

# Alumni News

Vol. 6, Issue 6

Bi-Monthly Newsletter  
Highlands Alumni Association (HAA)  
The only certified non-profit HAA organization

July 2018

## **PREZ'S PONDERINGS**

By Kristine Kouw Mann ('65)

I'm writing this at what would be, back in the "olden days," the one-third point of summer vacation. For today's kids, it's close to the half-way point.

This past weekend, our newsletter editor Mary Anderson trekked all the way to eastern Folsom to celebrate a Highlands alumnae. Trinette Marquis ('89) has published her first book, *Engaging Data: Smart Strategies for School Communication*, aimed at those who are involved in communications for public school districts. Mary had the privilege of meeting Trinette's friends and enjoying a hamburger dinner at the Barnes and Noble, where the gathering was held.

During the presentation after dinner, Trinette talked about her passions for data and how data can be used in school communications. Communicating with parents and with those district officials (e.g., superintendents and principals) and community members (e.g., alumni associations) chosen to make decisions is vital.

How does data collecting affect the Alumni Association? Let's look at the data. Over 75% of the membership graduated during the 1960s. Those from the classes of 1965 through 1969 make up the first one-fourth of the Baby Boom. But how about those who graduated from 1970 to 1982, the last three-fourths of the Boom? Why are they a small part of our membership? Where have we not communicated with them?

In the past year, we have posted the Newsletter on the Facebook pages and on the website. We have also posted flyers for special events, such as the Golf Tournament and the Holiday Party. But is that enough? Probably not. Suggestions are welcome.

One solution is to celebrate those who graduated in 1970 and later. In the newsletter's next edition, for example, an article about Trinetta and all that she has accomplished since graduating from Highlands some 29+ years ago. Do you know someone who has had a book published? How about someone elected to public office? Or held a high-ranking position in the public or private sector? How about someone doing something unusual, like serve in the Peace Corps? Is a recent graduate opening his/her own business? All of that needs to be honored so that today's students can learn from all those who went before them.

We have another 5-1/2 months to ensure that we have more members on January 1, 2019, than we did on January 1, 2018. All alumni are welcome to join, be they from the first graduating class to the most recent.

Scots Forever!

### ***NOTES FROM RECENT ALUMNI BOARD MEETINGS***

1. On Saturday, July 14, 2018, the Board celebrated those who won scholarships and who are about to start college. They include:

Romeo Anderson – who won \$1,000.

Rosalia Garcia – who won \$350.

Michelle Morales – who won \$250.

Leslie Otento – who won \$800.

Kavar Scott – who won \$500.

Congratulations to all, and may they continue to keep in touch with those of us who wish them well.



Photo by Shirlene Lansdon.

The scholarship winners receiving their checks at the July 14, 2018, Board meeting: from l to r – Kristine Kouw Mann (President), Kavar Scott, Rosalia Garcia, Leslie Otento, and Kathy Cahall Cooper (Board member). Absent are Romeo Anderson and Michelle Morales.

2. Are you interested in serving on the Scholarship Committee? If so, contact Kathy Cahall Cooper at [cahallb4@hotmail.com](mailto:cahallb4@hotmail.com). Some of the goals for this coming school year include a possible revision to the application form.
3. Community theater is active in the Rio Linda/Elverta area, where both original and established works are performed. Go to [www.rlectheater.org](http://www.rlectheater.org) for more information.
4. Getting ready for elections. All positions need to be filled. The nomination form needs to be completed. Contact Kathy Cahall Cooper

at [icahallb4@hotmail.com](mailto:icahallb4@hotmail.com) if you are interested. We hope you are interested because several current Board members need to step down because of declining health. A meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 9 a.m., at Lou's.**

### ***DATES TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR***

Please note that all meetings of the Alumni Board are held at the SAFE Credit Union on Watt Avenue, south of Roseville Road. They start at 11 a.m.

