

Huskies Trails

The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association

THE PRESIDENT'S TWO CENTS WORTH

I think we missed winter this year which is alright with me. Spring is my favorite season except for a bit of allergies. I hope all of you are doing well.

The big news this quarter is the passing of one of our most distinguished alumni – Senator Bill Raggio, Class of 1944. He was a great supporter of the Alumni Association and will be greatly missed by family, friends, and associates. Bill attended the All-Class Alumni Picnic last summer and presented us with a signed copy of his book, "A Man of His Word."

We are getting ready to award four scholarships to deserving seniors. A look at our scholarship account reveals that we are in need of donations to maintain the scholarship program. We would appreciate any contribution which can be sent to RHSAA P.O Box 5807 Reno, NV 89513. Thanks for your continued support.

Two members of the board are also members of the Reno High School Athletic Hall of Fame committee – Daryl Pelizzari and Scott Jordan. They have scheduled a dinner and ceremony for the Spring inductees on May 19th at the Eldorado Hotel & Casino. More information is found in this newsletter.

We have provided a list of reunions that are scheduled this summer and points of contact. If you are a member of these classes, contact the reunion representative for more information. If there are other reunions planned, please provide us the details by leaving a message at (775) 852-2586 or email us at rhsaa@renohighalum.com

J.D. SCHNABEL President, RHSAA

FAREWELL TO BILL RAGGIO



William Raggio, former Washoe County District Attorney, the longest serving state senator in Nevada history, successful gaming attorney, and one of Nevada's most admired citizens, died of respiratory illness while on vacation in Sydney, Australia with his wife, Dale, on February 24. He was 85.

Bill was born on October 30, 1926 in Reno and attended local schools. He was elected Northside Junior High Student Body President and graduated from Reno High School in January 1944. While at Reno High, he participated in many activities including the ROTC program, TNT Club that organized pep rallies, and the Delta Sigma fraternity. He was active in Boy Scouts, and in 1989 received the National Distinguished Eagle Scout award. After graduation, Bill enlisted in the Navy and graduated from officer training school as a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps at the end of World War II. He attended the University of Nevada, Reno, Louisiana Tech University, and the University of Oklahoma. Bill later obtained a law degree from the Hastings College of Law and a master's degree in law from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkley. Bill was District Attorney in Washoe County from 1958 to 1970 and was named "Outstanding Prosecutor in the United states."

In 1972, he was elected to the Nevada State Senate representing Washoe County and where he served for five decades, ten of those years were as majority leader. He set a record for the longest serving public official in Nevada history – fifty-six years. Raggio developed a reputation as a master of the legislative process, a skilled negotiator and a leading voice for education excellence. The UNR College of Education is named after Bill Raggio and a bronze bust was placed in the Reno-Tahoe airport with a plaque honoring him as the "Father of the Airport Authority." He retired in January 2011.

A book that characterizes the life and times of Senate Bill Raggio was published entitled, "A Man of His Word" by Michael Archer. About 1,500 people attended his funeral at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Nevada has lost a favorite son.

AROUND THE RHS CAMPUS

- 1. RHS Dean of Students, Mike Edwards, and his wife, Crystal, Class of 2000 and RHS English teacher, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Kane, born on December 9, 2011. Congratulations!
- 2. Nick Norton was selected to the 2011 All-North 4A Football team.
- 3. The Girls Ski Team placed first in State. Clair De Angeli and Zana Bensing placed first in girls and boys individual awards at State.
- 4. The girls basketball team competed in State, but lost in the final game to Reed H.S. Sierra Sobrio was selected for the All-North 4A girls basketball team.
- 5. Wrestlers Joey Lavallee and Terence Mason won State in their weight classes. Joey was selected as 4A Player of the Year with a 50-3 overall record.
- 6. David Abittan was selected to the All-North 4A basketball team.
- 7. Varsity boys basketball coach, Kyle Schellin, has resigned to spend more time with his new family. He led the Huskies to a 4A State championship in 2006, won four league championships, and had a 134-67 record.

MUSEUM REPORT

Many of you may not be aware of the fact that a group of ladies whom we refer to as our Museum "Docents" come in several times a month to rotate items in the display cases and to catalog and itemize all items being donated or loaned to us. In addition, they spend many hours setting up photo albums trying to identify past and present alumni.

As far as we know, we have the only "free-standing" Alumni museum in the country. A fact we're very proud of. If you've never had a chance to visit our Museum, please take a few minutes to come in. We are open every Friday from 2:00 P.M until 5:00 P.M. and on Saturdays from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. We look forward to seeing you!



HONORING THE TRACHOKS

Fran and Dick Trachok were honored on February 12, 2012 at a testimonial brunch at the Eldorado Hotel Casino for their enormous contributions during the past 60 years.

After serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II, Dick enrolled at Nevada in 1946 and played football on the 1946, '47, and '48 teams. The '47 and '48 teams played in bowl games. He had a highly successful stint as a teacher and football and track coach at Reno High School, compiling a 70-21-3 record and six state championships. In 1958, Dick returned to UNR as its football coach, then became the athletic director in 1970, a position he held for the next 16 years. Dick retired in 1986, was awarded the title of Athletic Director Emeritus, and continued to support UNR athletics over the years. He is a walking history book of everything associated with Wolf Pack athletics going back to the 1940s.

Fran Trachok, along with raising the couple's three children, has been a teacher and a lifelong community volunteer. She served as a "Pink Lady" for many years at St. Mary's Hospital, working on numerous fundraisers for the hospital guild. She volunteered with St. Thomas Aquinas, Our Lady of Snows, and other Catholic charities. Fran helped launch the Nevada Museum of Art, serving on the Nevada Arts Council and promoting art programs in schools.

