



Huskies

Trails

The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope everyone's summer was enjoyable. Summertime is a great season for the alumni museum. The warm weather seems to get people reminiscing about their days at Reno High. I hope you were one of the many who made the trip down to the Alumni Museum to revisit some of your fondest memories and to acquaint yourself with old friends and old traditions. If not, why not come on down any Friday from 2 – 5 p.m. or Saturday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Bring along family members and tell them what it was like to be a student at Reno High.

The highlight of my summer was when the Class of 1963 spent time at the museum and the school for their 50th reunion. After they received a briefing on the history of Reno High School and Alumni Association, I was lucky enough to bring a large group on a tour through the school. We visited classrooms, the library, and the gymnasium. I brought the group through my biology classroom and had a man push his way to the front of my room and sit in the desk second row back, second seat from the window and say, "This was my seat. I had biology in this room with Mr. Simonian." That was so cool for me because I appreciate Reno High's rich tradition. I have been teaching in this room for the last 10 years and really enjoy all the history that my predecessors have left behind. My classroom looks like a museum. It's full of specimens of both living and preserved organisms. Do you remember your biology class when you were here at Reno High? The most memorable part of my tour took place under the dome on the ground floor hallway by the main office. Do you remember the dome? If you do, you probably remember its' unique acoustical quality of echoing. The Class of 1963 got together for a group picture under the dome and then to my delight sang the school song. The class of 1963 had not lost a note in the last 50 years and this gave me goose bumps. I have coached football here for the last 20 years and the players still celebrate every victory by singing the school song to our fans.

In planning your future reunions, you may want to consider having a social gathering at the museum and perhaps we could arrange a tour of the school for your class.

Reminder: The annual RHSAA Board meeting will be held on December 5, 2013 at 4 p.m. All members are welcome to attend.

Enjoy your fall and come back for a visit.

Scott Jordan
President, RHSAA

1898 Football Team



The staff of the 1928 RHS yearbook, Re-Wa-Ne, wanted to know what life was like in 1898 compared with 1928 and asked several members of the 1898 football team to respond 30 years later. These are their answers:

FRANK LEONARD – “1898! To you, the present members of Reno High, I suppose that seems like ancient history, but to me it was only yesterday. Some of the older boys had enlisted and gone to the Spanish-American War, and the old school was a little shy of materials for a team that year. The entire high school occupied only two rooms in the old building, about sixty or seventy student and three teachers. Football, baseball and track were the sports at that time for the boys. The girls took up basketball the next year....”

E.W. CHISM – “In comparing our present-day football with the game played thirty years ago there is some difference. At that time the boys did not have a football field, but played on West Street between Fifth and Sixth. A cow pasture nearby was sometimes used when the owner would permit; this was found much softer for hard falls. The team did not have suits furnished, but each player had his mother make him a pair of pants and he used an old sweater. The favorite flying wedge play, where so many were hurt, is not seen now. The forward pass that is used so much now, was against the rules. The present game is not as brutal as that of thirty years ago; then a game was not considered much unless three or four were carried off the field.”

HARRY CHISM – “We owned one ball that was used for both practice and games, and as a rule it was very much out of shape. The Hon. P.A. McCarran was our coach, without pay. Each player furnished his own suit and no admission was charged for games so there was never any question of finances. We had games with Carson High, Stewart, and the University of Nevada Freshmen. I believe, however, that the old time teams established a precedent which has been successfully carried on by the later elevens – a precedent of seeing Reno High usually on the winning end.”

ALBERT STEWART – “Mr. Gus Hoffman, principal of the Truckee High School, was a member of the football team in '97 and '98.

AROUND THE RHS CAMPUS

1. On September 10, the Nevada Supreme Court held hearings in the Reno High School Gym. Junior and Senior classes watched oral arguments for two cases and then had a short question and answer session with the seven Justices. Chief Justice Kristina Pickering, Class of 1970, and Justice James Hardesty, Class of 1966, are both Reno High Alumni.
2. Crystal Edwards (Class of 2000), an English teacher and Leadership Advisor, was awarded KRNV News 4's, "Excellence in Education" award for July. She was presented this honor at the August WCSD Board meeting.
3. RHS Sophomore Katarina Clark, 15, will represent Nevada in this year's Miss America's Outstanding Teen Pageant in Orlando, Florida. Her platform is to combat bullying. She believes that by telling a trusted adult, never fighting fire with fire, and always believe in yourself, you can rise above those who try to put you down.
4. There are currently 21 RHS teachers and staff who graduated from Reno High.
5. Lt Col (Retired) Nicole Gardner is the new Senior Army Instructor (SAI) of the JROTC program at Reno High. She is a UNR graduate, served in the U.S. Army for 21 years, and is the first female SAI in the history of the school district.

