



# HUSKIES TRAILS

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

## October 30th date set for RHSAA Annual Meeting/nominations

Association co-founder Joseph R. Granata heads a list of Trustees expected to seek election to new three-year terms when the RHSAA holds its general membership annual meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 30. The 7 p.m. gathering will be held in the Association's Link Piazza Alumni Center on the Reno High School campus, at 395-A Booth St.

Also eligible for another three-year term as Board members are Trustees Lillian "Moe" Munley, Larry Pizorno, and Daryl Pelizzari.

**Nominations for the Trustee positions may be**

**made by any current member of the Association, and will be accepted by mail until the night of the annual meeting, and from the floor during that session. Any current member of the Association is eligible to hold office as a Trustee.**

Ballots will go into the mail immediately afterward to all members whose dues are current as of year's end, Granata said.

When the new Board meets in January, it will elect "line" officers of President, Operations Vice President, Membership Vice President, and Secretary. Unlike

Trustees, line officers serve one year, calendar terms. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer posts became appointive positions earlier this year, and the incumbents serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Trustees whose three-year terms will run through the end of 2002 are Ralph A. Casazza, Alex Kanwetz, Ann T. Sutton, David J. Minedew, and Joanne Petre. An additional year - through 2003 - remains for Betty Jo Baker, Bud L. Beasley, Albert E. Cartlidge, Len E. Crocker, and Virginia Zorio. Beasley and Crocker also were founding Trustees when the Association was incorporated in 1995.

As President, Granata heads the list of incumbent line officers, which also includes Operations Vice President Sutton, Membership Vice President Crocker, Secretary Petre, Treasurer Cartlidge and Assistant Treasurer Zorio.

Questions about the election process may be referred to the Association by e-mail at [rhsaa@renohighalum.com](mailto:rhsaa@renohighalum.com), by the U.S. Postal Service at P.O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513, or by telephone at 775-825-2586 (825-ALUM).

## RHS Principal Janet Ross retires

Reno High School students said goodbye to retiring principal Janet C. Ross at the close of the year 2001 spring semester, as the popular administrator completed a dozen years at the school on Booth Street and her 36th year in education. And Ross went out in style after six years as the school's principal, still talking not about herself, but about her students.

She noted with obvious pride that six of Nevada's Presidential



Scholar semi-finalists for the 2000-2001 school year - and both the

(See ROSS, Page 3)

# Two Reno High students named U.S. Presidential Scholars

Reno High School senior students Shima Oliiae and Jayson Morgan have been named Nevada's year 2001 U.S. Presidential Scholars, marking the first time that the state's two Presidential Scholars have come from the northern part of the state -- let alone from the same school.

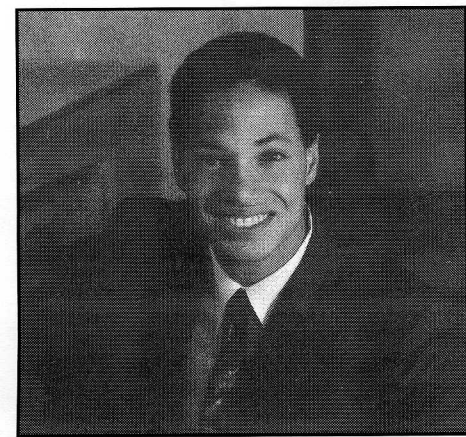
The daughter of Pirouze A-Oliiae and Mahnoush Bagheri and the son of Jay and Sherry Morgan



Shima Oliiae

were chosen from a group of six Nevada semifinalists. Others were Reno High School's Monica Sircar and Brian Jackson, Jeffrey

(See SCHOLARS, Page 3)



Joseph Morgan

# A message from RHSAA President Joe Granata

In the last six years, the Reno High School Alumni Association had gone from meeting in a donated office room and a small membership to a new building and a membership that is growing weekly. The Board of Trustees and members of the association have worked very hard to make this possible and I want to thank them with all my heart.

Now, that the association is on solid ground, we can sit back and concentrate on other areas that need attention. Our volunteer program is headed by Dr. Bud Beasley and he and his volunteers are doing a great job sorting and documenting memorabilia for the future.

Many alumni have brought us memorabilia and told us that it is better to have it shown at the alumni building, than have it hidden in a drawer or in a box in the garage.

