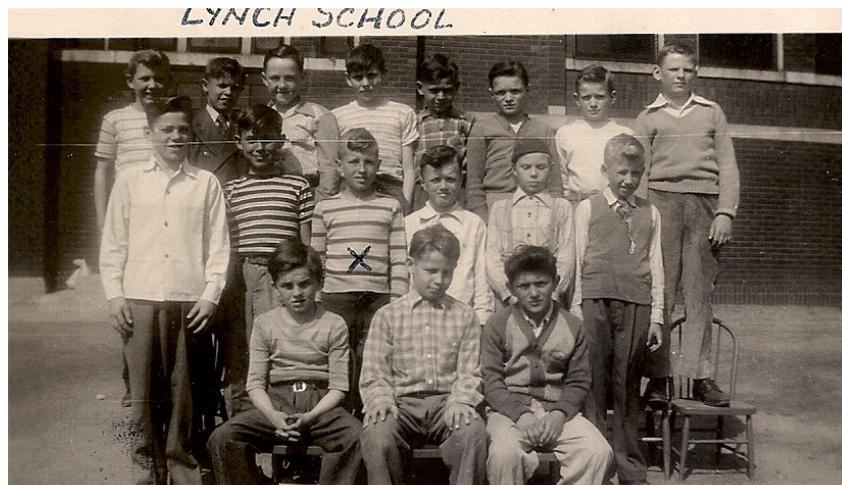


TIMELINE (#13) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TIDBITS

LYNCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 1601 PALMETTO ST., DETROIT, MICHIGAN

1. I attended Lynch School from the beginning of Kindergarten in January, 1941 through mid-6th grade in February, 1947.
2. This school was located 3 blocks from our house at 7058 Milton St. I walked back and forth to school, usually by myself. I crossed 3 residential streets, but only at their corners- lest the school safety patrol catch me. I was presented with a more serious problem by the 2 bully brothers who lived 1 block farther from school. They never failed to threaten me whenever we crossed paths but, fortunately, the aggression was never carried out. I was much relieved when, after years of being bullied verbally, we moved away.
3. My legal last name was "Bojnarowicz" from the time I started school in 1941 until the name was legally changed to "Boyer" on 9/26/45. However, throughout those years, all my report cards as well as all my school work reflected the changed name. I don't remember ever being called "Bojnarowicz" by anyone. I've found only 1 school-related document that refers to me by that name. Dated 3/10/41, it was addressed to the Lynch School Principal and released me from Scarlet Fever quarantine. My first report card, dated 1/30/42, (promoting me from Kindergarten to grade 1B), indicated my name as Thomas Boyer. How I could have been known as "Boyer" for at least 4 years in advance of the legal name change has always been a mystery to me.
4. On 6/19/46, I was double-promoted from grade 5B to 6B (skipping over grade 5A). On 1/19/47, I was promoted from grade 6B to 6A (the second half of the 6th grade).
5. The following photographs of my 6th grade class were taken in September of 1946, on the girls playground adjacent to Lynch School.



6th Grade Boys (X is Tom Boyer); 1946



6th Grade Girls, 1946

OSCODA RURAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL IN OSCODA, MICHIGAN

1. On February 22, 1947 our family moved from Detroit to Greenbush, Michigan.
2. My school in Oscoda was quite small and included all grades from Kindergarten through the 12th grade. I started there in the mid-6th grade in February, 1947, and graduated from the 12th grade on June 4, 1953.
3. The school included only full grades and did not accommodate the half grades used at Lynch School. I was fortunate to have been double-promoted during the previous year. This put my education in sync with the Oscoda school year. Had that not occurred, I would have arrived with only a completed 5th grade education. As a result, would have been sent back to the mid-5th grade instead of being placed in the mid-6th grade.
4. Because our home in Greenbush was 12 miles from the school in Oscoda, we took the school bus there and back. The ride required about 45 minutes each way.
5. My first scheduled school day was in late February, 1947. That morning, a small gang of my new friends and I gathered in front of the old post office (adjacent to the old Greenbush Tavern) and waited for the bus to arrive. It snowed hard that morning as well as the previous day and the snow was very deep. Ultimately, the bus did not show up, so we all went home. On my second and third scheduled school days, there was once again too much snow for the bus. I remember thinking to myself: "Wow! My first three school days here and I didn't have to go. What a great school this is!" I imagined that this kind of thing would happen regularly. Unfortunately, after this episode, our school bus never missed another day in my 6.5 years at that school.