SCAVANGER HUNT



By Brien Karlin (Class of 2001), Social Studies Teacher & RHSAA Board Member

During the first week of school and after introductions have been made, Mr. Matt Ochs (Varsity Basketball Coach and Social Studies teacher) and I take a class field trip to the Alumni Center/Museum. We have been teaching this lesson for the past three years and have been very happy with the response we have received from the students. Our objective for this lesson is to show that history doesn't have to be big – like the history of the world or of the United States – it can be small, like the history of your family or school. Also, we want our students to understand that they are carrying on a very rich and proud tradition and to understand that ideas and values can change over time. Definitely a tall order. We divided our classes into groups and assigned each group a decade from the 1920s-2000s. Their task was to find two artifacts in the museum and investigate two yearbooks from their assigned decade. The students really enjoyed looking through the museum and reading the yearbooks. Some of my favorite comments were: "The girls in the 1950s dressed more conservatively than we do!" "Why did so many guys have dirty mustaches in the 1970s?" "My mom looked really cute with braces in 1980!" Generally, both Mr. Ochs' and my classes seem to really enjoy their tour of the Alumni Center. All students were curious about the history of their school and were appreciative of being a Reno Huskie!

REUNION UPDATE

Fall is upon us, but what a fun summer for reunions – eleven of them! Still pending is the Class of 1956 on Saturday, October 5. Call Jerry Smith at 826-8994 if you were a member of that class and haven't signed up yet.

Reunions ranging from Len Crocker's 70-year Class of 1943 to the 2003 class enjoyed getting together with former classmates and friends.

All feedback received was positive. Two of the classes – the 40-year Class of 1973 and the 50-year Class of 1963 hosted coffee hours in the Alumni Museum receiving briefings on the history of Reno High and the Alumni Association. The Class of 1963 was treated to a tour of Reno High School by our Alumni President, Scott Jordan, as shown by the pictures below. Many participants joined the Association and several became Life Members. Thanks for your support!



Some classes have opted to get together every year now – namely the “senior” groups of 1951, 1953, and 1956 (as listed above). So if you feel like getting together for a “just because” function, don't hesitate. You'll be glad you did.

Our next All-Class Reunion is scheduled for Sunday, August 17, 2014. Keep that in mind if you're planning your reunion in 2014. The 40-year class of 1974 has already started planning. It isn't too early to do the same. If you have any questions or need help, please call the Alumni office at 825-2586, your class representative, or Betty Jo Baker at 851-3203.

RENO HIGH'S CLASS OF 1943 CELEBRATES 70-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



The following article appeared in the Sunday, September 1, 2013 addition of the RGJ (Northern Nevada Section) by Guy Clifton:

"Better Friends Now"

Jack Dieringer looked at his former Reno High classmates the other night and with a twinkle in his eye, announced that he could name the top three things on all of their appointment calendars.

"Doctor's appointment, doctor's appointment, doctor's appointment," Dieringer, 87, said with a laugh.

The 11 members of the Reno High Class of 1943 – along with a few dozen invited guests and family members who converged on the Gold'N Silver Restaurant for the class' 70th anniversary reunion – laugh along with him.

The classmates included Len Crocker, Harriet (Anderson) McGuire, Jack Dieringer, Rose (Nannini) Meredith, Wilma Birks, Mel Cooper, Jean (Bicknell) Persson, Bill Goff, Blanche (Capurro) Johnson, Marshall Johnson and Betty (Zang) Waltenspiel. (They appeared in this order in the photograph but without Waltenspiel) Several others had planned to attend but had to bow out at the last minute.

It was a night to laugh and smile and hug and swap stories about kids and grandkids and great-grandkids; to reminisce about friends they've lost, and, yes, their latest doctor's appointment.

This class, which graduated 166, attended the "old" Reno High, at the corner of Fifth and West streets.

"We were close together and we did things together," said Crocker. "Only two of the guys in the class actually owned cars. Some of us still rode bicycles to school, including me. We brought our lunch to school in brown paper bags and would go down to Wingfield Park and feed our crumbs to the ducks while we ate our lunch."

"The best part of it is all the friendships that have lasted through the years," said Rose (Nannini) Meredith, 87. "Our 20th (in 1963) was huge. It gets smaller and smaller every time we meet."

Belated Homecoming

It was at the 50th anniversary reunion (in 1993) when the classmates recalled that they didn't have a homecoming in 1943. It was the middle of World War II and Principal Earl Wooster put the kibosh on such celebrations, wanting to keep expenses low.

"It was a serious time," said Mel Cooper. "All the guys knew when they got out of school, or as soon as they turned 18, they were gone (into the service). A lot of guys enlisted."

Cooper had tried to enlist in the Army Air Corps not long after the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor, but he wasn't 18 and his father wouldn't agree to it.