Our webmaster Cal Pettengill has perfected a website that makes contacting an old friend or classmate anywhere in the world, as easy as a click of the mouse button. I have received thanks from class representatives for the help that the website gave them promoting their reunions.

All of this was done by volunteers and they should be proud of their achievements. If you would like to become a volunteer, go to our website and e-mail us, or come to the building and become involved. The pay is not good, but the hours are flexible.

**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 4 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month, in the RHSAA Alumni Center on the school campus, 395 Booth St.

Correspondence: P.O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513.

Telephone: 775-825-ALUM (775-825-2586).

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

E-mail: [rhsaa@renohighalum.com](mailto:rhsaa@renohighalum.com)

### OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT .....	Joseph R. Granata
Tel. 775-425-6777	e-mail: <a href="mailto:cappy@powernet.net">cappy@powernet.net</a>
VP/OPERATIONS .....	Ann T. Sutton
Tel. 775-626-8901	e-mail: <a href="mailto:asutton@powernet.net">asutton@powernet.net</a>
VP/MEMBERSHIP .....	Len E. Crocker
Tel. 775-747-2774	e-mail: <a href="mailto:doubledollar@earthlink.net">doubledollar@earthlink.net</a>
SECRETARY .....	Joanne F. Petre
Tel. 775-323-7770	e-mail: <a href="mailto:jpetre@peoplepc.com">jpetre@peoplepc.com</a>
TREASURER .....	Albert B. Cartledge
ASSISTANT TREASURER .....	Virginia Zorio

TRUSTEES: Betty Jo Baker, Bud L. Beasley, Ralph A. Casazza, Alex Kanwetz, David J. Minedew, Lillian "Moe" Munley, Daryl Pelizzari, and Larry Pizorno.

COUNSEL: John Frankovich

**Huskies Trails** Editor: Ann Sutton.

# Ross Retirement...

(From Page 1)

state's winners - were Reno High students (see related story on page 8).

"Everybody here knows that it's okay to do well in school," she beamed.

"There is a culture here that is unique," she observed as she prepared to move on. "While other schools are so much newer, we have a tradition here. A large number of our families are second generation Huskies. Last year, 12 graduates were from families with a Reno High history dating back over a quarter of a century, and one family traces its educational ties here to 1933."

"Our graduates really support the school," she continued. "Look at our six new tennis courts that came from a public/private partnership...and your Alumni Center. I see students over there frequently, looking around. Some people were concerned in the beginning about what a building (out front) would do to the appearance of the school, but it actually enhances the front of the main building."

"Your board has been generous in allowing school use of the facility, and it's been great for special situations such as testing. People can say, 'Hey, you know, education really IS important, and Reno grads are really supportive of the school.'

That fact has not been lost on School District leaders, either, Ross pointed out.

District Superintendent Dr. James Hager took part in both the center's ground breaking ceremony and its dedication, she noted, and he has come to understand what it means in the way of support. "He realizes the legacy of

Reno High alumni," she said.

Asked what role she sees for the Alumni Association, Ross stressed she hopes it can provide continuing contacts between the school and the people who have been there. "It's important to be able to track young people," she suggested, "that they come back and say they realize what school meant. We like to follow graduates, to see how many went on to college. The Association can provide a way for our former students to help pay back for their education (through scholarships and the like)."

"Just the existence of the Alumni Association says a lot about the value people put on their education," she insisted.

Prior to her association with Reno High, Ross was a teacher at Sparks High School, then served at McQueen High School during that school's first seven years. There, she taught for six years before her final year as dean and department chair.

What's next?

"Right now, I'm just enjoying some time off. Soon enough, it will be time to pursue some options."

## Presidential Scholars

(From Page 2)

Shackelton of Reno's Bishop Manogue High School and Amy Benford of Green Valley High School in Henderson. Both of Oliace's parents are structural engineers. Morgan's father is a neurosurgeon.

An elated retiring Reno High School Principal, Jan Ross, said "it was a pretty remarkable class this year." Ross cited the school's "culture of excellence," and noted that, "kids think it's okay to be good

here."

