



Alumni News

Highlands Alumni Association -
the only certified non-profit HAA organization

Volume IV Issue I

Quarterly Newsletter

January, 2012

Pres Ponderings...

We had a great 2011 where we knotted a few relationships which gave us stability in meeting rooms and financial backing. Foremost is SAFE Credit Union which we owe a great big "thank you" to. They have given us free meeting space in their Watt Avenue building for all our meetings this year. They have also been very generous with donations to support Highlands and our scholarship winners. THANK YOU SAFE!

We have given \$2,250 in scholarships in 2011 and we have been the moving force behind Don Gilbert's Memorial Garden area in front of the administration office at Highlands. Neither would have happened if it had not been for our alumni.

We have been having a lot of fun at our fundraising parties such as the halloween and Christmas parties, and at those yard sales that not only raise money, but our alumni members get a chance to mingle with the community and get the Association's name out there.

Financially we are doing better than ever and I know we'll continue to assist with more projects/programs in 2012. All this is due to our alumni, and of course our Board of Directors and active association members. I would like to thank each and everyone of them for a job well done.

I salute the Highlands alumni and wish everyone a great New Year!

Phil Olson
Class of '65



By Kathy Cooper

Highlands High School's official Alumni Association was formed in 2007 with the express purpose of being of service to and supportive of Highlands High School and its staff and students. The 50 Year Gala in 2008 attracted over 3000 students, alumni and community members, was a result of our efforts to make the community aware of Highlands' proud history.

We have awarded \$5000 in scholarships since 2008. We are creating a Highlands High School Museum that will be open to the public and located at the school. We have donated our time and money to beautify the area around Coach Don Gilbert's Memorial, now known as the Memorial Garden. This garden has a mural as a backdrop which was designed by the 8th grade students and painted by art teacher Peggy Martinez.

We are currently looking for alumni to help with tutoring the students in Geometry.

We hold dinner dances, fundraisers and regular general meetings that are open to all. We'd love to hear your thoughts about other ways to be involved in the school and your creative ideas.

In order to continue helping Highlands High School in current and future endeavors, we need to increase our membership. The membership fee is \$10 per year or \$25 for three years and \$40 for five years. We need members from all classes and would love to have you join us. Highlands Alumni Association website and membership team are available to help you advertise your reunions. If you are planning a reunion in 2012, contact us with your reunion information, including graduation year and contact person planning the event, at Highlands Alumni Association, P.O. Box 794, North Highlands, CA 95660, Attention: Membership Team.

Remember, if you're interested in the only Highlands Alumni Association that is affiliated with and supportive of Highlands High School, please come to our general meetings at 11:00 a.m. at North Highlands SAFE Credit Union on Watt Avenue. The dates are posted at www.highlandshighalumni.com or our calendar in this newsletter.



Terry Parmeter and his mom, Donna

Rockin' Round the Christmas Tree

By Shirlene Lansdon, '63

The Alumni and their guests had a great time at the HAA Christmas party on December 10, held at the Antelope VFW Hall. The alumni members decorated the hall with holly, bobbles and lights to welcome the partiers. There were classmates from 1959 to 1969 swaying to the music provided by the Dos Hombres DJs (Phil Olson and Martin Chavez) and enjoying a wonderful buffet dinner catered by Patty Hanford.

Between the tunes, raffles were held where there was enough stuff for everyone to win, including a 50/50 raffle. In addition, beautiful homemade gingerbread houses and even a gingerbread train were auctioned off. The bidding wars began and thank goodness for our generous alumni, \$715 was raised for our scholarship fund.

Our big winner of the night was Glen Cochrane, class of '59, who generously gave back his cash prize from the 50/50 raffle to the HAA Scholarship fund. A special thank you goes out to Glenn.

A wonderful evening was shared with our former classmates, longtime friends and family members. This is a big part of what Christmas is all about: some cheer, helping others, spending time together and having a good time doing it. Mark December 1st on your calendar for the 2012 Christmas party.



Gary '63 & Sandra Lansdon
Cooper, FHS '66, Jim Stephens, '65
& Shirlene Lansdon, '63

COMING SOON

- ☆ First Saturday Lunch at Lou's, Watt Ave., 11:00 a.m., Feb. 4, Mar. 3, Apr. 7
- ☆ Highlands Hogs, Wednesdays, Maries Donuts, 8 a.m.
- ☆ HAA General Meeting 11:00 a.m. Mar. 10, location TBA, May 19 & July 14, 11:00 a.m. at NH SAFE Credit Union, Watt Ave.
- ☆ Highlands/Foothill Class Reunion for classes '65, '66 and '67. Lion's Gate Hotel, June 23, **details on last page**
- ☆ Highlands class of '67, 45th reunion at Antelope (NH) VFW Hall, July 7, **details on last page**
- ☆ Highlands 50th Class Reunion for Class of '62, Aug. 2012, more info to follow



By Loreene Sheppard '67

Classmates from 1959-1969 meet at Lou's Burgers the first Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. There's always a drawing for a free meal for the following month.

