

# **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION Class of 1927**

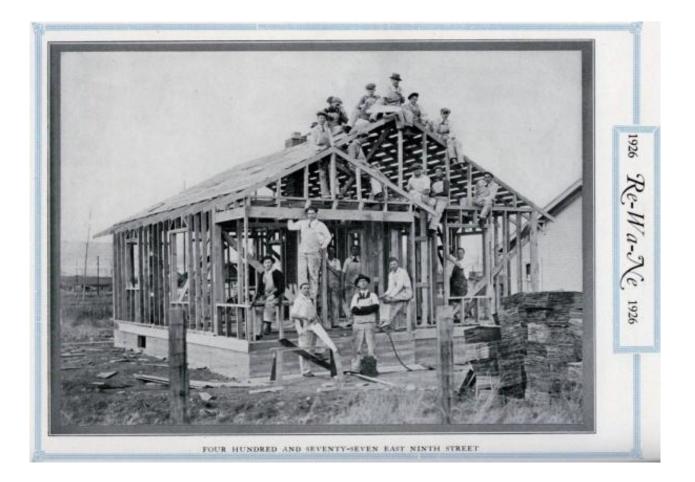


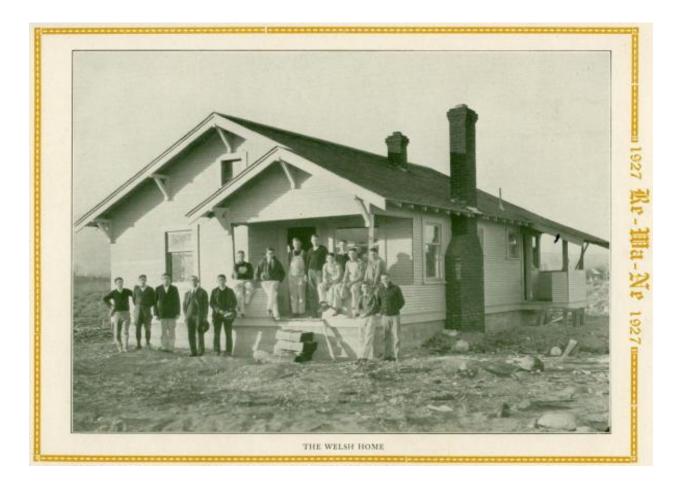
Text from the 1927 Re-Wa-Ne...:

THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION CLASS has passed another successful year, shown by the excellent and thorough work done by the school and community at large. The class not only has accomplished a great deal, but has gained much practical training and experience under the excellent supervision of Mr. Gray. Among the things completed this year are several chicken houses, ironing boards for the domestic science room, improvements and repairing of doors at the McKinley Park School; the conversion of the social room of the church at the Indian Settlement into a school; the re-arrangement of the stage, tables and benches for the Mothers' Club of the Mount Rose School, and many smaller but necessary jobs.

The biggest projects of the year, however, are two houses. The first of these the very modern and attractive five-room Welsh home, a picture of which on another page of this [Re-Wa-Ne], shows the house during construction. The second is a model cottage built at the Nevada Transcontinental Highway's Exposition grounds to be shown as a vocational exhibit. The various home economics classes of the state will place exhibits within this building.

The members of this class are: Calvin Banigan, Albert Beecher, Emmet Dermody, Wilber Gordon, Llovd Meffley, Kenneth Murray, Edwin Newman, Eddie Hanson, Paul Raine, Harlan Browne, Bill Daniels, Gordon Dunseath, Kenneth Hall, Waldo Leonard, Harold Ryan, Kenneth Smith and Sessions Wheeler.





The Reno High School Vocational Training's effort to reach out to the community and conduct a fund-raising program spanned many decades and gave many students the chance to not only learn, but to realize a sense of accomplishment.

Examples of this program may be found in different parts of our city. Pictured below is one of the later projects, built partially at Reno High School, then transferred to the site where it was completed.

Projects like this one demonstrate how the school system, in concert with the community as a whole can work toward the benefit of all.



Drive by this home at 1840 Mayberry Drive and see what the students and teachers accomplished – while you are at it, take a trip across town to East Ninth Street. Just east of our Washoe County School District administration building – located on the site of our original Foster Field – you will see five mid-1920 era homes built as school projects. Pictured on the preceding page is 477 East Ninth Street, adjoining the "Welsh" home.

