First Ouarter Issue - 2010



The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT:

I am honored to be selected as the Reno High School Alumni Association President for 2010. Let me provide you with a little background information about myself. I go by "J.D." and come from a military family living in such places as Alaska, Massachusetts, Texas, Philippines and Japan. I graduated from Zama American High School in Japan in 1963. - - no, I am not a Reno High graduate. After graduating from Iowa State University in 1968, I received an Army commission in the field artillery and later Military Intelligence. My many command, staff, and instructor assignments took me to places like Germany; Vietnam; Okinawa, Japan; Macomb, Illinois; and Ft Lewis, Washington. In 1990 I retired as a lieutenant colonel with 22 years of service and was hired to be the Senior Army Instructor of the JROTC program at Reno High School. This was an enjoyable assignment as we more than doubled the enrollment and received Honor Unit with Distinction designation during the 18 years I served here.

I became familiar with the Alumni Center and Museum when I researched and wrote a book on the history of JROTC at Reno High from 1919 until 2008. Spending over a year in research, I became friends with the staff members, and they encouraged me to become a member of the Board of Trustees. I have served on the board for 2 years and during that time I wrote museum procedures, documented the history of the RHS Principals from 1869 to the present, and researched the varsity football coaches' win/loss record from 1912.

My wife of 43 years, Vicki, and I have three grown daughters, Jamie, Kellie, and Wendie and four grandchildren. Wendie is a 1998 RHS graduate.

I look forward to a great year serving on the board. As they rotate off the board this year, I would like to sincerely thank Betty Joe Baker and Virginia Zorio for their outstanding dedication and service these many years. We welcome new members Scott Jordan and Tom Farrer. I ask for your continued support of the association and museum and request that you contact and encourage your fellow classmates to visit the museum and become members of the association. We always need donations and volunteers.

J.D. Schnabel

RENO GIGG GLASS OF 1930 ~ 50 TO REUNION

Classmates;

If you have seen the webmaster's comments lately, I completely agree! This reunion is taking off!! Your planners had our luncheon meeting at Austin's Restaurant and again we invite you all to attend on the second Friday of the month.

We are close to finalizing our plans and costs, but there are still tons of detail to sort through. The following is the proposed schedule with estimated costs. I would like to know if this is enough "bang for your buck"? We have decided that you can pick or choose, that is, you can attend one, two or all the events and include the year book or buy it separately. (If you have seen the Class of '59s book that Pete and Ginger did, you won't pass up our book. It was really a professionally done piece of memorabilia)

Because you can pick and choose, we are suggesting a \$ 5.00 registration fee to cover the costs of stamps, decorations and other supplies.

OK, here are the proposed events with a short description:

Sept. 10th. Friday evening. 6pm till ??

Catered fancy hors d'oeuvres served and at stations for your evenings delight! Completely free and open bar serving wine, beers and a wide range of cocktails. Titillating and tantalizing conversation with your witty and delightful classmates. Estimated cost \$ 30.00 per person.

Sept. 11th. Saturday 12-3pm

Casual get together at Liz Richard's Ranch for soft drinks, wine, beer and snacks. Beautiful views with your buddies to share " in the day".

Estimated cost \$ 10.00 per person.

Saturday Night!! 6-10 pm

Come and enjoy a steak dinner at the California Building served by chef Denny A. and his familiar staff! Enjoy wine, beer or soft drinks and a local DJ who will spin all the platters we so dearly loved!! Dance your socks off or just enjoy the music with your "sweetie" or friends. Estimated cost \$ 35.00 per person.

Sept. 12th. Sunday Morning 6am till??

Are you still kicking? Boy do we have a deal for you!! Watch the Spectacular Reno Balloon Races from a van-tage point that local celebrities and notables have enjoyed in the past. Yes, it is at our own Pete and Ginger Salcedo's house!! A breakfast strata, Danish and beverages provided!!

Estimated cost \$15.00 per person.

Bound yearbook with colored pictures and bios. Cost \$ 40.00

We think this is a great package for our Fiftieth. One you won't want to miss! Come on folks, this is the "Big One"! The only cost here written in stone is for the bound yearbook. Well, that's our proposal!! Let us hear from you on what you think! We are open to all suggestions and they will be discussed.

