



Huskie Trails

The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association

President's Corner

Greetings RHS Alumni;

I hope this newsletter finds you staying cool in this 100 degree heat. It seems to be getting hotter every year. I've stayed cool making several trips to Washington State where I check in on my 101 year old mother. She is pretty healthy but has short term memory loss. Mom remembers every detail about growing up on a farm in southern Iowa. Now, what was I saying.....

I would like to recognize a board member who dedicated himself to the Alumni Association for over 16 years – Larry Pizorno, Class of 1956. Larry has a scheduling conflict and can no longer serve on the board, but we appreciate all that he has done over the years and wish him well.

The biggest challenge so far has been getting the website up and running. A couple of heroes have come to the rescue. Howard Moy, Class of 1969, has volunteered to help the board in any capacity which includes computers, as well as Cal Pettengill, Class of 1956, our former webmaster, who is guiding us through the process.

Concerning our newsletters, every quarter we get 10-15 newsletters returned because of a change of address or the member is out of town and has placed a hold on the mail. I know you don't want to miss a single issue of this wonderful newsletter (ha!), therefore, if you have a change of address coming up, let us know in advance either by email or by calling (775) 825-2586 and leaving a message.

Many class reunions are scheduled this summer as shown by the enclosed list. Several have indicated they would like to have the Alumni Museum be part of their celebration and perhaps have a tour of Reno High. This can be arranged by contacting Betty Jo Baker at (775) 851-3203.

We are gearing up to plan the 2017 All-Class Triennial Reunion scheduled for Sunday, August 20th at Reno High School. More information will be forthcoming, but it will be along the same lines as two years ago. We will need volunteers to help with setup and registration, so stand by.

I hope you have a fun filled summer and have time to spend with your family and friends. Be safe and stay cool!

J.D. Schnabel

President, RHSAA

AROUND THE RHS CAMPUS

1. **Class of 2016 Statistics:** 363 graduates, 112 Honor diploma candidates/68 Advanced diploma candidates, 134 Honor Society members, 7 National Merit Finalists, 3 Presidential Scholar Candidates, 11 students who maintained a 4.0 or above for all four years, 34 students had perfect attendance, and \$6 million in scholarship monies were awarded.
2. We the People traveled to Washington D.C. and won the Western Regional Championship as a Wild Card (Best in the West). We the People is a competition government class that simulates a congressional hearing.
3. RHS Student Leadership hosted the NASC (Nevada Association of Student Councils) State Leadership Conference with over 1,400 students and staff attending.
4. **Kris Hackbusch**, RHS Principal, was named NASC Administrator of the Year.
5. RHS was ranked 7th in the State by the U.S. News & World Report among 139 schools in Nevada.
6. Speech & Debate won the Grand Sweepstakes in Northern Nevada Forensic League for the 21st time.
7. Reno High junior **Andrew Berreyesa** was named an All-American for wrestling and signed to wrestle at Cornell University.
8. **Matt Ochs** was named Boys Basketball Coach of the Year for the Northern Division 1.
9. The Huskie baseball team won their fifth straight Northern Region Division 1 title but lost in state competition.
10. **Heather Foster** was elected Student Body President for the 2016-2017 schoolyear. She is the fifth female to be elected to that position in the school's history.

William Clarke Webster's 1910 Graduation

These are the comments from Clarke's diary concerning his graduation:

"Friday, June 10, 1910: I have at last parted company with the Reno High School. Doc Stubbs (President, NV State Univ.) made quite a nice speech. The H.S. chorus sang some songs, one of the girls sang a song, and one of the fellows played a violin solo, and then Mr. Walker presented us with our diplomas. Then we sang our class song and we certainly made a rotten job of it. After that a bunch of kids gave the high school yell and then we gave our class yell. We all received bouquets and as I wanted to go to the Cottage Restaurant to get something to eat, I gave mine to P.S. (girlfriend). Keating (Harold) wanted to get rid of his so he handed it to a cop who was standing in front of the city hall. The cop was kind of surprised, but he took the flowers and thanked Keating for them. Then Stevens (Carl), McPhail (Harold), Keating, and myself proceeded to the Cottage and had a farewell feast of hot cakes and coffee.

