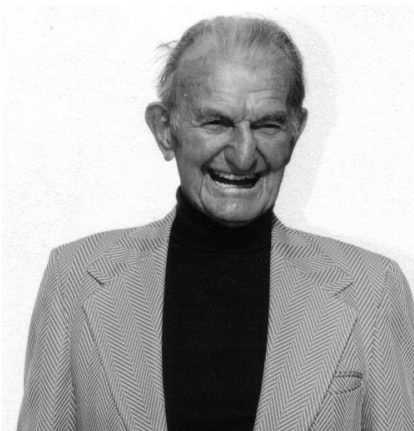




HUSKIES TRAILS

The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association



Bud Beasley Succumbs At 93

The man who inspired creation of the **Reno High School Alumni Association** died July 17 at his home in Reno at the age of 93.

Dr. Bud L. Beasley's dream of some 40 years came to life during the summer of 1995, when the association was incorporated as a Nevada non-profit corporation and the work began that led to creation of the Associations, Alumni Center on the high school's Booth Street campus.

Beasley was one of three incorporators of the group and served on its board of Trustees until the beginning of this year, when ill health limited his activities and he was accorded status as an Honorary Trustee. A cushioned chair was reserved in his honor during meetings of the Board, at which it became an informal tradition that he entered the motion for adjournment.

Born Dec. 8, 1910 in Melrose NM, Beasley completed his public education at Santa Cruz High School, where he was a multiple sport athlete. From there, he entered the University of Nevada in Reno on a football scholarship and lettered all four years in football, in addition to playing baseball and bas-

Bud and Casey at the bat

*Recitation by Reno teacher and coach
never failed to leave a dry eye*

*The outlook wasn't brilliant for the
Mudville Nine that day, the score stood 4-to-2
with but one inning more to play*

A cub sports writer penned a ballad during his lunch hour one spring day. Dropped it on his editor's desk – "Use it if you want it" - and forgot about it. Two weeks later, on June 3, 1888 the saga ran full page in the San Francisco *Examiner* and 24 year old Ernest L. Thayer's "Casey at the bat" entered the great pantheon of our national pastime.

But it would be half a century later that a true ball player would bring Thayer's work to life, from memory and at a drop of the hat, in ball-parks, team buses, Little League award barbecues, school classrooms and wherever else the boys of summer gathered (That's not politically incorrect, but a collective for the girls and boys gathering for T-ball at Swope School through to Pac Bell Park because they love the game) - When Bud Beasley paused at Thayer's words— *But Casey ignored it, and the umpire said* – a delighted crowd of kids of all ages and gender boomed out, **Strike two!** For 50 years.

There was ease in Casey's manner as he stepped into his place, there was pride in Casey's bearing and a smile on Casey's face.

RJG columnist Guy Clifton penned a superb bio of Bud last Tuesday, and I won't even attempt to embellish it, but Bud was a homefind-



Ashley McDermid

2004 RHSAA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Alex Marco



Our scholarship program continues in the year 2004. We feel this to be a very worthwhile program which the RHSAA has provided to students at Reno High School both in financial assistance for college and encouragement toward future education. The RHSAA has awarded two more scholarships in the amount of \$500 each to the following recipients.

Ashley McDermid wrote a sincere note of appreciation for the help we have provided her in beginning her college experience. In the fall of 2004 she will begin pursuing a degree in either nursing or criminal justice at the University of Nevada.

Alex Marco was also very appreciative for the assistance he received toward achieving his academic goals and for recognition of accomplishments thus far. He intends to major in Political Science at the University of Nevada. The exposure he received at Reno High School and his experience at debate was instrumental in his decision to pursue this course. He intends to continue in debate both at the University of Nevada and as an assistant to the Reno High School Debate Team.

We are very proud of the accomplishments of these young people.

By Joanne Petre

"All Alumni Picnic" on August 21, 2005

The time is almost here to start planning for the next "All Alumni Picnic". We have already picked the date which will be Sunday August 21, 2005.

