



Huskie Trails

The Official Newsletter of the Reno High School Alumni Association

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Fellow Huskies!

I'd like to introduce myself. I am Kathy (Bonk) Wilcox, 1982 RHS graduate. I will be fulfilling the duties of the President this year. After RHS, I went to the University of Washington, graduating in March 1987 with a degree in Psychology (after trying a few other majors and Dad saying I need to graduate!). I worked for Key Bank in Seattle until 1990 when I got hired by the FAA as an Air Traffic Controller. My career took me to Oklahoma City for training, Palo Alto Tower, Oakland Tower, Bay TRACON (RADAR approach control) in Oakland, CA, and Northern California TRACON in Mather, CA. I retired in 2014 and moved back to Verdi, living in my grandparents' old house with my husband, Scott, and Koda, our husky/malamute. My Mom (1953 RHS grad) is right next door in the house where I was raised. So glad to be home!

I would like to thank John Watson (1965), past President and Treasurer and all-around nice guy. He was instrumental in restructuring our finances when he came on board and doing the leg work to shop around for the best CD rates. I would also like to thank Nettie Wong (1956), who resigned this year after many years of service to the Board, most recently as Membership Chair. Last, but certainly not least, thank you to Brien Karlin (2001 and current RHS teacher,) who stepped down after 9 years as our Secretary. We have two new members. Welcome Amanda (Burden) Myers (1982) and Valerie (Lujan) Porter (1989 and current RHS teacher). These changes take us down to 10 Trustees on the Board. We would love to have more. Our bylaws allow for 15, so please consider joining us! We meet the 4th Wednesday of each month at 5 pm. The only other time requirement is to work one "shift" on either Friday 2 pm to 5 pm or Saturday 10 am to 2 pm.

The big news this year, of course, is our Triennial All Class Reunion Picnic. It will be held on Sunday, August 16, 2020, at Reno High in the circle area. The cost is \$25.00 and includes lunch provided by Pinocchio's. He always provides a yummy feast! We're looking forward to seeing you all there! Please share with friends and family.

Finally, we are on Facebook under Reno High School Alumni Association. If you are on social media, please like and share, share, share!

Thanks for being part of our Huskie family!

Kathy Wilcox
RHSAA President

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR 2019

Overall the Reno High School Alumni Association had a successful year. The following board members departed: Pat Thomas, Cal Pettengill, John Watson, Brien Karlin, and Nettie Wong. New board members were J.D. Schnabel and Amanda Myers. RHS teacher, Valerie Porter joined the board on January 1, 2020. We are in need of additional alumni to serve as Board members.

Sixteen classes celebrated their reunion this year, including the 50th anniversary of the class of 1969 and 60th for the class of 1959. Both of these classes had part of their reunions at the RHS Alumni Museum.

Four seniors were awarded Alumni Association Scholarships and Betty Jo Baker presented the Westover Family Scholarship in May. The RHS Alumni Leadership Medal and certificate were presented to an outstanding JROTC cadet.

The Alumni Center was used by the Principal for 8th grade orientation in May and used for 3 days by RHS teachers for Freshman Seminar. Washoe County School District counselors used the facility once a month for their meetings. The museum continued to be open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays.

Four quarterly Huskie Trails alumni newsletters were published. We discovered a few RHS Alumni who died in WWI and Afghanistan and their names were placed on the memorial plaque.

Twenty-six life members were added this year for a total of 210 life members. There are 515 active members who support the association and museum. This is very low compared to the many thousand graduates who aren't members. We are always in need of more members and the only way the association and museum is supported is through membership dues and donations.

There are 22 RHS teachers and staff members who are Reno High Alumni. There is a need for class representatives for the following classes: '48, '60, '91, '04 and '08. If interested, contact Betty Jo Baker at (775) 851-3203.

Several improvements to the building include cleaning of the carpet, replacing the windows in the office, and putting in a new vinyl floor in the kitchen. A computer, printer, and copy machine were also purchased. The Association is on Facebook.

