



# Alumni News

Highlands High School Alumni Association Quarterly

Volume I, No. 2

April, 2008

## Prez Ponderings.....

The alumni association is picking up speed communicating and reaching out to many friends from the past. Just the other day, an old friend contacted me who I haven't heard from in many years, and it felt great. That is one of the things that makes this alumni association worth being part of.

All alumni association members contact information is confidential and highly protected, and will remain so. Only alumni office holders have access to your info. If you use the HHSAA website internal email capability to send a message to another member, that is the only action that will give the recipient your email address. Therefore, you have direct control of who gets your email address.

If you are already a member and would like to make it available for reunion or special event mailings only, please contact Diane Olson, Membership Chair. If you're filling out the membership application (see below), please note the appropriate box.

'Til next time,  
Daryl



## Someone is Having a Birthday!!

The alumni association is planning Highlands High School 50th anniversary (Gala Event). This event is shaping up to be a really significant affair. The school campus will be open so you can visit your old stomping grounds and visit with friends.

Do you remember those places you tried to hide from your friends or sneak a kiss from your sweetheart? OOPPSS!! No one ever did that on campus, did they? Did you?

The program will have a variety of events including speeches by community and school district leaders. These speeches will reflect on the past, present and future of Highlands. Don't worry, the speeches will be kept short. I am the Master of Ceremonies and I don't like long speeches.

So mark your calendar and plan to be there. More information will be publicized as it becomes available.

*Daryl Sullivan, President*



## 2008 Event Calendar

For more and updated information, click on <http://highlandshighalumni.com/events.shtml>

- General Meeting - April TBD
- HHS Saturday Lunches at Lou's - May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6 & 20, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 & Dec. 6
- The Twilight Golf Tournament - May 17
- Participate in the North Highlands Memorial Day Parade - May 26
- Multi-year class reunion hosted by classes 1963 & 1968 - September 19
- The Gala Event celebrating Highlands High School 50th anniversary - September 20
- After Gala Event Hospitality - September 20

If you would like to post an event, please contact Sandra Lansdon Cooper, Newsletter Editor by clicking on <http://highlandshighalumni.com/offices.shtml>

If you are not an alumni association member yet and would like to join, please print out this page and complete the information needed below and mail it to HIGHLANDS HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 794, North Highlands, CA 95660 along with a check for \$10 made out to the association (annual membership fee).

Current name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name when attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Class year/s (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a skill or interest you would like to share?  Yes  No If yes: \_\_\_\_\_

Other classmates you would like us to contact (please provide contact information): \_\_\_\_\_

Is it ok to use you email and other contact information to notify you of upcoming events, such as class reunions and Alumni Association events  Yes  No



# A Word of Welcome from the Vice Pres....

The Highlands High Alumni School Association started out as an informal gathering of alumni with a common desire to create an organization for the purpose of bringing all interested former and current students together to celebrate our wonderful school-year memories and to offer an opportunity to reach out to all those responsible for making our high school days a very special experience. With the continued efforts of all, we will be offering many activities in which everyone can choose to participate based on their particular interest. Our web site [HighlandsHighAlumni.com](http://HighlandsHighAlumni.com), has been designed to give flexibility for members to find activities and resource information to keep their alumni contact close at hand.

I welcome all of you to join us in this endeavor of walking down memory lane and to reach out to newcomers as this organization continues to embrace new membership. We remain a proactive group finding ways to stay abreast of the schools needs and challenges. Newly renamed, Highlands Academy of Arts and Design, our campus takes it self to a new and modern educational frontier. We the founders stand ready to pass the baton to those who will carry our spirit of fellowship to the future generations.

Welcome to Highlands High Alumni Association!

*Tom Baetjen, Alumni Association 1st Vice President*



## Quarterly Highlight featuring Nora Payne Milner

Highlands High 1963-65 / Foothill High 65-66

### Is There Life After High School?

When I was approached about being highlighted, I was pleased and honored. However, I did find myself at a bit of a loss for words (which is hard to believe for a lawyer and a writer!). But, I decided what you all do *not* want is a resume (if you're really interested, check out my bio at [www.milner-markee.com](http://www.milner-markee.com)). So I decided to share some of my adventures with you instead.

I went to Sac State and graduated early in 1970 with a BA in Political Science/International Relations and a double minor in Spanish and Russian. While in college, I spent two years doing international studies at the National University of Mexico in Mexico City, taking all my courses in Spanish and improving my language abilities.

Having been bitten by the international bug, I set out to explore new horizons. So in the spring of 1970 I decided to "run away and join the Navy". Before I knew it, I was in Rhode Island at Officer Candidate School. Upon graduation and commissioning as an Ensign, I was assigned to the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, at the Pentagon. I was the only female on his staff and the youngest officer. Being assigned to NATO and Top Secret sections, I was privy to the most secret of naval operations, including the "Plot Room" deep in the bowels of the Pentagon. For a young college graduate, it was an assignment of a lifetime and Admiral Zumwalt became a mentor to me. My naval career soared and I was eventually transferred to San Diego, to an air squadron (I was the only female officer with 200+ men-WOW!!!). I met my future husband, Scott, a naval aviator, and we were married in 1971 after a whirlwind courtship. We served on active duty together while he spent three tours in Vietnam and two in Cambodia, I held down the fort at our home in San Diego.