This year, George Smith, Class of 1954, will be Chairman of the picnic and the committee has already had two meetings.

The Principal of Reno High School, Bob Sullivan has given us his approval to hold the picnic again, at Reno High School. So all in all, things are starting to come together, and we are looking for new ideas. If you have an idea, share it by e-mailing it to us, or send a letter to our P.O. Box

The last picnic in 2002, saw about 1750 alumni enjoying classmates, and of course for some, the first chance to see our new Alumni Building. Many of the alumni met old friends

again and the sound of cameras clicking was like music.

Fred Shimkovsky and Neal Cobb had a great time selling T-shirts and caps with fervor and humor.

The Class of 1952 strutted around like Freshman, even though it was their 50th class reunion. This year, Daryl Pelizzari from the Class of 1952 will be the presiding President and he will be keeping a close eye on the rowdy's.

I'm sorry to say that Bud Beasley will not be there to greet you this year or any other year, and we will miss him. But there is one thing that you can do, and that is to go by his picture in the Alumni Building, and wink at him, he would like that.

We will send you information soon !

A Gentleman In The Out of Doors

My Sophomore year was turning into a disaster! I was flunking Algebra and Latin. My Latin teacher had a strong German accent that I couldn't comprehend and my Algebra teacher, bless her soul, was helpful, but I just didn't get it! I was much more interested in talking on the phone with my girlfriend for endless hours than putting in any extra time on homework.

A teacher/mentor entered my life that year and that changed my ambitions. I had always wanted to be a biology teacher but was beginning to doubt my capacity to do so. I had heard of Sessions S (Buck) Wheeler most of my teen age years, as he had been a childhood friend of my uncle. William T Daniel, RHS Class of 1930.

I fervently hoped I would get into his Biology class and fortunately, I did. As I look back from the perspective of the biology teacher I became, I don't think that anatomy, physiology, or cellular biology were Mr. Wheeler's first interest. This man's interests were wildlife conservation, an insatiable love for Nevada and to teach his students to be "Gentlemen in the out of doors". After being in his classroom for just a few days, I was taken by the man's charm, grace, and kindness.

A watershed moment in my life came when I was selected after volunteering, to instruct the class as a "Lab Assistant" in the details of a frog's anatomy. I was so nervous about this forthcoming

practiced my performance for days before I was to be the "Teacher".

I recall Mr. Wheeler introducing the subject and me to the class amid the snickers and guffaws of my classmates. He then went to his desk in the back of the room where he proceeded to illustrate the pages for his first book "Paiute"

As I began my presentation, my stomach churned and I felt as if I should bolt from the room and escape this torture. Buck must have sensed this as he looked up from his work, smiled, and winked at me. That was all the encouragement I needed to complete my presentation and know that someday I could be a biology teacher

I will never forget how I so admired this man and how so many others were aware of his impacts on this state as a conservationist, teacher, author and the quintessential

Home coming

The Homecoming celebration will include the usual activities. The Varsity football game will commence at 7:30 PM against Bishop Manogue High School

There will be a parade of floats and presentation of the Homecoming queen candidates.

The usual Powder Puff game will be held on Monday September 27 and The dance will take place on Friday October 1, 2004. This will be a five day celebration.

To look for activities in the future, you can go to the new website for high school sports by typing in www.highschoolsports.net Then click on Nevada, then click on Reno High School.

A Blast From the Past

REMEMBER

Golden Crust
and
Town and Country
breads

Made in Reno

WELSH'S BAKERY

347 North Virginia Street

WAYNES DRIVE IN

SOUTH VIRGINIA ROAD

The Home of The Double
Hamburger and foot long

Now open

Dot & Jay ARE BACK AT

JAY'S BEEFBURGER

Drive-In

Serving our delicious
Beefburgers
with tomato, relish, onion, pickle
and our special Ground Round
Steak on a toasted bun.

