



# HUSKIES TRAILS

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RENO HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

*Members of the Reno High School marching band greeted the millennium in London, England, where they represented the United States in the city's traditional New Year's Parade (right) and found time for sightseeing that included a visit to the banks of the River Thames for the photo below of Emily Garcia and Christine Smith with England's Parliament Building in the background. Band Director Earline McGrannahan led a group of bandsmen and parents on the 10-day long "trip of a lifetime." (Photos courtesy of Earline McGrannahan.)*

*(See ADDITIONAL PHOTO, Page 7)*



## Alumni Officers Reseated

The Reno H.S. Alumni Association's first secretary "hung them up" at year's end after five years service on the Association Board of Trustees, when the Class of 1943's Joe F. Elcano did not stand for re-election. He was succeeded by newcomer Betty Jo Baker, Class of '51, the choice of the Association's current membership to serve a three-year term

*(Continued on Page 5)*

# Bud Beasley honored at "Roast and Toast" for 90th

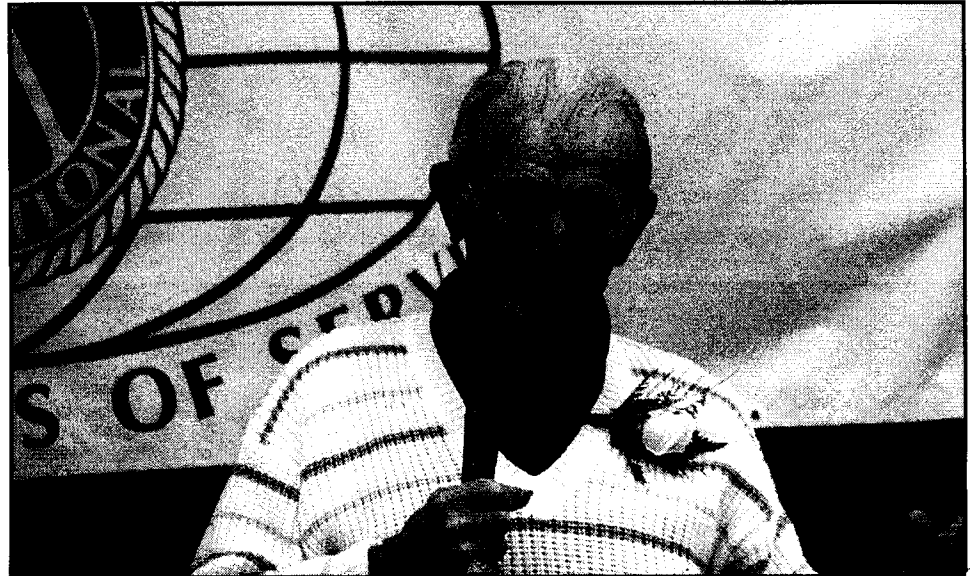
A packed house greeted the RHSAA's "idea man" at the California Building in Reno's Idlewild Park on Dec. 8, when Trustee Bud Beasley observed his 90th birthday. The occasion was a "Roast and Toast" staged by the Reno Kiwanis Club to honor "the Coach" and as a fund-raiser for the Reno Kiwanis Community Foundation. Twenty dollars of the \$30 tab for a prime rib dinner went into the coffers of the non-profit foundation.

Beasley is a long-time member of the Reno Kiwanis group.

A variety of community leaders took turns taking shots at the

spry co-founder of the RHSAA, which was represented by a number of members including

President Joe Granata and charter President Len Crocker. The latter spoke for the group and presented



"Beas" with a proclamation designating the day as "Bud Beasley Day" at the Association's Reno campus Alumni Center and throughout the world peopled by Beasley's former students.

Long-time Reno Kiwanian and broadcaster Bob Carroll was master of ceremonies for the event, at which "roasters" included such acknowledged oral snipers as former football and pro wrestling great Don Manoukian and Alumni Association benefactor Link Piazza.

*On the opposite page is a reproduction of the proclamation that was presented to Bud Beasley on December 8, 2000.*

**Huskies Trails** is published on call of the Board of Trustees of the **Reno High School Alumni Association** and distributed to members and selected friends of the Association. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings, which are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month, in the RHSAA Alumni Center on the school campus, 395 Booth St.

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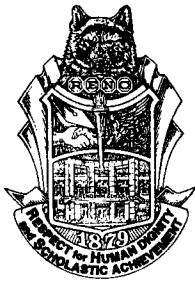
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# A PROCLAMATION!