Then, I was bit by the legal bug. I began working for a wonderful Captain, Lou Williams, who became the first black Admiral of the Navy. Due to his influence, I entered the legal field and resigned my active duty commission in 1973 to enter University of San Diego School of Law. When Scott was transferred to Denver, Colorado as Executive Officer of the Navy Recruiting District, I transferred to the

University of Denver School of Law. At the end of my first year, the day after I finished my final exam, I went into labor and my daughter, Tiffany, was born!

After graduation, I returned to active duty in the Navy and became a Lt. Cmdr. in the Judge Advocate Corps, the attorneys for the Navy. At that time, in 1978, there were only 7 women JAG's as compared to the 700+ men, so we were a small elite group of hard working women. I loved the JAG Corps, but due to family reasons, I resigned in 1981 and entered private practice.

I have since obtained two post-doctoral degrees, one in Space Law and the other in Federal Trial Advocacy. I am primarily a federal litigator, going to federal court to fight the government on such issues as illegal search and seizures and other constitutional matters. I have also taught at law schools as an adjunct professor. I truly love what I do.

One of my most memorable events was in 1991 when I was selected to participate in a group that went to Russia at the request of then-President Gorbachov to work with their attorneys and jurists to help them make the transition to a free market economy. I was thrilled to meet President Gorbachov and actually shared a box seat with him at the Bolshoi Ballet presentation. He was courteous and intelligent. We were all assigned to be "covered" by a KGB agent who trailed us everywhere. When I decided to change hotels without KGB permission, my agent actually chased me down the street and had me followed! Little did I know that the new hotel I moved to, the Savoy, was actually located right across from the KGB headquarters, so they didn't have too far to find me.

I am still happily married to my wonderful husband, Scott, and I am blessed to have as my law partner none other than my daughter, Tiffany. I have two precious grandchildren, Blake and Kelsey, both adopted from Russia! In addition to writing books, I love to ride my horses, as we have three and live on a small ranch in the foothills of San Diego.



# Ask US

Here are replies to questions asked since the last publication. Questions have been reworded for confidentiality reasons:

**Dear AU,**  
A dear friend who graduated from Highlands High is terminally ill. However, advanced medical treatment is available in China. Is there any way the association can help out financially? Gary

**Dear Gary,**  
Unfortunately so many HHS attendees and staff have fallen ill, that we cannot possibly choose one over the other. If he would like us to put his name and contact information in our newsletter, we can do that. It would require a written email or letter from him.

\*

**Dear AU,**  
There's a great teacher I would love to pay tribute to at the Gala Event or at one of the upcoming reunions. Katie

**Dear Katie,**  
There are many HHS great teachers who deserve recognition. To pay recognition to them individually would be extremely difficult. However, we hope to have a poster/banner at the Gala Event paying tribute to them as a group.

\*

If you have a question, concern, suggestion, etc., click on <http://highlandshighalumni.com/offices.shtml> and go to the appropriate officer and click their email address. If your question isn't regarding a particular category, click on the Newsletter Editor email address.

## Historian Needs YOUR Help!

**REMEMBER:** School dances on Friday night, after the BIG game, Junior Prom, Senior Ball, Homecoming, Dance Cards, Newspapers (Sac Union, Sac Bee) that published the list of couples attending the dance, who was on the various committees--Long Time Ago--"Neptune's Gardens", "Heavenly", "Wonderland by Night" just to name a few.

**HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:** I am looking for memoabilia, from the many classes, but mostly (for now) from the early classes--1959, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69. Soooooo--if there is anyone who has any dance cards, sports programs, newspaper articles, pictures--anything that you would like to donate or loan to the Alumni Association, please contact me.

Eristine Koe Mann, Historian

### Who's Who/Offices

to contact via email click on [highlandshighalumni.com/offices.shtml](http://highlandshighalumni.com/offices.shtml)

- President**  
Daryl Sullivan, HHS 1965
- Vice President**  
Tom Bastion, HHS 1965
- 2nd Vice President**  
Phil Olson, HHS 1965
- Secretary**  
Shirlene Lansdon, HHS 1963
- Treasurer**  
Juanita Pardun, HHS 1962
- Membership Choir**  
Diane Aspenson Olson, HHS 1967
- Newsletter**  
Sandy Lansdon Cooper, HHS/PHS 1966
- Webmaster**  
Erik Swan, HHS 1965
- Historian**  
Eristine Koe Mann, HHS 1965
- Scholarship Choir**  
Jim Warrick, HHS-1967
- Social Choir**  
Alicia Lerma Enos, HHS - 1972
- Other inquiries** Sandra Lansdon Cooper

## Let me introduce us...



Center front: Tom Bastion, Second Row L to R: Kristine Koe Mann, Diane Aspenson Olson  
Third Row L to R: Shirlene Lansdon, Jim Warrick, Sandra Lansdon Cooper, Juanita Pardun, Daryl Sullivan, Phil Olson  
Not shown: Alicia Lerma Enos, Rick Swan