Special thanks to Cal Pettengill who became the first museum curator and maintained the website and computer files, updated museum displays, coordinated museum improvements, and managed donated memorabilia. We will miss his dedication and expertise.

2020 CLASS REUNIONS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>phone</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
1950	Joanne Kimball	786-0823	Aug 15	jmk1265@sbcglobal.net
1951	Betty Jo Baker	851-3203	Aug 15	jjlreno@gmail.com
1953	Joanne Petre	323-7770	Sep	joannepetre@gmail.com
1955	Linda Church	972-0671	Aug 15	No email
1956	Jerry Smith	826-8994	Oct	geraldsmith38@gmail.com
1965	Barbara Gardner	853-5341	Aug 14-18	barbaragardner@sbcglobal.net
1990	George Anastassatos	527-2517	Jul 17-19	---

ALUMNI NEWS

1. **Skip Houk** – Class of 1959, was selected to the Nevada Interscholastic Athletic Association (NIAA) Hall of Fame for his outstanding work as a Nevada Football and Basketball official (1964-2019). He was also inducted to the Nevada Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993 for his excellence as a conference champion cross country and track runner, and a national champion boxer.
2. **Art Collins** – RHS counselor from 1977-2003 was also inducted into the NIAA Hall of Fame as a coach of the RHS boys and girls ski teams. He led the girl's teams to 15 straight team championships and boys teams to 13 consecutive wins between 1980 and 1994. No other sports program at RHS has captured more first place trophies.
3. **Dan Anderson**, also an NIAA Hall of Fame inductee was a coach and official. He was head coach for 37 years including at Reno High from 1986 to 2006. Dan worked with boy/girls track and field, football, boys/girls skiing and girls cross country teams at a variety of grade levels. He officiated football for 48 years
4. **Lillian LeBlanc** – Class of 1924, died in October 2019 at the age of 99. She was an RHS Business/English/typing teacher from 1962 to 1969.
5. **Mallory McGwire**, Class of 2016, RHS basketball star plays for Boise State. In the game with UNR, she helped her team win 83-78. Mallory scored 12 points and 9 rebounds. She previously played for Oregon.
6. The RGJ listed the top RHS boys basketball players in the last 10 years as follows: Drew Ripplingham (2017), Tommy Challis (2018), Scott Challis (2010), Mike Heydon (2016), Karn Goraya (2016), Jacob Rolling (2014), and Kyle Mahaffey (2014). Reno High was the last Northern team to win the state large-school championship in 2008.

ALL-CLASS REUNION

The All-Class RHS Alumni Reunion is fast approaching. The Alumni board is working hard coordinating different aspects of the reunion to make it enjoyable for everyone. Make sure you fill out the attached reunion flier and send it in with your payment before August 11. More fliers can be picked up at the Alumni office during operating hours. Also, you can get extra copies by going online at renohighalum.com. and going to the reunion section then triennials, then 2020 or go to Happenings then What's New and download the registration form. We will have a wonderful buffet catered by Pinocchio's, tours of the school and Alumni Museum, a 50/50 raffle, music from the 50-60's, Alumni T-shirts and yearbooks for sale. We only have this all-class reunion every three years and the numbers attending have steadily decreased over the years. We need your support by contacting your classmates and joining us for this festive occasion.

NEED FOR CLASSIC CARS

Because many Reno High grads own restored vehicles and enjoy displaying them, we are again providing the opportunity to do so. Mel Watson, Class of 1957, has volunteered to manage the classic car display for the 2020 reunion. Stock, modified, roadsters, street rods, T-buckets, sports cars, and trucks manufactured before 1980 and in good condition may be displayed. Alumni who wish to display their vehicles at the August 16th reunion should call Mel at (775) 560-4424 or email melvin.watson@gmail.com before August 10th.