#### Do you know your Reno history?

- 1. What year did the sales tax go into effect?
  - A. What was the amount?
  - B. What was offered to the merchants to collect the tax?
- 2. What was the name of the pictured highway entering Nevada from the west after 1927?



- 3. What was the name of the Ford dealership before Jones-West Ford?
- 4. Name the lumber mill that was where the Mayberry Industrial Park is now located?
- 5. What was the cause of the destruction of the Mayberry Bridge?
- 6. What were the names of the two restaurants earlier located where the Micasa Too is today?
- 7. What business was located on the southwest corner of Sierra and West Fourth Streets in the 1950s?
- 8. Name the Harley-Davidson/Indian motorcycle dealer during the 1940s, 50s and 60s.
- 9. What was the original name of Northside Junior High School located on East Fourth Street?
- **10. What year was the Harolds Club mural erected and where is it now?**

### My Grandmother

**By Larry Pizorno** 

My grandmother Virginia turned to my grandfather Nick, saying "I want to go to the movies, give me fifteen cents." Grandfather said "We cannot be that lavish with our money." Grandmother was surprised to the point that her reaction was "Well, you can bet I will never ask you for money again." She went to her sister Mary, and together they pooled their efforts and opened a bakery and cake shop named the Dainty Cake Shoppe, in downtown Reno on Second Street. This was in the late 1920s. In the late 1930s they moved to Sierra Street. next to J.C. Penney, Sears Roebuck, and the Sunshine Card Shop.

After WWII, my father, Roy Pizorno, the son of Nick and Virginia, opened the Dainty Fountain And Sweet Shoppe in the same building and they shared space. For many years it was the only home-made pastry and cake shop in Reno. It was *THE* place to meet and talk about any and everything while partaking of your favorite sweet.



In the 1950's, the unions were trying to organize Reno's work force. Roy told the union to go "away" and the union picketed his shop for 52 weeks – a whole year. In those days all the pickets were either his friends or schoolmates; therefore he treated them as friends. Roy rolled carpet out on the sidewalk so when they were walking the picket lines they were not on cold hard concrete. He also furnished them with coffee and donuts during the winter and cold drinks in the summer.

While I was in high school from 1952 to '56 I worked there afternoons and the shop was a hangout for all the kids at Reno High..

Both businesses operated until Del Webb built the Sahara Hotel and Casino on the site in 1963.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

At the January meeting, your Board of Trustees re-elected me to a second term as President. I'm grateful for the trust placed in me and look forward to another challenging and fulfilling year. Daryl Pelizzari remains on as Vice President in charge of Operations, Maurine Tuckett as Secretary, and Virginia Zorio as Treasurer. The new Vice President in charge of Membership is Cal Pettengill.

Cal is off to a running start! Many of you whom we refer to as "lapsed members" received our letter asking you to reconsider rejoining the Association, with many of the reasons for doing so. The response has been very good.

Our collection of RHS memorabilia continues to grow. The "docents" are kept busy cataloging and displaying the items. If you have anything to donate, we're happy to accept them. Daryl, as Operations Chairman, sees to it that the museum receives constant exposure. There will be many reunions this summer, and many of the groups are using our facilities for their meetings. So far, we've heard from the classes of 1947, 1952, 1957, 1982, and 1987. If we haven't been able to contact you and you are planning a reunion, please contact us. We will be happy to provide you with any help you may need.

Please consider using our facility for a Coffee Hour for your Reunion group some time during your celebration. There's so much to see and enjoy! Did you know that as far as we know, we're the only high school alumni association in the United States that has our own separate museum?

I'm pleased to tell you that Karl Breckenridge and Joan Anglin have agreed to cochair the committee to plan the All-School Picnic in 2008. Future plans will be forthcomingespecially for those classes that are planning reunions that year.

We're looking forward to the coming year! Please call me with suggestions or comments.

> Betty Jo Baker RHSAA President

Bud Beasley, Len Crocker, Joe Granata, Frank Petersen



**RECOGNITION OF A RETIRING TRUSTEE** 

The last of our Founding Fathers has retired. At our January Board meeting, the Trustees paid tribute to one of our co-founders, past President, and long time trustee — Len Crocker.

Following accolades from Board members, Len was presented with a plaque and a Certificate of Appreciation for all his years of dedicated service. In addition, the keys to the museum stamped with "#1" which he has carried all these years were "retired" and will be returned to him in the form of a special memento.

