



HUSKIES TRAILS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE RENO HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Volume 4, Issue 1

Spring 2005

Editorially speaking...

Your *Reno High School Alumni Association* will turn 10 years old later this summer, and a recent checkup showed that it's a little on the anemic side. New blood is the *life* blood of any organization, and the RHSAA's Board of Trustees is badly in need of a transfusion.

Anyone out there have blood type "I'll help"?

Monthly Board meetings generally last an hour and one-half or so, and that's not a whole lot of time to devote to the success of the organization. Committee meetings are rare and seasonal, depending on the needs of the moment.

Timing of the Board meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month is a little chancy for some folks, since

currently they begin at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. But that hour has been revised from time to time during the years, and a new Board could pick one that's more convenient to working folks.

Here's the situation:

Board members Joanne Petre and Dave Minedew have been at it since 1996, and will reach their legal limit of service, three (continued on page two)

How time flies

Association nears 10th anniversary date

Could it *really* be 10 years ago?

It was, when the Reno High School Alumni Association was founded during an Oct. 5, 1995 meeting in the Reno offices of Attorney Frank Petersen, a 1938 graduate. Encouraged by long-time Washoe County Educator Bud L. Beasley and "rounded up" by Class of 1943 graduate Len E. Crocker, the group agreed that an Alumni Association and an Alumni Center both were long overdue.

Also on hand that evening were Architects Ralph (1946) and Tom (1973) Casazza; Rose N. Meredith and Joe Elcano Jr. from the Class of '43; Albert Solari, 1938; and the Class of 1955's Joe Granata.

Beasley already had obtained provisional approval of the concept

from Trustees of the Washoe County School District, and on Oct. 26, another assemblage drew 14 persons to the library of the school on Booth Street.

Crocker was named President of the new entity, with Elcano as Secretary and Jim Binns from the Class of 1950 as Treasurer. Other members of the initial Board of Trustees were Beasley, Granata, Meredith, Solari, and Dave Minedew from the Class of 1961. Petersen formally became Counsel on Nov. 2, when he made a trip to Carson City and filed papers with the Secretary of State to establish a new Nevada 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.

The following March, the Association counted 34 paid members. The Class of 1955's Boyd Kelly of Carrollton, TX was the largest financial

supporter with a gift of \$1,000 and Classmate Leonard Mardian of Las Vegas had contributed \$500. Twenty-eight others were in the game for \$100 each, to get things started.

One month later, the treasury was swelled by \$1,040 carried over from an "Old Reno High School 1991 Picnic," and its committee members Jim and Marjean Binns, Marilyn Melton and Joanne Kimball all had agreed to work on a similar event to be staged by the new Association on Aug. 18 at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park.

That picnic was judged successful and a three-year cycle was adopted for similar gatherings. Following a return to San Rafael in 1999, the picnic was moved in 2002 to the Reno High School campus, where the fourth (continued on page three, column one)

Editorial, continued

consecutive three-year terms -- at the end of this year.

Co-founder and Charter President Len Crocker has one year more than that.

Co-founder Joe Granata was going to leave the Board at term's end last December, but accepted appointment to a vacant position because his Class of 1955 will be recognized as this year's Golden Huskies -- 50 years out of school -- and he wanted to work on the 10th anniversary picnic. Joe also agreed to continue as VP for Operations.

Joanne -- Ortiz, while in school -- fills the vital position of Association Secretary.

Crocker is in his sixth year as the group's only VP for Membership.

The 15-member Board is guaranteed some "corporate memory" because one-third of its membership is up for election each year. In theory, that means that no more than five Trustees at any given time will be brand-new. Most of the 32 individuals who have been elected to the Board found they enjoyed the opportunity to make decisions about where the organization is going and how it will get there, so they stood for at least a second term.

Others felt they had made their contribution, and moved on. And that's the problem.

There's work to be done, folks, and President Daryl Pelizzari put out the call for help shortly after he agreed to a third, one-year, term as top officer of the Association.

He may be contacted by the U. S. mail at the Association office, P. O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513-5807; by Voice Mail at the office (775) 825-2586; by telephone at home (775) 972-1443; or through e-mail at dpelizzari@gbis.com.