"Rah! Rah! Rah! Who! Which! When! Reno High School! Nineteen-ten!" Another version of that yell is as follows: "Rah! Rah! Rah! Who! Which! When! Reno High School! Never again!"

There were 22 graduates in the Class of 1910.

2016 Reno High School Alumni Association
Scholarship Winners



Grace Lowden

Plans to attend American University in Washington D.C. and study international Relations.



Nicole Flangas

Will attend the University of Southern California and major in Political Science and International Relations.



Steve Park

Plans to attend UCLA and major in Chemistry.



Aramis Anastassatos

Hopes to attend the University of Nevada in Reno and major in Music Performance.



ALUMNI NEWS

1. **Katie Coombs**, '90, is an RGJ columnist who wrote an article on her classmate and friend, **Sevren Sauvola**, and his achievements until his death from a rock climbing accident in 1994.
2. **Jackie Rinehart**, '03, was listed by the RGJ as one of top ten local softball players of all time.
3. Former RHS basketball standouts **Austin Morgan**, '09, and **Roman Van Allen**, '06, joined other star players as coaches for the annual Northern Nevada Blue Chip Basketball Camp at the Boys and Girls Club in June.
4. **Ken Fujii**, RHS teacher and girls basketball coach (1963-1984), held the 35th annual basketball camp for youth in June. Fujii had a 254 win and 26 loss record and won four state titles for RHS.
5. Actress **Hayley Huntley**, '07, plays Olivia "Olly" Michaels, George Lopez's manager on the new TV show, "Lopez," featured on TV Land.
6. **Neal Cobb**, '58, and **Jerry Fenwick**, '53, were selected as winners of the Historic Resources Commission Preservation Award for their "Reno, Now and Then" books. Congratulations! Neal is a current member and Jerry is a former member of the RHSAA Board of Trustees.
7. **Michael Weiss**, '09, competed in the U.S Olympic swimming trials but did not qualify for the final team.
8. **Mel Lawrence**, '07, qualified to compete in the Olympic 3,000-meter steeplechase finals.
9. **Coe Swobe**, '47, died on May 26. He served two terms in the Nevada State Senate holding the post of Republican Minority Leader in both houses. Additionally, he created the Lake Tahoe Compact to preserve Lake Tahoe, was the President of the UNR Alumni Association and was a strong advocate for Vietnam veterans.

REMEMBERING ANN PERSHING

Ann Pershing, longtime columnist for the RJG, died recently and will be greatly missed. She wrote the byline, "Grandma with Attitude," and was an advocate for older Americans and a cheerleader for her readers to get off the sidelines and participate in Northern Nevada life, from elections to dances to the Reno-Tahoe Senior Games. Ann wrote several articles about the Reno High Alumni Association and the museum (Museum is Reno's Best Kept Secret).

SAVE THE PYRAMID

There is a committee that is trying to Save the Pyramid at Swope Park. The pyramid will be torn down by the city if funds cannot be raised to rebuild it. They have already secured a big grant, and have local donations, but still have some more fundraising to do. There are probably many people living in the community that would like to support this project. The first event to fundraise will be on August 20th at 5:00 p.m. at Swope Park that includes entertainment, prizes, food, craft beer and wine. You can send a donation to Reno National Little League, 4790 Caughlin Parkway #778 Reno, NV 89519 and write "Save the Pyramid Account" in the memo line of the check. For more information about this event and how you can be involved, email savethepyramidreno@gmail.com.

CLASS REUNIONS

These are the current class reunions that are scheduled this summer:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1951 - 65 Years	Betty Jo Baker – 851-3203 Pat Quinlan – 829-9209	September 10
1952 – 64 Years	Daryl Pelizzari – 972-1443	September 9
1953 – 63 Years	Joanne Petre – 323-7770	September 9
1954 – 62 Years	Jackie Powers – 825-6868	September 9
1956 – 60 Years	Jerry Smith – 826-8994	August 26-28
1966 – 50 Years	Molly Dondero – 852-1583 Ruth Ann Grundy – 827-6314	September 9-11
1976 – 40 Years	Alanna Fitzgerald – 750-0410 Linda Poncia – 240-7144	August 19-21
1986 – 30 Years	Jamie Vaughn – 750-1041	July 30
2006 – 10 Years	Jamie Rinehart – 722-3848	Sep 16-18

Please pass along this information to anyone you may know from these classes.