Selection of Oliace and Morgan continued Reno High's record of strong showing in the U.S. Department of Education's Presidential Scholarship competition. Since 1996, 10 Nevada semi-finalists and four finalists have been RHS students, and 18 of the Silver State's winners since 1964 have been Huskies.

Both this year's 17-year-old top scholars are musicians, and singer Oliace and pianist Morgan credit much of their success to their studies and performance.

Oliace was top soloist in this year's Solo and Ensemble music competition and was Nevada's Junior Miss. Last year's student body vice president, she was Junior Class president a year earlier. She has been a delegate to Nevada Girls State and is a Competitive swimmer.

Holder of a full scholarship to the University of Southern California, she has named singing teacher Laura Lorentzen as the faculty member who influenced her the most.

Morgan, who enrolled this fall at Yale University, chose English teacher Tom Meschery as "most influential" among his instructors. Morgan was a member of Reno High School's Academic Olympics team and with partner Zack Smith won the Nevada State Championship in policy debate. He plays both soccer and basketball.

One boy and one girl are named President Scholars annually from each state, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. families living abroad. Another 15 are chosen on an at-large basis, and 20 from the arts. Selection criteria are academics, artistic success, leadership, involvement in school and community, and promise of accomplishment to come.



# Painting the "R" on Peavine Mountain tradition continues once again



Reno High School Alumni Association member Virginia Zorio expressed concern for the deteriorating condition of the "R" on the hill this past spring and vowed to take on the project. Citing needs for paint, supplies, but mostly labor, she wanted to put together a crew of alumni willing to climb the hill and do the task, which can be quite a chore. At the board meeting she was met with skepticism and a few who said they would **TRY** to help (after all we're not as young and agile as we used to be). Mercifully, a large group of young whippersnappers - full of enthusiasm, vim and vigor, saved us from ourselves and the task has been done - and done well!

Thanks, Seniors!

*A bumper crop of Seniors from Reno High School class of 2001 showed up to refresh the "R" on Peavine Mountain this summer.*





# Reno High welcomes new principal

Incline Village's loss became Reno High School's gain this summer, as former Incline Village High School Principal Dr. William E. "Rob" Roberts made the trip down the hill to assume similar duties as head of the Huskies' lair.

Roberts left behind an 11-year record of community activism and recognition in the northeast corner of the Lake of the Sky, beginning in 1990 when he became department chair and a teacher at Incline Village High School, with collateral duties as coach of both the debate team and the rifle team.

During that time, he oversaw the area's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) program, which involved 45 percent of the high school's entire student body and was ranked number five of all high school ROTC programs west

of the Mississippi.

Then came a year as acting vice principal before he was named vice



principal in 1995. His first assignment as a school principal came in

1997, when he moved to Incline Middle School, but he "lasted" only a year there before moving back to the high school as its principal.

Roberts also is a veteran of 22 years service as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army, from which he retired as a lieutenant colonel. His assignments during that time included a stint as a department head directing instruction and training of the 4,000-member Corps of Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

The new RHS principal is an experienced helicopter pilot, and as such serves as an auxiliary deputy in the Washoe County Sheriff's Office. He is an avid water skier. He succeeded retiring Reno High Principal Janet Ross.

## '55s generosity continues

On the night of August 19, 1995, Bud Beasley was a guest at the 40 year reunion for the class of 1955. He asked if he could say something to the alumni and then presented an idea that he had about starting a Reno High School Alumni Association. That night he walked away with \$3800. The association was formed and has existed for six years.

In 1996 the reunion committee for the class of '55 decided that they had enough money left over from the 40 year reunion, and they would like to donate something to the Reno High School Band to help them buy new uniforms. A check was written and presented to then Principal Jan Ross.

In August 2000 at the 45 year class reunion, the class of '55 was approached to help out with the Reno High School Alumni Association Scholarship Fund which was down to the last \$500 and a scholarship was to be given again that year. The Class of '55 stepped up and this time raised \$5200 that night to be put into the scholarship interest-bearing money market fund. Other alumni have contributed to the scholarship fund and for the first time since we began our scholarship program three years ago, we were able to give two scholarships this year.

Again, thank you for being so generous. You have helped make this association grow.

## RHSAA's Web page in process of being rebuilt

It has been a year now since our web page was rebuilt and moved to the AT&T Small Business Host. Like most Web Sites, a year of the same thing is almost too long, so we decided to rebuild it.