Please try to attend our meetings!

Dave Minedew ~ www.rhsclassof60.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Long time Reno High teacher, Jack Neal, has died. Jack taught music, social studies/government and conducted the school band from 1965 until 2000. He also taught at Manogue High School for 6 years and wrote music and theater reviews for the Reno Gazette Journal. He was 77.
- 2. Tony Fiannaca, class of 51, just celebrated 50 years as president and founder of Sparks Florist.

YEARBOOKS NEEDED

We would appreciate any donation of RHS yearbooks from the following years: 1900-1911, 1928, 1938, 1943, 1946, 1950, 1951, 1959, 1965, 1971, 1973 - 1975, 1985, 1988, 2008, and 2009. RHS yearbooks were not published in 1942, 1944, and 1945 because of WWII.

RHS HALL OF FAME

In conjunction with the school administration, we are forming a committee to establish a Hall of Fame for Athletes and Coaches. There are currently 35 names on a banner in the gym, but none have been added since 2001. If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact us. We will be accepting nominations with justification in a few months.

REUNIONS AND CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

If you are wondering if your class will be having a reunion sometime in the future, please contact your class representative. You can find them by going on our website www.renohighalum.com, click on Reunion Information, then Reunion Contacts, and finally the year. There are no class representatives for the following years: 1971, 1981, 1883, 1990, 1993, 1994, and 2002-2009. If you are interested in being a class representative, please contact us.

This & That

RHS TRIVIA

- 1. The first mention of a RE-WA-NE yearbook was in 1918. Prior yearbooks were called Microcosm, Mirage, Comet, and Recuerdos.
- 2. RHS was the featured school in the national magazine, "Teen Time" in July 1962.
- 3. A question on Jeopardy was, "In 1985 Dirk Borgognone of Reno High School set a record that still stands at 68 yards." Answer: "What is a field goal."
- 4. The 1918 high school football season in Nevada was canceled because of a flu epidemic.
- 5. Reno School principals in the 1870's were paid \$115 per month.
- 6. The varsity football coach that served the longest was Herb Foster (1923-1948) 25 years.
- 7. The longest serving principal at RHS was Orvis Ring. He was principal for 11 years (1871-1882) then became the principal of Winnemucca schools. In 1885 he returned to serve another 5 years at RHS or a total of 16 years. E. Otis Vaughn and David Finch were principals for 14 years.
- 8. Reno High School was the only public high school until Wooster opened its doors in 1962.
- 9. At the entrance of RHS on the right side wall is a list of 46 students who lost their lives if WWII.
- 10. In the 1961-62 school year, the ROTC department had 485 cadets which made it one of the largest programs in the U.S. at that time.
- 11. The Reno Gazette Journal reported that Nevada's first female dentist was Helen Rulison Shipley (1870-1955). She was a 1888 graduate of RHS.

FREE YEARBOOKS

We have many extra yearbooks in certain years and will give a free yearbook with a new membership application. The yearbooks are from 1995 - 1998; 2000-2003; and 2007. This offer is good while supplies last.

A Little Humor SUPER BOWL

A man had 50 yard line tickets for the Super Bowl. As he sits down, a man comes down and asks if anyone is sitting in the seat next to him.

"No," he says, "The seat is empty."

"This is incredible," said the man. "Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the Super bowl, the biggest sporting event in the world and not use it?"

He says, "Well, actually, the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away. This is the first Super Bowl we haven't been to together since we got married in 1967."

"Oh, I'm sorry to hear that. That's terrible. But couldn't you find someone else - a friend or relative, or even a neighbor to take the seat?"

The man shakes his head. "No, they're all at the funeral."

HOW OLD IS GRANDPA???

A grandson asked his grandfather how old he was. The grandfather relied, "Well, let me think for a minute, I was born before: Television, penicillin, frozen foods, contact lenses, credit cards, ball-point pens, computers, walkman, VCRs, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, FM radios, yogurt, Xerox, panty hose, instant coffee, electric typewriters (what's that?), McDonald's, and man hadn't yet walked on the moon." "Let's see, that would make me......59 years old!"