20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE RHS ALUMNI CENTER

The idea of an Alumni Center came from the early members of the Alumni Association which was established in 1995. RHS teacher and coach, Bud Beasley, stressed the need for a center as a storehouse for records and artifacts from the earlier Reno High School building dating back to the 1920s. Besides Bud Beasley, the early board members who were instrumental in developing the concept of the building were Len Crocker, Joseph Granata, Frank Petersen, Rose Meredith, Joe Elcano, Jim Binns, and Albert Solari. The class of 1955 raised funds to be applied to the new building. Businessman Link Piazza donated over \$400,000 dollars for the construction of the Alumni Center building on campus. The alumni board voted to name the center after Piazza. Architect Tom Casazza, who with his father Ralph Casazza developed the plans for the alumni building. The Washoe County School Board approved plans to construct a stand-alone on-campus Alumni Center on school district property with a 25-year property lease. The lease could be renewed for an additional 25 years. Q&D Construction Company, headed by RHS grad Norman Dianda, was awarded the contract to build the center. A symbolic ground-breaking ceremony was held on Labor Day 1999. Work began the following week and in less than 120 days, the structure was complete – including a façade that mirrored an earlier RHS building at Fifth and West streets (1912-1968). RHS Principal Janet Ross reported to the School Board that the new building would be used for special meetings, student testing, Honor Society inductions, etc. At her suggestion, the Board waived the annual lease fee from the Alumni Association.

The official opening was January 1, 2000, a date easy to remember.

The office was furnished by Machabee Office and Supply thanks to RHS grad Gary Machabee. More than 40 upholstered meeting chairs were obtained through the University of Nevada's Continuing Education Department. Through Trustee Ralph Casazza, 10 display cases were purchased from a retailer who was upgrading their display floor. Donations of memorabilia and equipment came from various alumni. A large group of photos of graduating classes and numerous trophies were provided by RHS custodian Kookie Rekucki.

We are indebted to those early Association Board Members and alumni whose vision, dedication, hard work and finances made it possible for us to enjoy the wonderful Link Piazza Alumni Center. Happy 20th Anniversary!



AROUND THE RHS CAMPUS



1. Jason Ehlen was named the new head football coach at Reno High. He has more than 20 years of coaching experience including four years at North Valleys High School. For the last nine years, Ehlen was on the staff at McQueen High School. He is currently a staff member at Reno High in the PE/Weights Department. Ehlen replaces Jon Haskins who was relieved last season. We wish Coach Eblen and the Huskie football team the best of luck during the next season. GO HUSKIES!!

2. Reno High has one of the highest graduation rates in the state at 95%. The state rate is 84% and the school district is 86%.
3. Junior Penelope Smersdon won the state cross country championship. She was named Gatorade girls cross country runner of the year. Girls cross country coach of the year is James Parker.
4. Celeste Parker and Jazlynn Parker won the girls tennis doubles of the year and Madeleine Garcia was selected girls tennis coach of the year.
5. Brody Friedman was selected as boy's tennis singles player of the year. Boys tennis coach of the year was Craig Gorbach.
6. High Desert League volleyball player of the year is Rian Finley and coach of the year is Kuna Nakagawa. The Reno Volleyball team won the Nevada 4A league championship.
7. Midfield girls soccer player of the year was Natalie Colfer.
8. Girls golf Northern 4A All-Region first team from Reno include Aislinn Behan, Hannah Penberthy, Sydney Lamb, and Cassidy Krompetz. Girls golf coach of the year is Pam Whalen.
9. Senior Skylar Hales is the captain of the basketball team. He is also an outstanding baseball player and will sign with Santa Clara for baseball.
10. Also, RHS gymnast Joanna Conrad obtained a perfect score on the math portion of the SAT. The 800 score puts her higher than 99% of those who took the test in the nation. She hopes to attend the Air Force Academy or the Coast Guard Academy next year.
11. The RGJ reported that Reno High senior, Kieran Ross, an accomplished gymnast will be attending the University of Alaska next fall. She is following in the footsteps of her sister, Morgan Ross, who is competing at Alaska in gymnastics.
12. The NIAA has changed high school sports classification next fall. Reno High and eight other teams will participate in the one league 5A category. There will be no 4A teams in northern Nevada but there are some in Southern Nevada. Reno Boys Soccer will be in the 3A class. Hopefully, the state football championship game will be played in the new Raiders Stadium in Las Vegas this fall.
13. Senior Miriam Yun is a U.S. Presidential Scholar Candidate.
14. Teacher Christy Briggs was named a top 5 National Speech and Debate Teacher of the Year candidate.
15. "We the People" won State and will compete at Nationals this spring.
16. There are 81 students who are maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA.
17. Campus construction projects include a new track, gym roof, gym floor refinishing, parking lot improvements, cell tower, weight room flooring and new security camera final installation.