We have been very fortunate to have an alumni volunteer to do the web graphics using the latest web design tools. Cat Brown ([www.chaosdesigns.net](http://www.chaosdesigns.net) - Class of 1984), will build our Web Graphics around our current data to present an entirely new looking Web Site.

If you haven't checked it out recently, be sure to log on!

# Mark your calendars now! 2002 date announced for "All Alumni Picnic"

In 1995 the Reno High School Alumni Association decided it would be fun to hold an "All Alumni Picnic." This would be one way to tell everybody about the Alumni Association and help build up our membership. The first picnic was held on August 18th of 1996 and it was a success with over 1850 alumni and friends attending. The 1996 picnic was held at Rancho San Rafael and with the help of the alumni volunteer staff, it was a success.

The second picnic was held in August of 1999 at Rancho San Rafael and again, it was a success with 1800 alumni and friends attending. The Reno High School Band marched and played for the alumni and then the jazz band from Reno High School took over and entertained for another hour. There were desks from the old high school that were for sale as a money raising event for the association. Because everybody had such a great time at the first picnic, we added another hour to this picnic and it still seemed too short.

Now, we are planning the next picnic and there will be a big change. On August 18, 2002, the picnic will be held at Reno High School. The new principal, Rob Roberts, had approved our idea and we are working on it as you read this newsletter. Naturally, the Alumni Building will be open for you to visit, and hopefully we can arrange to have Reno High School open for alumni to walk down the halls and reminisce.

This year we expect the picnic

to be even a bigger success because our membership had grown and our website is reaching alumni all over the world. The information for the picnic will be posted on our website for you to read and you can e-mail us if you have questions. Information will be sent out by class representatives to their prospective classmates in the near future. If you would like to volunteer to help with the picnic, go to our website and e-mail us, or call and leave a message at the alumni building at 775-825-2586 or call Joe Granata at 775-425-6777. Our website address is [www.renohigh-alum.com](http://www.renohigh-alum.com).

## LipSync 2001 a rousing success

Reno High School's faculty knows that support is a two-way street, and proved it again to the Triple A Parent Student Faculty Club this spring when more than 25 faculty members took part in LipSync 2001, this year's version of an annual event sponsored by Triple A.

"The Lip Syncs were wonderful," Triple A President Marvia Drake wrote. "The students and parents loved seeing you all perform!"

Drake added, "This year, the Triple A has installed lights in dark parking lots, replaced the windows in the cafeteria breezeway with glass, and is replacing the worn carpet in the theater entrance with tile.

Triple A is an abbreviation for Academics, Arts, and Athletics.

## Eryn McKinley, "Best of Education" RHS winner excels in many areas

Reno High School senior Eryn McKinley completed her prep studies with a "Best of Education" award from the Reno Gazette-Journal, then headed for the University of San Diego to begin pursuit of a double major in science and Spanish language.

Helped by a Mark Gainey Scholarship, the AP Scholar took along a 4.0 Student Athlete award from Reno High School, where she also was a member of the National Honor Society, a Nevada Girls State Delegate, a Channel 4 Class Act winner in June, a Silver Scholar Awards winner, was listed in Who's Who Among High School Students, earned membership on the All-State Academic softball team, and won the U.S. Bank's African-American Reflections poetry contest.

Holder of a second degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, she served 300 hours as volunteer martial arts instructor in the 3-12 age group. Along the way, she was a special education teacher aide and provided child care in that program at Esther Bennett Elementary School.

Eryn has grouped together her experience with children, job shadowing a pediatrician and an orthopedic surgeon, and aims at a career in pediatric sports medicine.

# RHS graduate wins coveted Pulitzer Prize for Editorial Cartooning recently

Reno High School graduate Ann Telnaes of the Los Angeles Times Syndicate has received top professional recognition from her peers, as the 2001 winner of a Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for editorial Cartooning. The award is presented for "a distinguished cartoon or portfolio of cartoons published during the year, distinguished by originality, editorial

effectiveness, quality of drawing and pictorial effect." It is accompanied by a cash award of \$7,500.

Telnaes' winning work depicts a donkey and an elephant, standing back to back, with their tails tied to resemble money bags, their stomachs bulging and with dollar amounts written across them. The caption between the animals reads, "Soft money raised."