539 EAST SECOND ST.
1 block East of the new City Jail

We are looking forward to seeing
All our former customers and
friends

Open Noon to Midnight

Beasley/ from page 1

In 1934 he began a Nevada record of more than 65 years in teaching. Following one year in Lander County's Battle Mountain, he taught for one year at Northside Junior High School in Reno. A year later, he began a career at Reno High School that was to last until 1969 and found him teaching history, social studies, and boy's physical education.

He served also as counselor, was Director of Athletics for four years, and coached baseball, basketball, football, and fencing. Last year, during a City of Reno—proclaimed Bud Beasley Day activities at the school's Foster Field, adjoining facilities were dedicated by RHS Principal Robert Sullivan as the Bud Beasley Athletic Complex..

The elementary school in Sparks that bears his name welcomes visitors with a handsome oaken display cabinet that was provided by some of his former students and which contains memorabilia of his careers in both education and professional baseball.

Beasley managed to combine teaching with a career in the AAA Pacific Coast Baseball League, where he was well-known as a "Screwball left handed pitcher" for teams in Seattle and Sacramento.

His continued professional education led to master and doctoral degrees in education from the University of Nevada. As a teacher, he was accorded recognition from four presidents of the United States and two Nevada Governors. He also was named Phi Delta Kappa Teacher of the year and received recognition from the Kiwanis as Educator of the year for the Nevada-California-Hawaii Region.

He was a 60 year member of the Reno Kiwanis Club which staged a packed house party for him in Reno's California Building on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Dr. Beasley and his wife of more than 63 years, the former Nellie Meyers helped raise seventeen children through adoption. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a brother Oral "Tex" Beasley of Pacific Grove, CA and by numerous other extended family members.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions would be appreciated to the Alumni Association's Scholarship activities. Checks should be

High School Friendships

*By Alex Kanwetz
Class of 1957*

When I attended Reno High in the 50's, there were just three high schools, Reno, Sparks, and Manogue. Many of the kids who attended parochial school were split up when they went to high school, about half to Reno and half to Manogue. As a result, many of the kids knew each other and were friends, not only in grade school, but in high school as well. This was a positive thing and those friendships continued as well they should.

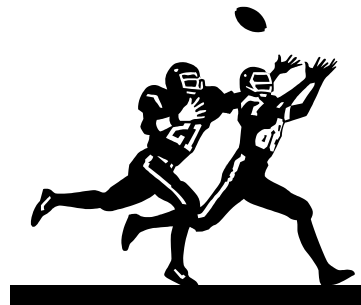
The interesting thing though was in those days, Sparks and Reno were very strong rivals and there was really no love lost between the two.

While in high school, I participated in various sports and was in direct competition with other fellows in Sparks as well as Manogue and once again, no love lost.

As the years went along, I would run into various athletes from those schools, and friendships really did occur. I could say that some of my best memories were competing with those fellows, and when we meet today, we each say that we were victorious, true or not!

I recently attended the Sparks High School "All Alumni and Friends Picnic" and it was really a great reunion. I met some of my old rivals again and we enjoyed talking about who was the best, and who won what games. Since then, I have received many e-mails from them wanting to get together in the future.

I guess in summary, I would like to say that not only is it fun to see your classmates, but others you knew from a rival school, even if they were an old friend or foe.



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October 14, 1960

Vaughn's Views

My locker and I have got to come to an agreement. After three years, you'd think we could reach a settlement. Most lockers are friendly, even helpful, but not my locker. I just happened to be one of the lucky people to get a locker with a complex. When he was little, he wanted to be a safe, and when he found out that he was only a school locker, he got frustrated. Now he thinks he has to take his frustration out on me.

In the first place, it takes a demolition team, a calculus expert, and a crow bar to get into it. I finally figured out that if you add 1.79340 to each combination number, turn the lock backwards and murmur the words "Open Sesame", it will open. This is where your P.E. experience comes in handy. Immediately after saying, the magic words you must jump backwards about two feet. If you don't make it, you'll probably catch either a right cross to the chin from the lock, or a hard blow to the nose from the handle.