Lou's asked us to decorate their inside dining area walls, so if you have any pictures, newspaper clippings, etc. for 59-69, make a copy of it and stick it in a cheap frame and bring it on down. Oh, make sure to bring a hammer and nails or screw driver and screws, your choice.

Just to let you know, the Highlands Hogs (friends of Lou's) meet every Wednesday at 8 a.m. at Maries Donuts.

Did you Know?

Did you know that the Independent Living Skills (ILS) class and their instructor James Geivett, a 1984 Highlands graduate, weed and take care of the Memorial Garden area that HAA designed and planted in 2010? Hip, hip hooray for James and his students!

TIDBITS Twin Rivers Board Meeting

By Mary Anderson '67

A reunion for Grant High's classes of 1950-55 will be held at the Crowne Plaza (former Holiday Inn), near Madison and I-80, on Saturday, September 15. The Grant Alumni will hold a fundraiser at the Dante Club on Friday, March 2, to "Bring Back the Band" at Grant. Music has taken a hit at District schools.

Both Highlands and Foothill are operating without a Library Media Teacher, which the Twin Rivers teachers union believes is vital for the education process of both schools.

Because of cuts in the District budget, all transportation and all student learning coaches were to be eliminated effective January 1. Bleak news indeed. The Twin Rivers Board awarded Jorgensen Sports Services a \$20,000 contract for referee and officiating services at Highlands.

The Twin Rivers Board recently approved that both District and Highlands officials attend the "Ninth International Conference on Positive Behavior Support" in Atlanta, Georgia. Money from the School Improvement Grant will fund the travel.

Principal Hawthorne and members of his staff presented to the Twin Rivers Board the "Comprehensive High School Report" for Highlands. Also, eight special education students from Highlands passed the California High School Exit Exam.

Do you want to serve on the Twin Rivers Board? If so, a workshop is being planned for those wanting to serve in that position. Check the Twin Rivers website for more information.



Who's Who

President-Phillip Olson-1965

President@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

First Vice President-Kristine Koww Mann-1965

VicePresident@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

Second Vice President-Mary Anderson-1967

2ndVicePresident@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

Secretary-Shirlene Lansdon-1963

Secretary@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

Treasurer-Linda Ballard Eastburn-1965

Treasurer@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

Directors at Large

Sherry Antrim Chavez-1965

Martin Chavez-1970

Mary Kathy Cahall Cooper-1960

Directors

Diana DeCaires Lansdon-1959

Diane Aspenon Olson-1967

PeggyAnn Ellsbury Colclasure-1967

Alida Gonzales Steinbrecher-1967

Sandra Lansdon Cooper-1966

Ruth Beavers Welsh-1959

email address for all directors above

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Social Secretary-Alida Steinbrecher-1967

SocialSecretary@HighlandsHighAlumni.com

Webmaster-Rick Swan-1965

Webmaster@HighlandsHighAlumni.com



Highlands/Foothill High '65 - '67 Reunion

When : June 23rd

Where: Lion's Gate Hotel, McClellan Business Park

Social: 4:30-6 p.m., Reunion: 6-11:30 p.m., Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$45 early bird - due by May 5, \$50 May 6 or later

Sleeping rooms are available at a discounted rate of \$79 (includes breakfast), plus tax if booked by May 23. Book directly with the hotel at (916) 643-2222 and tell them HHR2012 to get the discounted rate, or go to their website at <http://booking.ihotelier.com/istay/istay.jsp?groupID=705952&hotelID=10307>

We don't have all classmates contact information on file, so if you have contact information pass it on to us, or tell folks we're having a party and give them our information.

Below are reunion reps who are updating mailing lists and will have answers to your questions:

Kathy Hedrick Casper

katootsy@aol.com

HHS 1965

Kathy Scott Hahn

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FHS 1966

Linda Meredith Siverling

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HHS 1966

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FHS 1967

Monica Valenzuela Ehman

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HHS 1967

Kay Johnson Ratcliff

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HHS 1967

We'll notify you of our website address once it is available.

Highlands Class of '67 45th Reunion



OK, some of you may be confused by having two reunions with class of '67 just a couple of weeks apart, but it's just because we really like the kids in '67 and want to see them twice, or maybe it's because they are two entirely different kinds of reunion. Why not attend both? Other classes are welcome to attend as well.

This reunion will be at the Antelope (NH) VFW Hall on July 7, from 5-11 p.m. It is a more casual affair than the one in June. There's no dinner involved and cost only \$10. For those who are like many of us who can't afford that, come anyway, we'll figure it out.

Prior to the reunion the group is meeting at Lou's Burgers from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information contact Loreene Sheppard at (916) 521-5817 or email her at tomboy_1967@yahoo.com.