Testimonial presentations were given by Gov. Brian Sandoval, Reno Mayor Bob Cashell, former state Sen. Bill Raggio (one of his last public appearances), Wolf Pack football coach Chris Ault, and University President Marc Johnson.

THIS & THAT

RHS ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME DINNER

The Spring 2012 Induction dinner is scheduled on May 19th at the Eldorado Hotel & Casino in the Bordeaux Room at 5:30 P.M. Tickets may be purchased at RHS from Tina Rooker at \$50 and tables of eight may be reserved for \$400. Tickets may be purchased at the door the night of the event for \$60.

This year's inductees are: John Engs, Dodie Post Gann, Mike Legarza, George Ochs, Tom Owens, Dan Plater, Tiffany Shaw, and Dick Trachok.

The RHS Athletic Hall of Fame committee members are Brian Roth, Jim Pace, Daryl Pelizzari, Scott Jordan, and Jeff Tomac. You may contact any of them with your recommendation for next year's Hall of Fame inductees.

Stacy May-Johnson, Class of 2002, was named the 2011 USA Softball Female Athlete of the Year. She is a member of the USA Softball Women's National Team playing short-stop and third base. The team won the World Cup title.

Artist **Matthew Lew**, Class of 1998, was featured in a RGJ Arts and Cultural article. He opened a gallery in Chicago's River West section and is gaining a strong client base that includes President Barack Obama. In October, Obama presented South Korean President Lee Myungbak with one of Lew's paintings of the Chicago cityscape.

Matthew Linaman, Class of 2009, a cellist, won a music competition at UNR's Nightingale Concert Hall in January.

David Funk, Class of 1961, was featured in an RGJ Captains of Industry article. David is the senior vice president and Nevada regional manager of Umpqua Bank. The bank on Virginia Street at Moana Lane is undergoing a renovation that will add a coffee shop and offer free wifi and meeting spaces, and make the bank the flagship in the state.

Blast from the Past: In 1945, the school offered a girl's P.E. course during 7th period.... Riflery. The class offered fundamentals of a marksmanship and had 21 girls sign up. The class was under the direction of ROTC instructor, Sergeant Sherman, and the best shooters formed a shooting team that competed with other female rifle teams.

The YMCA of the Sierra on Foster Drive closed its doors after 100 years in operation due to declining membership and contributions, depressed economic conditions and increased competition from private fitness centers. The YMCA played a big part in the lives of Reno High students over the years.

2012 CLASS REUNIONS

The summer of 2012 is fast approaching. With it, various class reunions will be occurring. Plans are already in progress for the following classes and their contacts:

	<u>YEAR</u> 1951	CONTACT Betty Jo Baker – 851-3203 Gloria Garaventa – 826-4950	DATE August 18	
	1953	Joanne Petre – 323-7770	No Date Yet	
	1957	Sharon Walbridge – 322-5833 Dorthiann Taylor – 787-6308	October 12, 13, 14	
	1962	Cheri Huntoon – 626-3627 Carol Freeman – 747-4877	July 13, 14, 15	
	1967	Candy Fife – <u>clfife@aol.com</u> Earlene Forsyth – 827-2630	July 27, 28	
	1972	Liane McCombs – 786-5186	July 28	
	1982	Rachael Ferrari – 323-4500 Nancy Cummins – 329-9939	August 10, 11, 12	
	1992	Jeffie DiGrazia – <u>captainglover@mac.com</u> Kristin Burgarello – kburgarello2unr.edu Nicole Riberiro – 851-3904	August 18	
NOTE: The Class of 1062 is looking for anyone who would like to help plan their EO ^t				

NOTE: The Class of 1963 is looking for anyone who would like to help plan their 50th Reunion in 2013. Call Gayle Quinn at 329-8558 or email her at pgcar745@bcglobal.net.

WHAT IS A CLASS REUNION?

A class reunion is.....

- 1. Trying desperately to get into the same dress you wore the day you graduated.
- 2. Dancing with your school beau and trying to remember what you even saw in him.
- 3. Finding it hard to believe that the balding man with the potbelly was the captain of the football team.
- 4. Introducing your husband to everyone except the classmate who almost became your husband.
- 5. See your principal and still being nervous.
- 6. Meeting an impeccably groomed woman in high-fashion clothes and realizing that she was the slob you once shared a locker with.
- 7. Showing snapshots of your children...again, again, and again.



Ivan C. Slotto August 31, 1925-March 16, 2012

Ivan C. Slotto passed away peacefully on Friday, March 16, 2012. He was 86 years old. Ivan was born August 31, 1925 to Minnie and Ole Slotto in Fillmore, North Dakota. He was one of twelve brothers and sisters, all of whom predeceased him.

At a young age, Ivan knew the importance of education and left home to pursue his dream of a High School Diploma. He worked on local area farms in order to fulfill that dream. Ivan was drafted by the Army upon graduation in 1943 and joined the Paratroopers serving in France until the Wars end, when he was awarded the Purple Heart.

After returning home, he attended college in Colorado where he earned his teaching degree. Ivan moved to Reno in 1950 for his first teaching position at Reno High School, where he taught Chemistry for seventeen years. He later achieved a Masters in Education and a Masters in Administration. Ivan left Reno High to go into administration at Wooster High School and Swope Middle School retiring in 1980, when he began his second career as a much sought after handyman.

Ivan met and married the love of his life, Sara in 1950 and was blessed with two children. He leaves behind his beloved wife Sara, son Andrew Slotto, daughter Jenice (By) Sprenger, granddaughter Corrie (Cecchi) Thomas, and great-grandson William Thomas. He will be sorely missed.

A Celebration of Life was held at Bricks Restaurant.

Washoe County School District



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