Your feet are also in danger. The minute one of the books in the locker sees the light of day, he signals the rest of the gang and everybody slides for the floor. They do it better than Mickey Mantle.

By now it is usually safe to approach him, but one must still use caution. Carefully put a finger out to see if it is planning to slam shut when you get your hand inside. If it merely hangs there staring at you out of the air vents, speedily grab for your lunch, which is probably crouched in the darkest corner way at the back, nicely flattened from having 10 books and a pair of gym shoes on it all morning.

Now that you have retrieved your lunch, you can put the books back in. This can be done by standing one and one half feet away from the locker and throwing the books gently through the opening. Now take your ruler, carefully push the door shut. This must be done gently or else the locker might lose it's temper and refuse to open



Neal Who ?

By now, you are probably wondering why we keep mentioning Neal Cobb's name. It's not just because he is a Trustee/ Historian, it's because he just keeps going and going and Going. This time, Neal was awarded the Clark Santini Cup for 2004.

"What is the Clark Santini Cup?" you ask? Well, it's an award given by the Reynolds School of journalism to an individual that has excelled in community oriented service through effective oral communications, for the prior year. Usually, this award is given to an alumni of the University of Nevada, but this is the first time that the award was given to someone that did not attend the University.

Neal has been involved in quality of life issues such as the fight against billboards, neighborhood clean-ups, save the Mapes, his commitment to preserving and finding a resting place for the Harolds Club Mural and many more.

Jim Santini, Clarks brother, came back to the University of Nevada from his home somewhere around the Washington D.C. area just to give Neal this award.

As Jim Santini presented the award, he said, "*I never thought I would be giving this award to a man 108 years old. He has to be 108 years old to have done all the things that he has done in his lifetime.*"

By Joe Granata

President's 2 cents worth !

Ciao tutti alumni, hello alumni

Yes I'm well into my second term as President of the RHSAA and learning more every day. We have a "heck" of an organization here already and the potential of being a "Hell" of an organization is just over the hill.

There are several locally based organizations that are dedicated to the business of researching, documenting and displaying anything and everything that has to do with the History of Reno and surrounding areas i.e. Historic Reno Preservation Society, Nevada Historical Society, Good Old Days (GOD) Club, Bartley Ranch Restoration, the Westerners, Harolds Club Pioneers, City of Reno Historic Commission, and many others. It seems preserving the past is more popular now than ever. (I probably wasn't paying attention in history class in 1952)

Reno High School, being the oldest school in town and still operating,

, and because of the creation of the Alumni Association in 1995. Plus the fact we have our own magnificent building allows us to carry our share in assisting in this preservation process.

We are still striving to maintain what has evolved into quite a respectable museum, but have a long ways to go. That is where you come in ! We have a few good men and women who are carrying the responsibility of maintaining. We could use your help in many areas. If you, or anyone you know have the time and the interest to become involved, please make contact with any of the listed members of the Board of Trustees, or leave a message at the Alumni Center at 825-2586.

Please feel free to attend any of the board meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month at 4:pm in the alumni building.

Thanks, Bud

Exchange Student

Paula Bastos Da Silva, a Rotary International Exchange Student at Reno High School during the 1999-2000 school year, has signed onto the Alumni Association website with greetings to her RHS friends in "definitely the best year of my life, so far."

Now back in her home town of Bauru in the Brazilian State of Sao Paolo, she is a 21 year-old Journalism major in her sophomore year at the university

She works at a language school, teaching English as a foreign language, and in her spare time writes for the university's newspaper.

She suggests, "I always enjoy receiving news from Reno High School. God Bless

You can e-mail Paula at

paulapoppins@yahoo.com

Len Crocker

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Ask and thou shall receive !

It pays to advertise. Of the original items donated to the Alumni Center's memorabilia collection, were different styles of band uniforms. We could not identify one set of the uniforms, so we put a note on the wall two years ago asking anyone that could identify the year/years that set was used, to contact us.