## HEAR YE! HEAR YE!



From this moment and for all time forward, know all men (and women) that:

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley** has been acknowledged by all as the "idea man" whose inspiration and perseverance led to establishment of the Reno High School Alumni Association; *and*

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley** has devoted countless hours to attendance at a myriad of Reno High School class reunions and other school-related gatherings, at each one pleading his case for establishment of said Reno High School Alumni Association; *and*

Whereas the forenamed **Bud L. Beasley** cajoled, pleaded with and in general bullied all within his hearing until he found others to do the actual work of creating the Association; *and*

Whereas said **Bud L. Beasley** became one of the three incorporating Trustees of the Nevada non-profit Reno High School Alumni Association in October 1995 and continues to serve as a member of the Association's Board of Trustees; *and*

Whereas establishment of said Reno High School Alumni Association led to the financial support of a fellow ex-Husky whose largesse permitted construction of the Association's Link Piazza Alumni Center on the Booth Street campus of Reno High School; *and*

Whereas, through his persistence in his belief in the need for the aforesaid Reno High School Alumni Association, **Bud L. Beasley** finally found a repository for the thousands of photographs, newspaper clippings and other bits of memorabilia that throughout the years have come to make his home nearly impassable for his devoted wife, Nellie, and friends; *and*

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley** contributed the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) from personal funds to establish the **Bud Beasley Challenge** to his former students and associates; *and*

Whereas said **Bud Beasley Challenge** has resulted in numerous contributions of \$1,000 or more in matching funds to the benefit of the Reno High School Alumni Association; *and*

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley** persisted in his demand for regular operating hours for the Reno High School Alumni Association's Alumni Center in the high school campus until the Board of Trustees of the Nevada non-profit corporation did, in fact, establish such hours; *and*

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley** continues to recruit volunteers to staff the center during those operating hours each Friday and Saturday and himself fills some of those hours, often in the company of his devoted wife, Nellie; *and*

Whereas said **Bud L. Beasley** entered upon the profession of school teaching immediately following his graduation from the University of Nevada in Reno in 1935 and now is in his 65th continuous year of that profession through his participation as an educator at Washoe High School; *and*

Whereas **Bud L. Beasley's** dedication to the field of education has been recognized by Trustees of the Washoe County School District, who caused his name to be affixed to the **Bud Beasley Elementary School** in Sparks; *and*

Whereas the memorabilia displayed in the entryway of that school includes tributes to not only his career as an educator, but to his former part-time life as a pitcher in professional baseball's Western League and the highly-regarded Pacific Coast League (in which he performed for a total of eight years during summer recess from his teaching duties at Reno High School); *and*

Whereas the man known for his left-handed "windmill" windup on the pitchers' mound still is famed as one of the world's foremost presenters of baseball's classic poem, "Casey at the Bat;" *and*

Whereas the thousands of former students who have come to know and respect the man they know variously as "Bud," "Beas," or "Coach" now wish to honor him on the occasion of his ninetieth (90th) birthday;

Now let it be declared that Friday, the eighth day of December in the year 2000 A.D. shall be known at the Association's Link Piazza Alumni Center and throughout the remainder of the civilized world now populated by **Bud L. Beasley's** former students and other Alumni of Reno High School as

## BUD L. BEASLEY DAY

# MANHUNT FOR KILLER STARTED IN RENO

## *Second Member of Bandit Pair Who Slew Officer Is Still at Large*

### **GUN BATTLE IS FATAL TO POLICEMAN AT HIGH SCHOOL**

Although an intensive search was instituted yesterday by Reno police to ferret out the fugitive, no trace was reported at a late hour last night of the wounded burglar who escaped from the Reno High School building late Thursday night, where he engaged in a gun battle in which Ross Peterson, Reno policeman and a second burglar identified as George Welsh, ex-convict, were killed.

Every avenue of escape from the city has been guarded and every possible clue which might lead to the whereabouts of the missing man was being investigated last night. The net is widespread and it is not believed the man can long remain at large.

### **CITY SHOCKED**

The entire city was shocked yesterday at the news of the tragedy at the Reno high school at a late hour Thursday night, which did not become known until the bodies of two men were discovered shortly before six o'clock yesterday morning when J.H. Reed, janitor, arrived to open the school building for the day.