MEMBERSUMP

SOME BELIEVE THAT IF THEY GRADUATED FROM RENO HIGH SCHOOL, THEY ARE AUTOMATICALLY MEMBERS OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.... NOT TRUE! THEY MUST JOIN THE ASSOCIATION AND PAY YEARLY DUES.

<u>2010 RUS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION</u> TRUSTEE BOARD OFFICERS:

President - J.D. Schnabel (Retired Teacher) Vice President of Operations - Daryl Pelizzari (1952) Vice President of Membership - Nettie Wong (1956) Secretary - Maurine Tuckett (1952) Treasurer - Gloria Garaventa (1951)

TRUSTEES:

Neal Cobb (1958) Scott Jordan (1986) Tom Farrer (1956) Jerry Fenwick (1953) Betty Munley (1951) Larry Pizorno (1956)

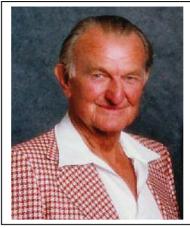
We want to welcome a new board member - Tom Farrer from the class of 1956. He lives in Carson City and has already contributed greatly to the board meetings. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact us.

CURRENT RUS ADMUNUSTRATORS

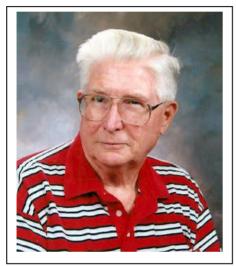
Robert Sullivan - Principal Linda Feroah - Assistant Principal Brian Rothe - Assistant Principal Kris Hackbusch - Assistant Principal Mike Edwards - Dean of Students.

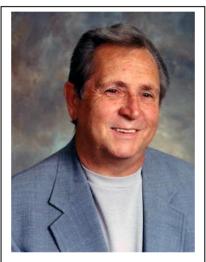
Kris Hachbusch is new this year having spent 10 years at Reed High School where he taught English, and was Dean of Students and Assistant Principal. He replaced Tasha Fuson who is now the Principal of Spanish Springs High School.

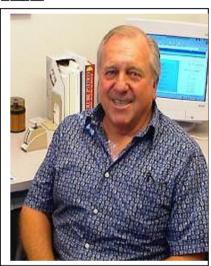
Our Founder Bud L. Beasley



The Presidents of RHSAA







Len Crocker ~ Class of 1943

Joe Granata ~ Class of 1955

Daryl Pelizzari ~ Class of 1952



Betty Jo Baker ~ Class of 1951



J.D. Schnabel ~ Retired Teacher

My mind was in the gutter (ball)...

I walked into the Nevada Historical Society a while back in my vermillion shirt with the black short sleeves, Sascha the Hamm's Beer bear embroidered on one pocket, "Walker & Melarkey's Flying A" across the back and the shirt-tail hanging out. NHS head librarian Mike Maher looked up.

"Writing about bowling next Sunday are we, Karl?" he asked, laconically. I replied in the affirmative and descended into the abyss of the microfilm grotto.

For the king of old bowling alleys, we'll focus on the YMCA, then located in downtown Reno on East First Street between Virginia and Center. The earliest reference I could find about bowling in Reno was in a March 1909 Nevada State Journal, and not in the sports section but the society page – bowling was fast becoming an acceptable diversion for young ladies, nationally and here in our valley. "Clubs", which I surmise we now call "leagues", were forming in town. And Thursday evenings were now reserved for ladies at the Y, which was open for bowling every night every night but Sunday. (The Y blew up in 1952.)