The Stockholm, Sweden, native's editorial cartoons have appeared in such prestigious publications as the Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, St. Post-Dispatch, Baltimore Sun, and USA Today. Her television appearances include The Newshour With Jim Lehrer, C-Span and The Editors, and World Affairs Television.

Before she became an editorial cartoonist, Telnaes worked at Warner Brothers and at Walt Disney Imagineering. She also was an animator and a layout designer for various animation studios in London, Los Angeles, New York City, and Taiwan.

In 1997, Telnaes received the National Headliner Award for Editorial Cartoons. She also won the 1996 Population Institute XVIIth Global Media Awards for Best Cartoonist and the Sixth Annual Environmental Awards in Editorial Cartooning and was a 1996 finalist in the National Cartoonists Society Reuben Awards.

She is a 1979 graduate of Reno High School.

Telnaes and her husband, David Lloyd, make their home in Washington, D.C.

Warren Lerude of the RHS Class of 1955 also is a Pulitzer Prize winner, as leader of a team at the Reno Evening Gazette and Nevada State Journal that researched and wrote a series about Nevada brothel operator Joe Conforte. Lerude currently is a professor of Journalism at the University of Nevada's Don Reynolds School of Journalism.

## Alumni Center facilities available for meetings, reunions, etc...

The Association's Link Piazza Alumni Center has become a popular place for a variety of meetings, in addition to those of the RHSAA itself.

From the beginning, the word has been out that the facility on the front lawn of the Booth Street campus is available for such activities as class reunion meetings, and in recent time, groups have gathered to do such planning for the Classes of 1951, 1956, 1971, 1981, and 1991.

Some of those groups have made a visit to the Center a part of their reunions, much to the delight of Association officers.

Recently-retired RHS Principal Janet Ross took advantage of the building's availability when it was her turn to host principals from Washoe County's other high schools. Guidance counselors, directors of athletics and other school system-wide groups have held similar sessions

there, as have ROTC instructors and Reno High's Teacher Accreditation Steering Committee.

It has been a quiet, isolated place for accreditation testing and for student tutoring.

The Center has provided a meeting place for the high school's Triple-A (Arts, Academics and Athletics) Club and for the Soccer Club Support Group.

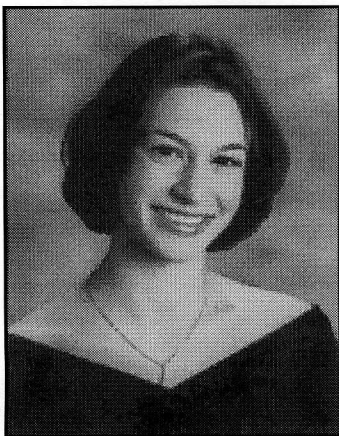
An on the non-school side, it also was summer headquarters for Washoe County's West Truckee Meadows Citizen Advisory Board, when that group found itself displaced for two months during repairs at the school in which it meets normally.

If you'd like to book the Center for similar planning sessions, please leave a message on the answering device at 775-825-2586 (that's 825-ALUM) and someone will get back to you.



# Two RHSAA scholarships awarded to Class of 2001

Graduating RHS senior students Christine Conelea and Milad Motarjemi have been named this year's recipients of the Reno High School Alumni Association's scholarships. The two were awarded \$500 each as they continued the



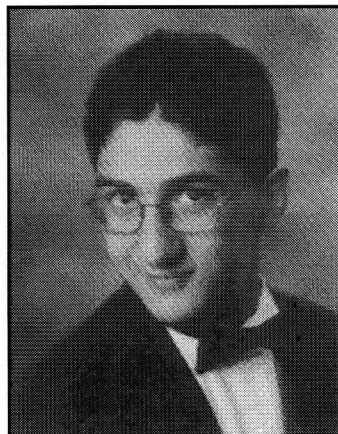
*Christine Conelea*

program began by the RHSAA in 1999.

Christine, whose parents are Dr. (PhD) Radu and Victoria Conelea, has begun studies at the University of Nevada, Reno, as an English writing student, with an early eye toward perhaps entering law. A Millennium Scholar as well, she is enrolled in the Honors College at UNR.