The body of Welsh was lying on the floor of the main hall close to the door of the main hall close to a door leading to the library. That of Peterson was near the door of the outer office of Principal E.O. Vaughn where Peterson mortally wounded, apparently had made an effort to reach a telephone to notify police headquarters.

Fifteen bullet holes and 14 empty cartridge shells, found in and about the hallway and library room, showed the terrific battle which had taken place between Peterson and the burglars and the courageous fight the officer had made for his life.

### **SURPRISED BURGLARS**

Peterson, who was assigned to duty at the high school building Tuesday as night watchman during the opening days of school, surprised the burglars as they entered the school, with the intent to opening the safe in quest of money believed to have been left there from students' books and other deposits.

...Peterson according to a reconstruction of the tragedy, probably was on the first floor where he converged with Bell when the latter departed. He no doubt

heard the crash of the glass and accosted the men as they came up the stairs. That the men met in close quarters is evident from bruises on Peterson's body and powder marks on Welsh's hands.

### **BLOODSTAIN FOUND**

After Peterson and Welsh fell, it is believed the second burglar made his getaway. Blood at the foot of the stairs, at the broken window, and along the walk at the rear of the building indicates that he was badly wounded. From the direction of several of the bullets it is believed Peterson continued the battle after being wounded and lying on the floor.

...Officer Peterson was widely known in Reno and vicinity, his parents being early settlers of the valley. He had resided here all his life. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Olive S. Peterson, and three sisters, Mrs. H.C. Diskinson, and Mrs. C.H. Knox of Reno and Mrs. Harry Knox of Los Angeles.

*Reprinted from the Nevada State Journal, September 12, 1931*

## RHSAA Board Member Profile

The end of 1999 found Ann T. Sutton running for a Trustee position with the Reno High School Alumni Association, followed immediately with election to Vice President of Operations for the Association. In her short time on the board she has accomplished many things, including the design, layout and implementation of the front lobby plaques which reflect Reno High's red and blue colors and are used to post donations to the RHSAA.

She helped secure a copier for the associations use, implemented the burglar/fire alarm system and designed, typeset and printed the "Huskies Trails" publication, to name a few of the other projects she has been involved in. "I believe in being an active and pivotal member of any organization I join...I like to jump in with both feet," she says.

A 1969 graduate of Reno High, she was the editor of the RE-WA-NE, and heavily involved in many clubs (under her maiden name of Seaman). The skills she learned in Journalism and Printing classes at RHS have carried her a long way in her career and for the past 24 years, she has been the president/owner of Nevada Instant Type, located on Greg Street in Sparks. Not one to sit on her laurels, she has been actively involved in all the reunions her class has held, including the reunion memoirs (a mini-yearbook) for each of those events.

She has two more years as a board trustee and plans to be even more involved in making the new building a well-rounded center for alumni and guests. "I am actively seeking donations of any memora-

bilia from former students, and am most interested in any stories and photos relating to them for future publication in the *Huskies Trails*," she points out, asking for a phone call at 359-4835. And, of course, she can be e-mailed at [asutton@powernet.net](mailto:asutton@powernet.net).

Born and raised in Reno, she is married to Doyle Sutton, a retired fire battalion chief and has one daughter, Reenie Griffin. They are awaiting the birth of a third grandchild in May, to join two grandsons. Ann is also actively involved in the Sierra Nevada Club of Printing House Craftsmen and enjoys traveling in her motorhome. She and her husband are currently building a custom home in Wingfield Springs and hope to be in by summers end.

## ELECTION RESULTS

(From Page 1)

with re-elected Trustees Bud L. Beasley, Albert E. Carlidge, Len E. Crocker, and Virginia Zorio.

Mark Elston from the Class of 1975 then was chosen by Board members to complete a Board vacancy created by the resignation of Trustee Bill Newman, who has moved to Las Vegas.

Later, members of the new Board returned all six line officers for another calendar year when they gave President Joe R. Granata a second term, along with Operations Vice President Ann T. Sutton, Membership Vice President Len Crocker, Secretary Joanne F. Petre, Treasurer Albert Carlidge and Assistant Treasurer Virginia Zorio.

The complete membership of the Board is shown in the *Huskies Trails* masthead on page two.

## COMMITTEE POSITIONS NEED FILLING

Working positions are open on a number of RHSAA committees, according to Association President Joe Granata, who has issued a call for volunteers.

