



Alumni News

Highlands High School Alumni Association Quarterly

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Prez's Ponderings....



Pictures taken by Dan Tidwell

Wow, what an event! Highlands was filled with alumni, students and families. The Gala Celebration was a wonderful event. There were over a thousand people who gathered to celebrate Highlands' 50th Birthday. All afternoon people milled through the school and filled the bowl for the evening program. I was especially humbled being the MC for the program. Many years ago I played football in the bowl, but I have never spoken to an audience in the bowl before. To have the responsibility of moving the program along is always a big challenge and this time was no exception. When things didn't go exactly as planned, I rearranged the program more than once. Hopefully, most of the audience couldn't tell what happened. That's what happens at live events. Things just happen, which make change necessary. That is life. I thank all who attended and hope you had as much fun as the Gala Committee and I did.

Here's one of many testimonials received by the committee:

☺☺

I'd like to thank all the volunteers as well as the attending alumni for making Highlands High's 50th Birthday Bash a huge success. I wavered on whether to attend, and once there, I wavered on how long I'd stay, yet I held out to the end. I thoroughly enjoyed the reminiscing phase, leafing through old yearbooks - seeing what we all looked like back in 1961, as well as hooking up with folks I hadn't seen in years. Phase 2 in the bowl was extra special. Hearing the bagpipers took me back to my days at Highlands when we had our own bagpipers. Special thanks to the Fairfield bagpipers but hopefully the current powers that be will find a way to bring the bagpipers back to Highlands High. Can't forget the fireworks. Great fireworks finale!! Kudos to all involved and all who attended. Special kudos to 2 volunteers I know personally, Jeanette Null (a die-hard Giants fan) and Daryl Sullivan (it's been a long time Daryl).

Dave Coy, Class of 61

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Please step forward to help make this alumni group grow and do great things. Our next general meeting is Oct. 25th. So, please attend to share your ideas, concerns and possibly volunteer to serve as an officer or committee member. Check the website under events to get the agenda, time and location for the meeting.

Join the fun and help get things done. Sometimes working on events is just like being in high school again. It keeps you young.



On another note:

We are finalizing the tax exempt status. The government (IRS) is the agency that permits the exemption. So we'll know the final status when they let us know.

Til next time..... Daryl



First Scholarship Awarded by Alumni Association

by Kathy Cooper

Daryl Sullivan, Highlands High School Alumni Association President, presented Ms. Brittney Chasten, a 2008 graduate, with the George Quan \$500 scholarship award during the 50th Anniversary Gala held September 20th, at Highlands Academy of Arts and Design.

Brittney was recommended by Fred Frailey, Head Counselor at Highlands. Mr. Frailey stated that Brittney is well-liked by her peers and respected by staff. She is able to serve herself in academics while simultaneously serving others in various programs.

She is currently enrolled at American River College with plans to transfer to New York University with a major in Kinesiology.

While at Highlands she participated in the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program all four years, she was a member of the LINK CREW who assisted freshmen to adapt to the environment of high school life. She was also an active member of the RENAISSANCE PROGRAM, which purpose is to reward the academic accomplishments of students and to encourage all students to excel.

Brittney was Junior Class President, Senior Class Vice President and a member of the leadership team. She was on the cross-country, and track and field teams where she was Captain during her senior year.

As a member of the Speech team, Brittney won a computer for her outstanding performance during her junior year. She also received the Athletic and Scholar Award in her senior year.

As a member of St. Lawrence Church, she participated in the "Feed the Homeless" program, by shopping for food for families in need, assisted in triathlon events, helped set-up booths at the Farmers' Market in Del Paso Heights and participated in youth sleep-overs at church.

The scholarship committee found Brittney to be a charming and accomplished young woman. We are pleased and honored to present BRITTNEY CHASTEN with the first \$500 scholarship award donated by George Quan.



SALE

by Sandra Lansdon Cooper

How does the Association raise money for worthwhile events?

Well for starters, we clean out our closets, garages and maybe the neighbors garage as well. With his permission of course.

Then we hold a yard/bake sale and car wash in a public location. That's what we did to raise the funds needed for Highlands 50th Anniversary Gala.

And guess what, there's more Highlands programs that need funding, so we are back at it.

Our next yard/bake sale and car wash will be Saturday, October 11th, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the F.C. Joyce School (old Fruitvale Elementary), on Watt Ave., North Highlands.

Please come and help us out or buy a thing or two.

See you there!



Keith Weber

Time has Flown By - We must be Having FUN!

by Phil Olson



What a NIGHT - I Hope you Were There



by Shirlene Lansdon

Our first Highlands graduating class of 59 to the Class of 2000 attended the reunion dinner dance at the Red Lion Hotel on Sept. 19, 2008. We dined outside and finalized the evening with dancing to the energetic band: Jayz Rollers. With 324 graduates including 4 teachers (Mr. Chambers, Mrs. Larsen, Mr. Woody, and Mrs. Pereyra) honoring the occasion, we celebrated with classmates who traveled from states of Alabama, Virginia, Oregon, Arizona, Utah, Texas, Washington, Nevada, Southern and Northern California.

Who's Who at the Highlands Dinner Dance? Class of 63 were celebrating their 45th reunion and Class of 68, their 40th. And the alumni joining in the festivities included those who went to school together since Kindergarten, their neighbors, brothers, sisters, parents, children, cousins, teachers, students who became teachers, musicians, choir members, school clubs, drama students, athletes and long time friends and classmates all met at this party. The connections were endless.

Some were talking with their brother's best friend, visiting with the kid who lived down the street, and running into the guys who use to play basketball at Campos Verde until they dropped. Just to name a few.

So wonderful to check in at this time of our life when we are quite 'old enough'.

Where did the time go? Just look at us, we know. Life has been good to us, how do we know? We are here now with our memories in tow.

We still can mark an important milestone as evidenced by the amazing turnout. Thanks to all who came and made this so special.

Things are Happen'n at Lou's

by Jim Lewis '67

Alumni have been meeting at Lou's Hamburgers the first Saturday of every month for some time now. On this particular Saturday last summer, there was a guest bagpiper who happen to drop in ready to play. His name was Elder Abeta, from Salt Lake City where he started playing bagpipes while in high school (he's not Scottish, motif or theme). It was in fact non-curricular.

While doing work for my ward missionaries, we had an opportunity to talk and when he mentioned he played bagpipes as a hobby, I asked him if he would play for our Scots' Lou's Burger Lunch Club. He was a big "hit" at Lou's, and he seemed very pleased with that. He only had two more months of his Mission with the Mormon Church in the North Highlands area, which was really too bad, we would have enjoyed him coming back again.