Monday, August 20	First Day of School
Saturday, September 8	Alumni Board Meeting
Friday, October 5	Homecoming
Saturday, November 10	Alumni Board Meeting
Saturday, December 1	Alumni Holiday Party, Elks Lodge in Carmichael

**If there are any changes to the above events, alumni will be notified by either e-mail or Facebook.**

### ***NEWS FROM THE ALUMNI MUSEUM***

On Wednesday, July 9, Principal Hawthorne e-mailed me the following:

The painter is finishing up the final steps on the texture and then he will paint the room. This should be done by Wednesday of this week. I will give you a heads up as soon as it's done. Thanks.

That's the latest I have heard from Highlands' officials. Either Principal Hawthorne or Vice Principal Seiler will notify me when the work is completed. I will then notify alumni by e-mail and by Facebook. Hooray! Looks as if this project will be done by the time school starts, if not sooner.

By the way, volunteers are needed, and soon. Notify me if you can donate some time.

## ***ALUMNI GATHERINGS***

Do you want to meet with your fellow classmates throughout the year? Here are the times when you can do so:

Last Saturday – '60s and '70s graduates meet at Lou's from 11 a.m. until about 2 p.m. A few '80s alums also drop by.

Are there any other groups meeting regularly? If so, then notify Mary Anderson at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com).

## ***REUNION NEWS***

### Future Reunions

For members of the classes of **1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, and 2013** – 2018 is your reunion year. You can have your reunion news posted on the Alumni website at [www.highlandshighalumni.com](http://www.highlandshighalumni.com), or you can send the information to me at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com).

The Alumni Association wants you to know a successful reunion, and we can help you with the publicity.

**IMPORTANT:** Plan a visit to the Legacy Room as part of your reunion plans. Notify me at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com) if interested. We can probably arrange for a visit the Friday afternoon of your reunion weekend. Let us know if you have questions.

**Locating Classmates.** A lot of those planning reunions have difficulty locating classmates, even in this day of social media. With name changes and many relocations, classmates can be difficult to locate. If that is so, then send us a list of those classmates several months before the reunion. We'll publish those names in the Newsletter. There's a chance that a family friend or a distant relative can provide the information you need. Let me know if you have questions by e-mailing me at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com).

1963. If you graduated from Highlands in 1963, then mark **Saturday, September 22**, on your calendar. On that day, you will celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your graduation. The festivities begin at 4 p.m., with a no-host bar, then a BBQ at 5 p.m. **For more information, see the flyer attached to this newsletter.**

1968. – The Class of 1968 will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> reunion on **Saturday, September 22**. The reunion is closed to the class of 1968 and their spouses or significant others.

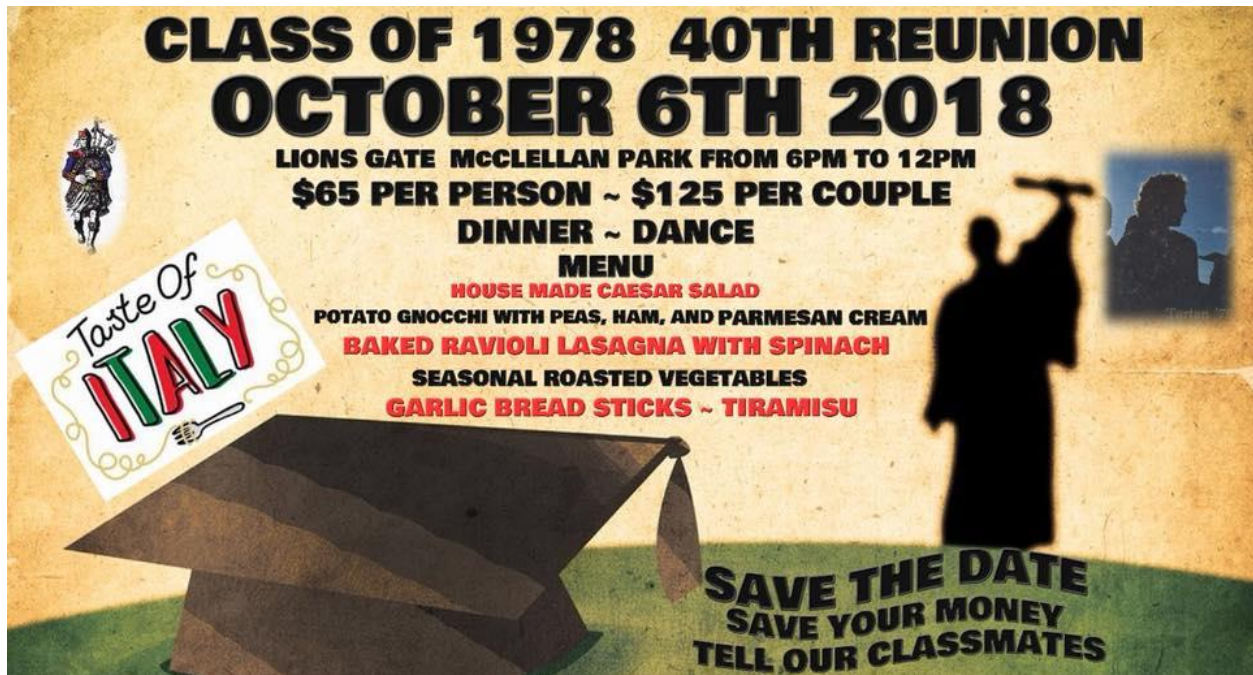
Swentowsky Photography will once again take pictures for a Memory Book; however, a minimum of 35 books needs to be sold in order to get the books. Picture packets will also be available, which will be sent directly to you. So Linda Salazar must have your mailing address and phone number so that pictures can be mailed to you. If you are unable to attend but want a Memory Book, e-mail your information to Linda, and she will contact you. She will get in touch with you regarding pricing.