SAYINGS BY WILL ROGERS

Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash in Alaska with bush pilot Wiley Post, was one of the greatest political country/cowboy sages this country has ever known. Here are some of his humorous and wise sayings:

1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
3. There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
5. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
6. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
7. About Growing Older.....First – Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it. Second- The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

BLAST FROM THE PAST – POLICE OFFICER KILLED AT RENO HIGH

Reno Police Officer **Ross Peterson** was shot and killed on September 11, 1931 when he interrupted two burglars at Reno High School. He was serving as night watchman at the school during the first few days of the school year. Two suspects broke into the building attempting to rob the safe containing student book and other deposits. The suspects opened fire and, in the ensuing shootout, Officer Peterson and one of the suspects were shot and killed. The dead suspect was identified as **George Welsh** who had a criminal record. The wounded suspect was able to escape from the scene.

A reward of \$500 was offered, and the search for the suspect began. On September 15th a local druggist near UNR said a man came in for medical supplies for a wound to his side. In researching George Welsh's background, the police identified an associate who spent time in prison with Welsh in Oregon for safe robbery – **Wallace Weitzel**. He became the chief suspect and his picture was disseminated to police agencies in several states. There were several leads but they did not prove to be true.

On October 3rd Weitzel turned himself in to the Reno Police Department saying that he was innocent and because of the reward offered, he believed he would be shot on sight. He said he met George Welsh the day before the shooting but was not involved, but instead, gambled at a casino and later ate dinner with a girlfriend at a local restaurant. Police confirmed his story through witnesses, and in addition, there weren't any wounds to his body.

Police Chief J.M. Kirkley believed that Weitzel was somehow involved in the Reno High shooting, perhaps as a lookout, but couldn't prove it. The chief believed perhaps another burglar was involved and was wounded by Officer Peterson. However, Weitzel was wanted for safe robbery in Vancouver, Washington where he was later transported to stand trial.

This story is to remember and honor Officer Ross Peterson who sacrificed his life carrying out his duties of protecting Reno High's property so many years ago.

ANOTHER TIDBIT FROM CLARKE WEBSTER'S DIARY:

Sunday, March 27, 1910 (Easter): "This evening about 10 o'clock, a fellow went crazy while crossing the bridge so he climbed over the railing and jumped in the river. He floated down and got caught on the old dam below the bridge and hollered his head off for help. Somebody telephoned the fire department that the Riverside Hotel was on fire, so they came running to the scene. When they found out what was wrong, they stretched a rope across the river and one of the firemen went out and tied a rope around him and sent him back. I guess the fellow won't try to commit suicide again until the water gets warmer."



WHERE DID THESE SAYINGS COME FROM?

You may have heard of many of these sayings but did you know from where they came? Here are some answers:

1. **A Shot of Whiskey** – In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, and so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash, he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a “shot” of whiskey.
2. **The Whole Nine Yards** – American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo, he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.
3. **Buying the Farm** – This is synonymous with dying. During WW1, soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm, so if you died, you “bought the farm” for your survivors.
4. **Iron Clad Contract** – This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.
5. **Passing the Buck/The Buck Stops Here** – Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker, it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer, the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn’t want to deal, he would “pass the buck” to the next player. If that player accepted then “the buck stopped there.”
6. **Cobweb** – the Old English word for “spider” was “cob.”
7. **Ship State Rooms** – Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day, cabins on ship are called staterooms.
8. **Over a Barrel** – In the days before CPR, a drowning victim would be placed face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in an effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel, you are in deep trouble.
9. **Barge In** – Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they “barged in.”
10. **Barrels of Oil** – When the first oil wells were drilled, they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons. *OKAY ONE MORE...*
11. **Hot Off the Press** – As the paper goes through the rotary printing press, friction causes it to heat up. Therefore, if you grab the paper right off the press, it is hot. The expression means to get immediate information.

FUNNIES:

1. **CAMPING:** Where you spend a small fortune, to live like a homeless person.
2. People my age are so much older than me.
3. I want to grow my own food but I can’t find bacon seeds.
4. I don’t understand how I can remember every word of a song from 1964, but I can’t remember why I walked into the kitchen.

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