Two weeks after graduation, he was in boot camp in San Diego, assigned to the Navy and shortly after that, he was operating landing crafts "all over the South Pacific."

No homecoming that year and no homecoming king and queen, so at their 50th reunion, which was held at the Peppermill, the classmates took care of it, electing their senior class president Marshall Johnson as the King and Meredith as the queen.

The Class of '43 has a long history with the Reno High School Alumni Association. Crocker was the charter president of the association and Meredith and the late Joe Elcano were both on the first board.

"Our class started the association scholarship fund with a donation of \$1,000," Crocker said.

While it will be another five years before an official class reunion, Crocker said classmates are always checking up on one another.

"Every time we get together, we realize we're probably better friends now than when we were in school," he said. "These are good friends."

LARRY PIZORNO

Larry Pizorno, RHS Class of 1956 and member of the RHS Alumni Association Board of Trustees was featured in the Sunday, September 8, 2013 addition of the RGJ (Northern Nevada Section) by Guy Clifton. This is a portion of that article:



Relishing his role as Reno's goodwill ambassador

Larry Pizorno falls into that broken-mold class of Truckee Meadows characters we've grown to love through the years.

Like "the Waver," "the Skateboard Dude" and "Pro-Life Andy," Pizorno is a bit of an iconic figure in the Reno area.

He's also, perhaps, one of Reno's greatest goodwill ambassadors.

While you might not know him by his name, you'll probably recognize the white handlebar moustache that tops an ever-present smile, the wolf-skin cloak he wears to University of Nevada football and basketball games or the truck he drives around town with its flags waving.

Oh, and he is not off his rocker or on drugs. He's just a guy who loves to have fun.

"I've always been outgoing, and extrovert or whatever, always," says Pizorno, 74. "Even in school, I was different. I've always marched to my own drummer. I've always been making people laugh and smile and happy in anything I do. I think that's what gives me reason to get up in the morning."

A UNR football season ticket holder for about 40 years, he goes to every home game – usually arriving a couple of hours before kickoff so that he can walk around the tailgate areas and meet friends old and new, welcome the opposing team's fans to Mackay Stadium, pose for photos and, generally, encourage everyone to enjoy the game. For Pizorno, it's all about having fun and spreading cheer.

"It's like I'm living a second childhood," he said. "Well, my first childhood. I guess I've never outgrown the first."

THIS AND THAT

1. UCLA Bruins baseball team won the NCAA College World Series baseball championship by beating Mississippi State 8-0. The team is coached by John Savage, RHS Class of 1983. Pat Gallagher, Class of 2010, played first base on the winning team. John is the brother of Pete Savage, Class of 1979, who is the RHS baseball coach.
2. The late Glenn Little, Class of 1958, and longtime director of the Reno Municipal Band was honored by having the Wingfield Park Amphitheater named after him. Little was a Reno High School freshman when he joined the band, spending 55 years with the group, including 31 as its conductor. Reno Mayor Bob Cashell presented the proclamation to Glenn's wife, Lonnie.
3. Gene Durbin, RHS Social Studies teacher, driver's education instructor, and golf coach from 1966 to 1983, recently died.
4. Leif Anderson, Class of 2005, placed second in the recent Journal Jog.

HUMORIOUS CORNER

LINE UP, MEN!

After everyone on earth was dead and waiting to enter Heaven, God appeared and said, "I want the men to make two lines. One line for the men who were true heads of their household and the other line for those who were dominated by their women. I want all the women to report to St. Peter."

Soon, the women were gone, and there were two lines of men. The line of the men who were dominated by their wives was 100 miles long, and in the line of men who truly were heads of their household, there was only one man.

God said to the long line, "You men should be ashamed of yourselves; I created you to be the head of your household. You have been disobedient and have not fulfilled your purpose. Of all of you, only one obeyed. Learn from him."

God turned to the one man, "How did you manage to be the only one in this line?"

The man replied, "My wife told me to stand here."

A POLICE STOP AT 2 A.M.

An elderly man is stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and is asked where he is going at this time of night. The man replies, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asked, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replies, "That would be my wife."

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

A group of 40 year old girls discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally, they agreed to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because the waiters are cute and buff.

10 years later, at 50 years of age, the group decided to meet again at Ocean View Restaurant because the food is very good and the wine selection is excellent.

10 years later, at 60 years of age, the group again decided to meet at the same restaurant because they can eat there in peace and quiet where they can hear one another. There is also a Senior Citizen's Discount, and the restaurant has a beautiful view of the ocean.

10 years later, at 70 years of age, the group selected the Ocean View Restaurant because the restaurant is wheel chair accessible and they even have an elevator.

10 years later, at 80 years of age, the group once again discussed where they should meet for dinner. Finally they agree to meet at the Ocean View Restaurant because they have never been there before.



NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
RENO, NV
PERMIT #217

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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