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 and interested alumni are invited 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-A Booth St.

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Swap member list for mail labels?

Here's an offer we hope you can't resist. If you'll furnish us with a current mailing list for your class so we update our database, we'll print the mailing labels for your next reunion.

Remember, we **do not** share our data with anyone but a designated representative of the class involved.

If you'd like to help us by accepting this offer, please mail your list to VP/Membership Chair Len Crocker at P. O. Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513-5807.

For questions, try the office 'phone at (775) 825-2586, or send an e-mail to doubledollar@earthlink.net.

Wanted: people for Board positions

Here are three Alumni Association positions that will need filling before the end of this year. Details from President Daryl Pelizzari (see above).

Membership -- Responsible individual with computer skills. Involves at least weekly visit to Alumni Center for update database, plus monthly preparation of dues letters and report at monthly Board meetings.

Secretary -- The usual minutes, plus weekly trip to Post Office to collect mail, process and relay to Treasurer, preserve Association records.

Operations -- "Hands-on" interest and skills for number two position in Association. Ultimately, would be responsible for overseeing the physical plant known as the RHSAA Alumni Center.

The President's two cents worth

Well, after an expensive and hard fought campaign, I was re-elected to my third term as "El Presidente." I like these unopposed elections.

RHSAA still is maintaining as the area's newest "keeper of the past." Now, thanks to Grace Fujii, Class of 1958, and a few docents, we are proceeding with the proper and professional method to receive, mark, and display items of RHS memorabilia that we receive. And thanks to our Webmaster Cal Pettengill from the Class of '56 we have a sophisticated computer program that will allow us to track and locate items belonging to any donor, any time.

This was one of Bud Beasley's dreams, to have whoever attended RHS be able to come to the Association's Alumni Center and find something that pertained to them. All this will take some time to complete, as we have only a thin line of volunteers...although the pay is great.

Hence the call for help, in all areas.

Recently, we responded to a request for a news article for the Western Museum Association's quarterly newsletter, the *Registrars Quarterly*, about what is happening at our "store." Membership VP Len Crocker responded on behalf of the Association, so now museums in other Western United States, as well as Nevada, may become aware of us. We still have a lot to do, but what potential!

Financially, we are holding our own, although both new memberships and donations are coming in slowly. We do thank you loyal members who respond every year.

The big thrust now is to stage a successful all-class reunion picnic on August 21st, to observe the Association's 10th anniversary. The picnic committee is working hard to locate class representatives and others who may have mailing lists we can share, or who have other knowledge of where their classmates might be contacted.

If you have questions, suggestions -- even com-

10th Anniversary

(continued from page one) such all-class event will be held this year on Aug. 21.

The Association Board met for four years in offices donated by then-Trustee Al Solari, then in December 1999 staged its first formal meeting in the handsome, brick structure it now occupies on the RHS campus. That building bears the name of retired Reno businessman Link Piazzo, who donated the \$400,000 that covered the primary cost of the Center.

plaints -- please let us know, by telephone, e-mail, or face to-face. And thanks.

Hope to see you at the picnic.

Caio.

Daryl Pelizzari

President

-- rhsaa --

RHS Alumni Association

Treasurer's report for the year ended Dec. 31, 2004

Receipts and disbursements

Receipts

Donations	\$1,950.00
Annual dues	8,930.00
Life member dues	2,000.00
Scholarship donations:	
General fund	\$ 260.00
Bud Beasley Memorial	5,856.85
E'Lois Campbell Memorial	100.00
Scholarships total	6,216.85
Interest income	871.24
Total receipts	\$19,973.09

Disbursements

Building alarm system	\$ 787.20
Filing fee	25.00
Insurance	1,092.60
Internet service	119.40
Museum docent supplies	144.03
Postage	1,168.22
Printing	352.00
Professional fees	65.00
Repairs and maintenance	2,218.81
Scholarships	1,000
Supplies	848.19
Telephone	656.54
Utilities	2,518.66
total disbursements	\$10,995.65
Excess, receipts over disbursements	\$8,977.44

Cash balance, Dec. 31, 2003 \$94,766.25

Cash balance, Dec. 31, 2004 \$103,743.69

-- Virginia Zorio
Treasurer

Meanwhile, back on the campus...