Milad, son of Hamid and Mahshid Motarjemi, is in Georgia at the moment, fulfilling Nevada Army National Guard training requirements that will take him next to Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas. He will return to studies at UNR next year as a pre-med student.

Their letters of thanks to the Association followed an earlier one from Jane M. Houston, the school's Scholarship Chair. That read, in



*Milad Motarjemi*

part, "It is always exciting for us to recognize students who have excelled in the classroom, overcome obstacles, performed community service, and demonstrated integrity.

"Reno High School has a strong tradition of classroom excellence. The Class of 2001 is not an exception. Your generosity allows our students to reach goals they might not otherwise have been able to accomplish."

## E-mail correspondence places alumni globally

Where in the world are Reno High School Alumni settled these days?

Here are some of the foreign spots listed on e-mail we have received:

Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands; Jerusalem, Israel; Jeffrey's Bay, South Africa; New-

bridge County, Kildare, Ireland; Germany; Kingston, Ontario, Canada; and Sidney, British Columbia, Canada.

"Stateside," in no particular order, we've heard from: Sacramento, CA; Hobe Sound, FL; Franklin, TN; Georgetown, TX; Greta, VA; Hernando, MS; Cheyenne, WY; Colorado Springs, CO; Beaverton, OR; South Jordan, UT; Brookings, OR; Eagle, ID; Mandeville, LA; Everett, WA; Soldotna, AK; Long Beach, MS; Coeur d'Alene, ID; Aurora, CO; Sulphur, OK; Wind Ridge, PA; Federal Way, WA.

Also, Yantis, TX; Chillicothe, MO; Salt Lake City, UT; Larchmont, NY; Woodlinville, WA; Camp Hill, PA; Damascus, MD; Chaska, MN; Deerfield Beach, FL; Fayetteville, NC; Kingsley, KS; Normandy Park, WA; Provo, UT; Tempe, AZ; Atlanta, GA; Ester, AK; Beaufort, SC; Nashville, TN; DeWitt, NY; Diana, TX; Washington, DC; Katy, TX; Lexington, KY; Ellicott City, MD; Houston, TX; Norwich, CN; Butte, MT.

As well as: Key West, FL; Belleville, IL; Alamogordo, NM; Post Falls, ID; Ashland, VA; North Pole, AK; Corpus Christi, TX; Dunedin, FL; Lodi, WI; Petersburg, AK; Mt. Holly, NJ; Wichita, KS; Apple Valley, MI; Pagosa Springs, CO; Vancouver, WA; East Greenwich, RI; Washingtonville, NY; Bergman, AR; Nellysford, VA; Discovery Bay, CA; Valdosta, GA; Umatilla, OR; Atascadero, CA; Norman, OK; Amarillo, TX; Honolulu, HI; Burke, VA; Durango, CO; Sandy, UT; America Fork, UT.

And from elsewhere around Nevada: Logandale, Las Vegas, Henderson, Virginia City, Lamoille, and Elko.

# Two Alma Maters

By Karl Breckinridge

Some Reno High alums got lucky, for we were able to spend time in both of the Reno High School buildings (not counting an earlier one that was demolished August 10, 1911). The old school (on the block between Fourth, Fifth, Arlington and West Street) was finished, by most accounts about 1913. It graduated about 37 classes, those classes smaller in number than the "new" school (Booth Street) that cranked out thoughtful intellectuals from 1951 to the present, in classes of ever-growing numbers. Mathematically, more graduated from the new school.

But my heart, like most who ever went to the older one, lies in the classic domed Mission-style school, reminiscent to many kids of the elementary schools they had come out of - Mary S. Doten (1911) or Mount Rose (1912) or Orvis Ring (1909) or McKinley Park (1910), known as the Spanish Quartette - because they were designed by the same architect, George Ferris, and shared many attributes, inside and externally. And for 15 years, from 1951 to 1966, many of us attended the Reno High's older building, renamed Central Junior High, then went on to the present Reno High building - we were the lucky ones and didn't know it; for we got to go to both schools.

As we all started the newer building as freshman, the stairwells were less steep than the old one, the halls with the endless runs of pale yellow tile were wider and better lit, but the rooms had less ventilation and the gym was anti-

septic. The kitchen and dining room was wonderful; why would we have wanted to go off campus for lunch? (Maybe because there was no fast food to be had!) The lockers were nice and actually worked.