"We need help from the membership," Granata said, "to make the organization effective and to reach some of our goals. There is too much to be done for our Board members alone to get it done, so we're calling for help."

Members interested are urged to contact the RHSAA by mail at P.O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513, by e-mail at [rhsaa@renohigh-alum.com](mailto:rhsaa@renohigh-alum.com) or by telephone at 775-825-2586 (825-ALUM). Association committees include:

**Membership** -- headed by VP Len Crocker, working to acquire new members and to retain those already on the rolls. Help is needed to obtain and update class mailing lists.

**Communications** -- where help could be used on writing for the Huskies Trails newsletter produced by VP Ann Sutton. Additionally, help is needed to secure publicity for the Association and its activities.

**Activities** -- to help with reunion liaison, to work on a reunion handbook, and to plan and organize such other activities as the triennial RHSAA picnic, due next in 2002.

**Heritage Hall** -- the Association museum room for which chairman Len Crocker is overseeing collection and sorting of memorabilia, plus organization of

(Continued on Page 6)

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

(Continued from Page 5)

items for display at the Alumni Center.

**Hall of Achievement** -- to help determine qualifications for recognition of Reno High Alumni who have been standouts in their "real" lives following school years.

Volunteers also are needed to help staff the Center during week-end visiting hours: Fridays between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

### Information sought for Alumni database

Help! Help! Help!

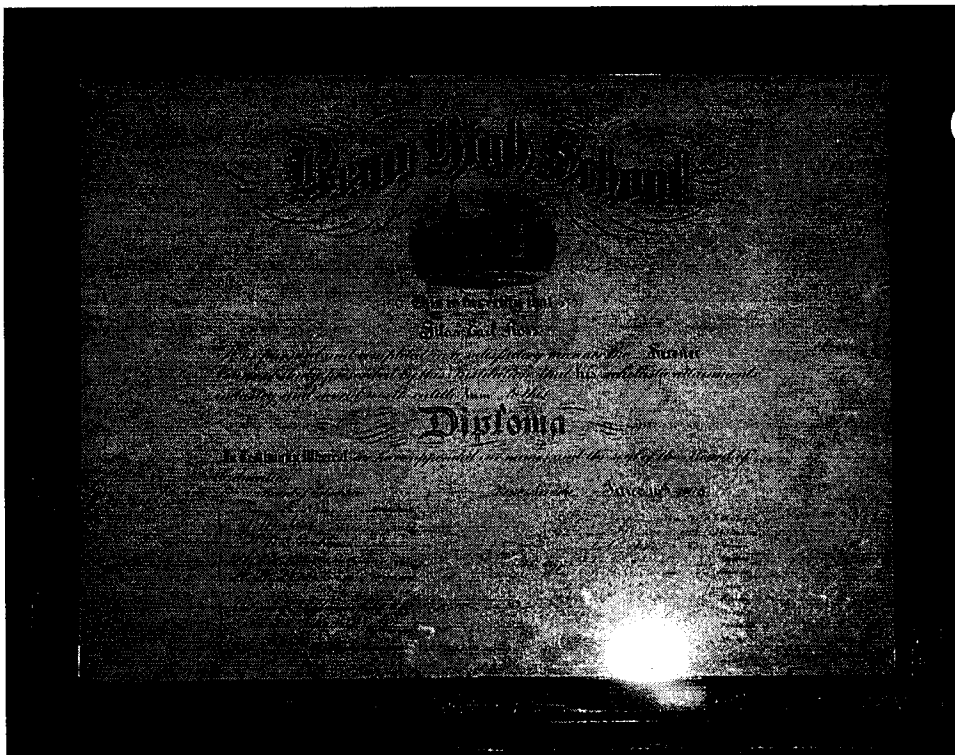
If you have access to your class mailing list, you can be of great service to your RHS Alumni Association by arranging to provide a copy of that document.

Membership Chair Len Crocker stresses that information garnered from such lists will be entered into the Association's databank, but not be shared with outside individuals or organizations.

"We're really fussy about such information," Crocker said. "We value everyone's right to privacy, but that databank is one of our major projects.

"Eventually, we'd like it to contain at least the name and class year of everyone who ever attended Reno High School for at least one semester."

Graduation programs, class meeting records and yearbooks also are being sought as data sources, he said. Questions may be referred to the Association office at 825-ALUM (825-2586) or to Crocker at 747-2774.



## DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED TO FILL ALUMNI CENTER

The Reno High School Alumni Association building is slowly coming together as donations continue to come in. In addition to yearbooks (RE-WA-NE's) and newspapers (Red and Blues), we have an array of interesting items.

An example of this is the 1905 high school diploma pictured above which was given to Silas Ross and now hangs in the building. The Association is still looking for any items that may be languishing in basements, attics and old trunks which would help put together the history of the school and its students.

If you have any items of interest - or if you are not sure what may be of interest - you are encouraged to contact any member of the board or leave a message at the Alumni Association phone number (825-2586). Someone will get back with you to discuss the need of what you have and make arrangements to pick the items up. Your name and year of graduation will be put with those donations for all to enjoy. Our goal is to showcase items from every year, if possible.

In the short amount of time (December 1999) we have occupied the building, we have gathered an impressive amount of items and all former students are encouraged to come by to reminisce and enjoy the displays. Office hours are Fridays 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The Association can always use financial assistance with funds needed for the endowment fund (those moneys are used to maintain the building) and donators are noted on the permanent plaques in the front lobby based on the amount they give. Any board member will be happy to assist you with questions regarding this program.

# England trip enjoyed by all...

(Continued from Page 1)

*Just a few of the Reno High School marching band students having a good time at an authentic English pub during their recent trip to England.*



## Board Member Profile

Membership Vice President Lenley E. "Len" Crocker, one of three founding trustees of the RHSAA, was chosen as its charter president and served four years in that position until January of this year.

Born March 20, 1926 in Sacramento, CA, he became a Nevadan at age five when the family moved to Sparks. Four years later, a move to Reno pointed him toward his 1943 graduation from Reno High School, which was followed by World War II service in the U.S. Army, then graduation in 1950 from the University of Nevada with a major in Journalism.

A 19-year career with the morning newspaper Nevada State Journal was interrupted briefly by activation from the Army Reserve for service during the Korean Conflict and was followed by 23 years in employee publications for First National (later First Interstate) Bank of Nevada, from which he retired at the end of 1991.

Currently, he serves on the boards of Nevada non-profits Veteran Hospital Foundation and Friends of Washoe County Library (his wife Lois is president of both organizations) and is chairman of Washoe County's West Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board.

## Building needs staffing during visiting hours

Volunteers still are being recruited to staff the Alumni Association's office during Friday and Saturday visiting hours. The building on Reno High School's Booth Street office regularly is available for public visits on Fridays between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. and on Saturday's from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Volunteers are expected to answer telephones, to show visitors about the building, when asked, and to answer questions in general about the Association and its activities.

Staffing volunteers are asked to leave their name and telephone numbers at the RHSAA office, 825-ALUM (825-2586) or with Trustee Bud Beasley at 853-1683.

# RHS Alumni Association building is a great meeting place

Reunion committee meetings are beginning to dot the calendar at the RHS Alumni Center, as members take advantage of the free use of the facility on the Booth Street campus.

"All it takes is a telephone call," said RHSAA President Joe Granata. "We'll have someone there to open the building at your convenience, and our

small kitchen is yours to make coffee, if you'd like."

That phone call should be made to the Association office at 825-ALUM (825-2586), to Granata at 425-6777 or Membership VP Len Crocker at 747-2774.

The RHSAA head asked that reunion chairs share their planning with the Association, so that dates, times and places can be entered in the calendar

maintained in the Center office.

Lockers also are available in the Center for classes who would prefer to keep their records on site, rather than carrying them around from house to house and meeting to meeting. A minimal rental fee will provide use of one of the standard high school lockers for a full year, Granata said.

## Reno High School Alumni Association Web Page

[www.renohighalum.com](http://www.renohighalum.com)

Check out our website for information on classmates, reunions, links to Reno High School, the local news, and much more. Leave a message for your classmates and friends to read.

This summer many classes will be holding their class reunions and many have already entered their information on our website. If you are looking for information about your reunion, you can just click on your class representative's name and you will be able to e-mail them.

Thanks to Cal Pettengill, Webmaster class of 1956, our webpage has reached alumni from all parts of the world, including Israel, South Africa, Kwajalein Island, Wake Island, Hawaii, just about every state in the United States.

On page 5, you can read all of the messages that have been returned to us by Reno High School Alumni. In the last three months, there have been over five thousand hits on the web site.

**Take a look at it, you will be impressed!**