Print references are scarce for quite a number of years following 1909; the Downtown Bowl at 130 North Center Street pops up in a few sports pages' references to tournaments. But, in the April 19, 1937 Reno Evening Gazette, pay dirt: We read of the phenomenal new "Reno Recreation Palace" ballyhooed on South Virginia at Ryland. I was unfamiliar with that stately pleasure dome, and opened a Sanborn map expecting to see eight or 10 city blocks devoted to civic revelry. But I found only a bowling alley we knew as the Reno Bowl, which adjoined a theater we knew as the Tower Theater. A movie theater in the same building as a bowling alley is a specious use of space, soundwise - many of us recall a dashing and tuxedoed Errol Flynn sweeping a gowned Maureen O'Hara off her Guccis on the Lido deck of a luxury liner; violins soaring, the full moon on high dancing on the liner's wake as the palm-lined island faded into the background on the Tower's silver screen. Contemporaneously as Errol planted a major lip-lock on Maureen, a bowling ball on the other side of the paper-thin wall crashed into the pins to complete a turkey as the inebriated keglers in the Reno Bowl bellowed and whooped and high-fived each other. Romance may not be dead, but at the Tower Theater it was frequently in ICU. That alley had human pinsetters; it should be noted that one bowler actually rolled a 301 (the pinsetter had a wooden leg).

On downtown Sparks' B Street/Lincoln Highway/ Highway 40 (and now Victorian Avenue) from Home Furniture's new Sparks store – now Terrible's Rail City Casino – and next door to the Elbow Room, where that wasn't sawdust on the floor but last night's furniture, came a new, post-war bowling alley. The Sparks Bowlarium opened on Jan. 18, 1949 with eight, count 'em, eight lanes; in 1958 the building would be enlarged and the lanes doubled to 16. It then had a real twist: automatic electric pinsetters – the

kid resetting pins in the "pit," working two or three lanes and ducking inbound bowling balls for all his life – would soon be but a memory. (It should be mentioned somewhere that the alleys then, as today, had cocktail lounges, food service, and at most, child care and dancing.)

A long way out on South Virginia, almost to the end of Reno at Moana Lane (before Moana even existed east of South Virginia) Reno got its first post-war bowling alley. The Town & Country (now High Sierra Lanes) was opened in April of 1958. I'm stumped as to its original lane count; it is clear in both the Gazette and the Journal that at least some of that alley's original lanes were taken from the Downtown Bowl, which closed that year. (I mentioned in a column a while back that that building downtown was taken over by Harrah's for office space.)

Back to Sparks now, just off Eighth Street – now Pyramid Way – to the newish Greenbrae Center – another new alley opens in August of 1960. The Greenbrae Lanes featured 24 lanes. And my Sparks readers are probably wondering if I could possibly deign to mention "Greenbrae Lanes" without also scribing "Driftwood Lounge" in the same sentence. That would be a travesty I won't commit – the walls of the adjacent and fabled Driftwood could probably tell more tales than all the cocktail lounges in Reno or Sparks put together. The alley closed, but the lounge is still open for business, and we'll give the Archueleta family a plug here and our thanks for the decades that they operated it.

Keystone Avenue was finally cut through northward from the railroad tracks and the Starlight Bowl opened on West Sixth Street near Keystone on Dec. 10, 1961. It's been a winner ever since; when it opened with 44 lanes it was the biggest alley in Nevada. Sterling Village Lanes, toward the north end of Valley Road near old Bishop Manogue High School, opened on July 10, 1964; it closed in the 1980s and now houses a small market. The big Kahuna of local public alleys is now within the Grand Sierra Resort; before it opened in 1978 as the MGM Grand its 50 lanes were shipped to Reno and installed temporarily at the Coliseum (OK, the Convention Center) for a summer-long national tournament, then were relocated to the brand-new MGM following that tournament.

Another big bowling alley opened in Reno in 1994 downtown on the old Northside school site but it's basically a private building built with public funds so I won't write about it. But, I will end with the note that the family that prays together, stays together; the family that bowls together, splits. Have a good week; avoid life's 7 - 10 split, and God bless America!

Contact Karl Breckenridge at <u>karlbreckenridge@msn.com</u>



Huskies trails is published by the Board of Trustees of the *Reno High School Alumni Association*

And distributed to members and selected friends of the Association.

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PRESIDENT	J D Schnabel	Retired Teacher
VP/OPERATIONS	Daryl Pelizzari	1952
VP/MEMBERSHIP	Nettie Wong	1956
SECRETARY	Maurine Tuckett	1952
TREASURER	Gloria Garaventa.	1951

TRUSTEES:	Neal Cobb1958
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