Reno High in top 1,000 in nation for academics

Reno High School has been ranked among the top 1,000 high schools in the nation in academics, according to a new survey by Newsweek magazine, quoted in the Reno Gazette-Journal daily newspaper.

The ranking is based on the number of students taking *Advanced Placement* or *International Baccalaureate* tests last year, compared with the number of graduating seniors. The test allows college credit for classes taken in high school.

The Reno High School's rank of number 652 placed it with five other high schools in Washoe County that made the elite group.

The others are: 436, McQueen; 467, Galena; 861, Wooster; 864, Sparks; and 880, Incline.

Green Valley of Henderson was Nevada's top-ranked school and South Lake Tahoe made the list at number 996.

Academic Olympics Regional crown

The Huskies had to come out of the losers' bracket, but did so to claim Regional laurels in the *Academic Olympics*.

AO Advisor/Government teacher Cathy Retterer was quoted in the *Red & Blue* student newspaper with "I can't remem-

ber the last time (Reno won). I can say it was a long time ago."

Following a loss to McQueen in the opening round of the finals, the Reno team went undefeated, including last day wins over Galena and Wooster before the two wins from McQueen that were necessary in the double elimination competition.

Reno qualified for the finals by losing only once in 11 preliminary rounds.

Topics for the competition were: current events, physical science, life science, fine arts, English, math, government/economy, and history/geography.

Reno High Bandsmen play fund-raiser, picnic

Reno High School's organized musicians will be featured in a May 17 fund-raising Frank Sinatra Tribute Concert at the Sands Hotel and Casino, and the marching band is scheduled tentatively to take part in the Alumni Association's Aug. 21 all-class reunion and picnic.

The Sinatra Tribute Concert by members of the RHS Jazz Band will be a fund-raiser for the music program, according to Band Parents Association President Gary Ray, with tickets priced at \$5 each for the 7-8:30 p. m. performance.

An accompanying part of the program will result in someone claiming a trip to Las Vegas, including air fare, hotel lodgings and tickets for a NASCAR event.

Discussions are under way with Ray and RHS Music Director Chris Haskell to determine what part the Marching Band will play in the Association's 10th anniversary gathering on the school's Booth Street campus (please see registration coupon on page five of this newsletter). The band will be prepared for such a public appearance following a summertime band camp less than two weeks earlier, Ray said.

Ray also has indicated that the Marching Band is expected to nearly double in size during the 2005-06 school year from this year's 40-some members, providing the need for additional uniforms.

-- rhsaa --

October golf tourney begins activity for new foundation in Beasley name

Reno High School Alumni and friends have been invited to the Rosewood Lakes Golf Course in Reno on Oct. 1, for the first Bud Beasley Golf Tournament. Proceeds from the event will endow student athletics and academics at Reno High School, according to organizer James Davis.

Details of the shotgun start event, for both men and women, are available at www.budbeasleyfoundation.com.

Student journalists nationally recognized

Staff member from both the yearbook *Re-Wa-Ne* and the student newspaper *Red & Blue* returned to Reno High with awards presented during the JEA/NSPA Spring National Scholastic Journalism Convention in Seattle.

Sophomore Emily Hoops won a "superior" rating for Yearbook Layout: Interior Page Design; Junior Hannah Revak did the same for Yearbook Copy and Caption Editing; Senior Emily Stott was accorded "excellent" for Editorial Writing.; and Junior Brady Shea's "honorable mention" was for Editorial Cartoons.

Stodtmeister, Chuan awarded Alumni Scholarships

A young man with his eye on a major in Materials Science and Engineering, and a young woman who has not yet chosen her major field of study have been awarded the 2005 **Reno High School Alumni Association Scholarships** to continue their studies. Each will receive \$750 from the Asso-

ciation to help get their first year under way as college undergraduates.