Information regarding the time and place for the reunion will be e-mailed in August to those who plan to attend. Contact Linda at [bandlhenry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bandlhenry@sbcglobal.net) for more information. (Note: She will sign her e-mails "Linda (Salazar) Henry.")

1973. The class of 1973 will meet for its 45<sup>th</sup> reunion on **Saturday, October 20, at the Lions Gate Hotel at McClellan**. Dinner and Dancing will be the order of the evening. For more information, e-mail Linda Konkle at <lwhite@scoe.net>.

1978 The class of 1978 will hold its 40<sup>th</sup> reunion on **Saturday, October 6, 2018, at the Lions Gate Hotel at McClellan**. (NOTE: Highlands Homecoming is the night before!)





1983. Did you graduate in 1983? If so, there's great news for you. Your class will re-unite for the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of your graduation on **Saturday, October 13, at the Sacramento Hilton**, 2200 Harvard Street, Sacramento (near Arden and the Freeway). Call Debbie Wharry at 916.837.2019.

### *Let Us Remember*

These are the Scots who passed away between May 1 and June 30, 2018, or whose passing we have recently learned.

Office	Mamie Johnston – worked at both Campos and Highlands.
1960	William Freitag, John Reil
1961	Edna Joy Paugh
1962	Margery Welsh
1965	Roy Davis
1966	Kathleen Brace

1969	Patrick McCook, Cynthia Scholz
1970	Arthur "Art" Buckley
1971	Mike Hagans
1973	Michelle Montreuil
1976	Tom Young
1978	Michael Gard
1979	Peggy Ann Dotson
2004	Eric Foster

**Cynthia (Cindy) Scholz**  
**By Sharon Bennett**

Born August 8, 1951, died Mother's Day 2018.

I met Cindy at the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade at Highlands, when I had transferred from Cordova High. We were both kids from a military/civil service family.

Cindy was sweet and beautiful. In Senior Year she was a majorette, and I was the studious kid. We did not interact much, except we had a couple of classes together. I graduated mid-term and went on about living my life. After graduation, Cindy's family relocated with the military.

Throughout the years I tried to go to as many class reunions as I could, and there were always the same hard-working classmates who volunteered to head up the reunions. I was fortunate to be able to go to the 45<sup>th</sup> class reunion, and they were looking for someone to lead up the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2019. Although I live in Texas, I threw in my hat. As part of preparing for the reunion, I became the Administrator of the 1969 Highlands Facebook group and have been "collecting" names (friends) in all sorts of places.