His final contribution and parting gift to us is a history of the Association from its beginning until the present. We wanted to include as much of it as possible in this and forthcoming issues. Because of its length, however, it is now available on our website. Or better yet, drop into the Museum any Friday between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., or Saturday between 10a.m. and 2 p.m. to view it. At the same time, you can see all the exciting things that are taking place here!

Thank you, Len, for all you have done for us. We couldn't have done it without the guidance of you and your other co-founders.





Remembering Angie Basso Pulvino 1907 - 2007

Some writing assignments are fulfilling; ones to look forward to. One such was of our friend Angelina Basso, from the Class of 1927. Late in 2006 your Association determined that she was the oldest graduate of Reno High School and would reach her 100<sup>th</sup> year this summer. To make the yarn even more rewarding, her son John Ghilieri and I, with some more guys have been getting together for coffee several mornings a week, for many years now.

Through John, I tried to get together with Angie often but she was having a few health challenges and the visits turned into tomorrow, tomorrow. But I wrote and rewrote her story in my mind many times over – I knew through John, and his sister Catherine Ewers (both RHS alums; a second daughter Ruthie passed away) that Angelina was born in a private home at the corner of Keystone and Jones Street on July 9<sup>th</sup> of 1907 (and I might note here, a year before the Dominican Order would convert St. Mary's from a convent to a hospital.)

I'd write that Angie, one of five brothers and sisters, would live the first 12 years of her life on the family's ranch north of the new University of Nevada campus on land later to become the Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic cemetery. Her family was smitten by influenza during the latter days of World War I and she would be basically orphaned, cared for by an uncle but eventually taken to the orphanage – the Nevada Children's Home in Carson City.

She'd reside there until the beginning of her senior year of high school, when she moved in with relatives in tiny Sparks, to ride the trolley each day to and from Reno High School and graduate in 1927. I kept mentally writing her story, continuing toward her marriage and later life, but that research stopped short as her strength waned in a Reno rest home.

Fast forwarding to mid-March, I had made arrangements with son John to visit her and complete the story. Your Alumni Association voted Angie Life Membership in the Association and our plan was to visit her and take her photo with John and Catherine, Angie holding her Life Member plaque. Huskies Trails honcho Neal Cobb and graphic designer Cal Pettengill could then put this issue "to bed" for print.

But Angie took a fall on the evening of March 21<sup>st</sup>, the night before the Thursday we were to meet. I called Ed Pine's house on that following Saturday morning – knowing that John would be there to tell me of Angie's status – but Eddy's voice told me something was out of whack. His next words broke my heart: Angie had passed away the night before, the day after we voted to honor her with Life Membership.

Angie loved our school; she remained bright as a dollar and attended her class reunions up to the last one, and enjoyed our newsletters and school news through John and Catherine. Her Life Member plaque is done; how we'd love to have placed a photo of her holding that plaque above this column. We came within a day of taking that shot...we'll give the plaque to John and Catherine.

...a friend

### Answers

1. 1955

A. 2 per cent

- B. The merchant was allowed to deduct 2 per cent of the 2 percent that she collected
- 2. U.S. Highway 40
- 3. Three were Calavada Ford, Richardson-Lovelock and Bartlett Ford
- 4. Tahoe Timber
- 5. A semi loaded with strawberries driven by a DUI candidate who ignored the posted load limit, got stuck on the bridge and caused its collapse
- 6. Circle RB and the Chinese Pagoda
- 7. Lee's Drive-In, directly across the street to the north was a funeral parlor just in case...
- 8. Oden's Cycle Works
- 9. Reno Junior High School from 1924 until the original B. D. Billinghurst was built in 1931

10. October 1949, and now located at the Livestock Events Center (Reno Rodeo Grounds)

## **4th Triennial All-Alumni Picnic**

For all alumni, teachers, administrators and staff

At Reno High School

August 17, 2008 11:00 am until 5:00 pm

For information, go to our website – www.renohighalum.com Or – call Karl Breckenridge @ 775-322-5017 or karlbreckenridge@msn.com

## JOIN US FOR LUNCH!

All are welcome

The first Friday of every month at 11:30 a.m.

#### **Topic: HDTV SETS & CONNECTIONS**

Order from the menu – separate checks GOLD 'N SILVER ~ West Room



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