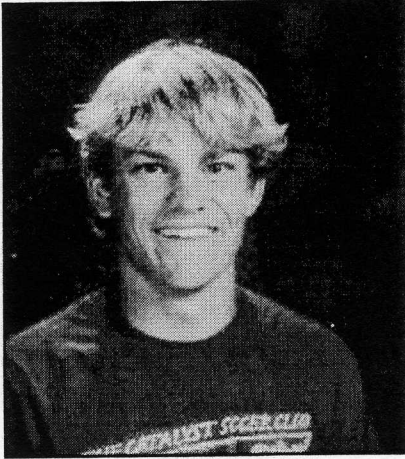
Alex Stodtmeister, son of Rod and Gay Stodtmeister has his eye on Brigham Young University if he is accepted, with the University of Nevada, Reno, as his second choice.

Alexandria Chuan, daughter of Wen and Conny Chuan is looking for admission to either Pomona College or Princeton University.

Stodtmeister carried a grade point average of 3.58 through four years at RHS, where he made time for four years on the varsity tennis team and one year in track and field. As a senior, he was a Leadership Student and served as Student Body Commission of Public Relations. His application for Eagle Scout rank is pending.

Chuan finished high school with a 3.93 GPA while competing in speech

and debate, and raised funds for the Nevada Cancer Institute. She was a Science Bowl member in the Academic Olympics, a staff member of the *Re-Wa-Ne* yearbook and the *Red & Blue* student newspaper and as a sophomore was first violinist in the Reno Philharmonic Youth Symphony Orchestra.



Alex Stodtmeister



Alexandria Chuan

Reno High School Alumni Association 10th Anniversary Reunion Picnic

Cost \$20 per person; \$10 for children under age 12

Name _____ Class Year _____ Telephone () _____

Maiden name _____ e-mail address _____

Mailing address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Our party will include _____ adults @\$20 each and _____ children @\$10 each. Total enclosed _____
Check _____ Money order _____. Please do **not** send cash!

We would like _____ hot dogs _____ hamburgers _____ chicken sandwiches _____ soft drinks _____ water

Note: Washoe County School District regulations prohibit alcoholic beverages on school property.

Please return to:
Reno High School Alumni Association
P. O. Box 5807
Reno, NV 89513-5807



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Reno, NV 89513

Pelizzari presidency extended to third one year term

It will be more of the same leadership for the RHSAA until the end of this year, as President Daryl Pelizzari led the incumbents to a re-election sweep during the January election of officers.

A Board comprising 12 returnees, plus newscomer Jerry Fenwick, chose to go with the experience while the latest Trustee chosen in November "gets his feet wet."

For Pelizzari, it will be a third consecutive one-year term, matching the service record of his predecessor, Joe Granata.

Fenwick was graduated from Reno High School in 1953.

The result means a Board comprising graduates during only three decades of the school's 126-year history, since 1879. Len Crocker ('43) and Ralph Casazza ('46) represent the

1940s, with Betty Jo Baker ('51), Fenwick, Joe Granata ('55), Alex Kanwetz ('57), Pelizzari ('52), Joanne Petre ('53), George Smith ('54) and Virginia Zorio ('55) from the following 10-year period, and Dave Minedew ('60) from the 1960s.

The complete list of Board members appears on page two of this issue of *Huskies Trails*, in the masthead that details meeting dates and ways to contact the Association.

The group also welcomed a new Counsel, as 1995 graduate Matt Gray came aboard as successor to John Frankovich, who had served since early in 1999.

Frankovich is credited with making possible construction of the on-campus Alumni Center, following successful negotiations with the Washoe County School Board for lease of the

property on which the building stands.

"The class grouping points out our need for newer and younger blood," Pelizzari said.

This is NOT our archive!

Computer users are receiving e-mail addressed to Reno High School graduates from an organization that calls itself "Alumni Archive for Reno High School."

Please be aware that this group has no connection to your Reno High School Alumni Association. Those who wish not to receive more such unsolicited e-mail may simply delete the message.

A reminder: your Association may be reached by e-mail at rhsaa@renohighalum.com.