But many missed the old building - the great old library on the second floor where you could watch the cars go by on Highway 40 through the maple trees, those old trees the best air conditioners in Reno. An odor of fresh floor wax on the hardwood floors. The two little amphitheater rooms on the third floor, on a stairwell that would drive a modern liability insurance underwriter to drink. The stage at the end of the lower gym, with professional-design lighting, curtains and even a trap door to the room below for a villain to fall through; wooden bleacher seats to the ceiling, no windows - a great place for a sock hop, noon movie or senior play. Or to stage a graduation ceremony, and move on to Reno High or to the outside world, depending on whether we were Central or Reno High students. (During the 1950-1966 years, Central functioned as the third middle school with Billingshurst and Northside, closing when Darrel C. Swope School opened on Mayberry Drive).

It was in that window of time that some of us in the local education path got lucky and were able to know the charm of old 1913 architecture, then follow through with the functionality of a modern 1950 building. Maybe we didn't know it then, but we got to enjoy the best of both worlds...

## Former Miss Nevada & Gilligan's Island star Dawn Wells attends recent reunion

Reno High School graduate Dawn Wells made a splashy return home earlier this year for a class reunion, and attracted local press attention in a Reno Gazette-Journal profile titled "Dawn Wells: the original Survivor."

"Since being rescued from 'Gilligan's Island' in the late '60s, everyone's favorite girl next door has made the most of civilization," wrote RGJ Reporter Forrest Hartman.

"In case you haven't kept up, Mary Ann - that cute, little cast-away in the short shorts - has spent the last 30-some years performing live, on television, in feature films and commercials. All the while," he continued, "Renoites have nodded approvingly, remembering her as Dawn Wells, former Miss Nevada and Reno High grad."

Hartman's article details the two year old Film Actor's Boot Camp, in which Wells provides what she calls a reality check of what it's really like to get the job, hold the job, and do it adequately. The camp course covers one week at a site in Idaho, featuring a great view of the Grand Tetons.

Wells makes her home in Southern California's Toluca Lake.



# CORRESPONDENCE:

## E-mail brings many comments...

The Association's e-mail address has brought in a wide variety of thoughts from former Huskies in almost as many places as can be counted. Here are some recent messages:

"That Bud, Len and Link. In many ways, this facility will become the history center for the city of Reno, because RHS graduates have been so important in the development of the city." - from a 1957 graduate.

"Can the mail-in membership form available on the website be faxed?" - 1967. (*Answer: Yes, it can, to 775-747-8852, and thanks for asking*).

"I was an exchange student from Brazil, and would like to get messages from my classmates at that time. If you have any information about my American family, please let me know." - 1976.

"Wow, what a wonderful surprise! The next time we are in Reno, I want to visit the Alumni Center. My husband graduated from Sparks, and I will have to drag him, kicking and screaming, I am sure. Met him at a Huskies Haven dance - great old memories!" - 1964.

"I had no idea Reno High has so much history. I remember graduating from Central Junior High, but did not know it was formerly RHS. Very well done." - 1961.

"After going through kindergarten through undergraduate school, I never would have guessed that I would be away for so long. Downhill skiing is really lousy out here in Kansas." - 1966.

"Still here in the Washington, D.C. area, but hoping to return to

Reno. Reno is so cool that my son graduated from a Burke, VA high school 11 years ago, and because of my bragging about Reno, went to college at UNR and stayed in Reno." - 1960.

"Moved to Ireland last year with my wife and daughter, and am working as chief process engineer for the ESBI Electricity Supply Board of Ireland. We are very happy, and trying to buy a house." - 1974.

"This is awesome! Found my mom (Class of '36) and sister (Class of '61) and many other names from the good old days." - 1959.

"It was fun to look at the Class of 1925 and see my mother listed as teaching 'commercial' at the school. She graduated from Stanford in 1916 and taught in Verdi before Reno High." - 1944

"Still teaching as a full professor at Valdosta State University and traveling as an international dance educator in Russia and China." - 1968.

"Left Montana, currently in South Africa, about to move to Alaska. Love reading where everyone's ended up and paths seem to cross again." - 1994.