SENIOR HUMOR

1. Most people don't think I'm as old as I am Until they hear me stand up.
2. Getting older is just one body part after another saying, "Ha Ha. You think that's bad? Watch this."
3. I miss the 90s when bread was still good for you, and no one knew what kale was.
4. So it turns out that being an adult is mostly just googling how to do stuff.
5. I really don't mind getting older, but my body is taking it badly.
6. I wanna be 14 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.
7. I don't go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
8. As I watch this generation try to rewrite history, one thing I'm sure of, it will be misspelled and have no punctuation.
9. Do you ever get up in the morning, look at yourself in the mirror and think, "that can't be accurate."
10. I thought getting old would take longer.
11. One minute you're young and fun. And the next, you're turning down the stereo in your car to see better.
12. The lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
13. I think the proper term for "Senior" women should be: Queen-agers.

I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing, retraced my steps, got distracted on my way back, have no idea what's going on... and now I have to go to the bathroom.

HOW TO TELL YOU'RE AN ADULT:

You gain 30 pounds overnight.

You'd rather sleep than go out

Everything hurts

Comfort before style

You have a favorite spatula

College students look like 12 year olds

Did you know on the Canary Islands there is not one canary. And on the Virgin Isles? Same thing - - not one canary there either.

A FEW PUNS

1. Dogs can't operate an MRI scanner, but cats can.
2. Life is short. If you can't laugh at yourself, call me, I will.
3. Whenever I try to eat healthy, a chocolate bar looks at me and snickers.
4. Crushing pop cans is soda pressing.
5. Despite the high cost of living, it remains popular.
6. Turning vegan would be a big missed steak.



9th Triennial All Alumni Reunion

For all alumni, teachers, administrators and staff

Tents for shade provided

Bring your phones/cameras

Reminisce with old friends remembering the good old days

At Reno High School

School Tours

395 Booth Street

Visit the RHS Museum

Sunday, August 16, 2020

11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Food served from 12:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m.

**PINOCCHIO'S CATERED LUNCH BUFFET – PASTA, CHICKEN,
MEATBALLS, SALAD, AND WATER/SODA INCLUDED.**

**Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on school property.
The \$25 pre-registration closes on August 11, 2020.
Day of registration is \$30 at the door. Walkups are welcome.**

Make checks payable to: Reno High School Alumni Association

Send to: P.O Box 5807, Reno, NV 89513

To pay by PAYPAL, go to our website @ www.renohighalum.com,

For more information, call the Alumni office @ (775) 825-2586 or

Email rhsaa@renohighalum.com

-----Please cut off and send in lower section for reservations. Keep upper portion for your information-----

Name _____ Class of _____ Tel (____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Maiden Name _____ e-mail _____

Number attending _____ Alumni _____ Guests _____ Payment @ \$25 Per person \$ _____

If guests are RHS grads, please list their name and class: _____

Washoe County School District
RHS Alumni Association
P.O. Box 30425
Reno, NV 89520



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PRESIDENT.....	Kathy Wilcox	1982
VICE PRESIDENT....	J. D. Schnabel Retired Staff	
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR..	Amanda Myers	1982
SECRETARY.....	Bill Newman	1976
TREASURER.....	Barbara Kinnison	1961
TRUSTEES:	Betty Jo Baker.....	1951
	Dale Lazzarone.....	1966
	Valerie Porter.....	1989
	Daryl Pelizzari.....	1952