Recently, Laura Hannigan Murray of the RHS Class of 1984 called to advise that she had seen the uniforms displayed and wanted us to know that the uniforms were from 1984 and 1985. She knew this, because in 1984 when she was a freshman, the Band Department had a fund raiser to purchase new uniforms. Her father, Richard Hannigan, who was a local car dealer at the time, donated a car to be raffled off and the raffle brought in \$15,000 toward the purchase of the new uniforms.

At the start of the year in 1985, under the direction of Ron Legg and led by drum majors Peter DeLong and Susan Traut, the new uniforms were displayed . The band performed at the East-West Shrine game, the State Championship Football game, the Nevada Day Parade, and various pep assemblies throughout the year.

The photo's are in the 1984 and 1985 RE-WA-Ne that show two different sets of uniforms, the old and new.

Casey / from page 1

Our teacher, mentor and coach for 38 years-of-us strong at Reno High School. In later life he was deeply involved in many youth organizations, a stalwart of the RHS Alumni Association, a bastion of influence for the Good Old Days club and a fireball to the very end.

We've got to include at least one of Beasley anecdote: On the ropes while pitching at Sacramento's Solons park in a Pacific Coast League game in the 30's, Bud returned a dinged up ball to the catcher for another. He got it, but a couple of batters later the ball left the park on a pop foul. The catcher sent out the ball Bud had previously squawked about so he returned it back to the catcher for a better one. That ball eventually left the field of play, and the catcher threw out a replacement, guess what, the same bum ball Bud had refused twice before. Bud pointed to a fan high in the bleachers above first base and threw the offending ball to the lucky guy for a souvenir. The ump sternly summoned Bud to home plate to render an admonishment, and Bud recalled that he, the umpire, the catcher and the batter all struggled to keep a straight face for the benefit of the crowd and the dignity of baseball. Such became our sport whenever he was in the vicinity.

Ten thousand eyes were on him as he rubbed his hands with dirt; five thousand tongues applauded when he wiped them on his shirt..

On Bud's 90th birthday he visited Bud Beasley Elementary School – a gathering crammed with tykes agog over seeing the real Bud Beasley, right there in their multipurpose room. I think he spoke to every one of them individually. Inevitably a teacher toward the back said, " Mr. Beasley, how about Casey at the bat ?" and Bud sensing that it was coming as it had been in a thousand gatherings before, grinned and answered the call: *The out wasn't brilliant* If not 10,000 eyes, then 400, grew wide as the smallish man, already in his later innings, wove the tale of Casey in an animated, vibrant way that Thayer could have only dreamed that anyone would deliver it 112 years after he so casually wrote it. And I noted not just a few adult eyes growing a little misty and that was-

And somewhere children shout; but there is no joy in Mudville – Mighty Casey has struck out.

There should be great joy in all the Mudvilles of baseball this week, for we had the pleasure of Bud's knowledge, wisdom and humor for 93 years. We all know that mighty Casey fanned in the ninth stranding Flynn and Blake in 1888, but last Saturday morning Bud Beasley was ruled safe at home.

Have a good week, tag up on infield flies, the homefinders' best wishes best wishes go out to Nellie Beasley, and God bless America.

Permission was given to reprint the article of July 24,2004 from the RGJ

Help ! Help ! Help!

Your Association Needs You

Have you been sitting around lately wondering what to do, feeling like you would like to do something constructive ? Well, here's your chance to shine!

Volunteers are needed to help staff the Alumni Center that is open on Fridays from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm and Saturdays from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.

It's easy and fun! All you have to do is greet visitors and answer any questions about the Association and the Center. You won't be alone, because one of the Trustees is always on duty, and we will set up a training period for you first so that you feel comfortable with any questions. It is also fun to find out things that you didn't know about Reno High School and it's history.

A minimum of one day per month from you is all we ask, but if you can only help once in a while, that is alright too.

If you would like to volunteer, please call the Trustee Volunteer Chairman, Betty Jo Baker at 851-3203 or the Alumni Center at 825-2586 and leave a message.



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