"Nearly 50 years out of school, have lived in Europe (12 years) and Asia (7 years) but now enjoying So. Cal." - 1958.

"There's no place like home! Dreaming of RHS from our storm cellar in Kansas." - 1979.

The Association welcomes any correspondence regarding former alumni. You can log on and share memories with other classmates.

## ...And we field a few questions

Visitors to our website have submitted a variety of questions, including the following:

Q - Does Bud Beasley have an e-mail address?

A - No, but you may send "snail mail" (U.S. Postal Service) to Bud in care of the Association, P.O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513.

Q - Is there another category of dues?

A - Sure is! Life membership currently is \$300 for an individual or \$500 for a couple.

Q - Hi. Love this site! What can I do to help?

A - For openers, join the Association. Beyond that, if you live in the Reno-Sparks area, get involved on a committee, or some such. And don't forget financial aid! One of the features of the Alumni Center is the Sponsors Wall, the one to the right as you enter the lobby. Those plaques represent tax deductible donations (remember, we are a 501(c) (3), non-profit corporation) of \$1,000 or more at the lower level, advancing toward the ceiling to \$5,000 or more, \$10,000 or more and finally, \$20,000 or more. And if you're looking for a way to invest more than that in a tax credit, talk to us about sponsoring a special project, such as **Heritage Hall** (the museum we're planning) or our professional **Hall of Achievement** for RHS Alumni.

Q - I went to Reno High for only one semester, and my wife is from another city. Can I become a

(See QUESTIONS, Page 11)



# Webmaster Cal Pettengill busy documenting Associations' facts, history and statistics

One of the most important members of the RHSAA is a man you'll seldom see at meetings, although his name appears on the Association letterhead and he is known by many of the group's members.

Nineteen fifty-six graduate Cal C. Pettengill is known primarily as the Association's Webmaster, and he receives praise frequently for the highly readable and informative site that is visited regularly at [www.renohighalum.com](http://www.renohighalum.com).

But many of those who know the story will tell you that his most important contribution has been design, creation and maintenance of the electronic database that Association leaders hope eventually will contain at least the name and class year of every individual who

ever attended Reno High School.

Or who served on its faculty or staff.

Dating back to when the school first was recognized as a high school - in 1879.

Cal doesn't enter data into the base that now contains more than 6,200 individual profiles. That job falls to the membership chair.

But he designed the base and has been its watchdog and modernizer. He's the one who troubleshoots the system and who has spent countless hours finding ways to answer the needs that seem to turn up regularly for more information, creating new field after new field.

Thanks to Cal's creativity, Association officers may search the base by current name, by maiden name or a different name that may

have been used in school, or by class year.

They may call for printouts under any of those fields, or for address labels, such as those that helped deliver this newsletter. By the way, the date found there in smaller type is that on which member dues last were paid, and will provide a clue as to when you're likely to receive another reminder to please remain current.

In addition, Cal's website provides current information on proposed class reunions, including dates and contact persons, and it includes a voluminous list of RHS graduates he has identified from the association's yearbook files.

Cal - thanks a bunch!

## Questions answered from E-mail

*(From Page 10)*

voting member of the Association?

A - You bet! Anyone who attended RHS for any length of time or who served on the faculty or staff is eligible. And marriage to an eligible person makes the other person eligible. Annual dues currently are \$15 for an individual or \$25 for the couple.

Q - How can I find out what's going on with the Association?

A - Drop by during any Board of Trustees meeting. The group meets currently at 4 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month (holidays excepted).

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

RHSAA Annual Meeting ..... October 30th  
7:00 p.m.

RHSAA Board Meetings ..... 4th Thursday  
Monthly 4:00 p.m.

All Alumni Picnic ..... August 18, 2002  
Time to be announced  
At Reno High School

Contributions for next newsletter ..... January 5, 2002  
Contact Ann Sutton, Editor  
775-626-8901



*The September 11th, 2001  
tragedy that struck New York  
City and Washington D.C. is  
beyond imagination.*

*The Reno High School Alumni  
Association Board of Directors  
wish to offer our prayers and  
support for all the victims and  
their families who have suffered  
from this tragic event.*

*God Bless America.*

*Ann Sutton, Editor*



P. O. BOX 5807  
RENO, NEVADA 89513  
(775) 825-ALUM (2586)