I was able to catch up with Cindy. Low and behold she had been living only 6 miles away from me in San Antonio, Texas. We got together for lunch and reconnected. We found out that we both had daughters who ALSO graduated from the same high school in San Antonio. (And there are 53 high schools in San Antonio proper!) My daughter Jennifer graduated in 1989, and her daughter Liberty graduated in 1990. What a coincidence!

Unfortunately, soon after Cindy and I reconnected, she was diagnosed with stage 4 carcinoid cancer. Cindy was married to a wonderful man, Mike Hillier, and she had her



three children near her. She really struggled with the disease and was once in the ICU at a specialty hospital in New Orleans for over 100 days. During the last couple of months of Cindy's life, my husband and I would go to Cindy and Mike's house, and I would stay with her to read the Bible, rub her feet, and share family stories. My husband, Bruce, would take Mike out shopping and lunching (some beer drinking involved, I'm sure). It was absolutely our honor and a gift from God that we were able to provide some comfort to them.

Cindy lost her battle on Mother's Day this year with all of her children and grandchildren surrounding her. I miss our Thursdays together. I especially want to thank a few of our classmates (Polly Beebe, Ronneene Booth, Laura Geivett, Linda King, and Marie Small) for keeping in touch with Cindy by sending flowers and letters, and by donating resources to help with medical costs.

Until we meet again, sweet Cindy.

**Honoring Mike Gard ('78)**  
**By Michael Thayer ('78)**

It comes with a heavy heart and great sadness that I share that my dear friend, Michael "Mike" Gard, passed away from a short battle with cancer. Mike was dealt a very bad hand in the last year of his life when he found out that he had diabetes, tumors, and lung cancer, which ultimately took him way too soon.

Mike was a great friend of mine whom I enjoyed knowing for over 48 years. Mike and I, along with other Highlands Alumni, played baseball together during our Little League, Big League, Junior High, and High School years. Back in our school days, we went to a lot of parties. In recent years, we re-connected at Lou's and other alumni gatherings. His classmates and other friends undoubtedly miss him.

Mike is survived by his wife Allison Massie-Gard ('82), his daughter Brittany Edwards, his brothers Phil and Rob, and his sisters Maureen and Sheri ('77).

Although Mike will be greatly missed, he isn't suffering. We love you, Mike, and until we meet again! **Scots 4 Life!**

### **Remembering Bobby and Kathy Franco Class of 1977**

I am Traci Franco ('85), the younger sister of Bobby and Kathy Franco, class of 1977.

As many of you know, they passed away many years ago. When Bobby passed, his children were only 2 years and 2 1/2 months old. Kathy's boys were 5, 10, and 11 years old. Now that these kids are adults, I want to surprise them with memory books so that they can get to know their parents from more than our family stories.

What I am asking is that, if you can, please share any stories and/or pictures of your time with either of them, then send them to me. If you would rather get them to me a different way, please message me and we will figure this out.

Thank you for helping make this a truly amazing and special gift filled with love and friendship from so many people. (You can reach her via Facebook.)

**Please Note:** If you hear of the passing of any Highlands alumni, any Highlands teacher or administrator, or any Highlands support staff (e.g., custodians, cooks, clerical support), then notify me (Mary Anderson) at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com) and Rita Woods at [rita.jens.2010@gmail.com](mailto:rita.jens.2010@gmail.com). We ask that you identify the source of your information, such as a newspaper death notice, a family notice, or a notice posted by the funeral home.

You are welcome to honor someone who meant something to you with a paragraph or two. That will mean a lot to the family, friends, and classmates of the deceased.

## **FUN STUFF**

### **Drummin' with Dan Callnon – Class of '69**

How do most drummers get their start? We can bet that a lot of them started by banging on the pots and pans in their mother's kitchen when they were not much higher than their mother's knee. That's when Dan Callnon ('69) started on a musical journey that still continues.

Lucky for him, his mother and father supported him on this journey. They paid \$75 for his first drum set from Tone's Pawn Shop, which was located in Downtown Sacramento. He honed his skills with a band when he was 12 years old by practicing two or three times a week. They started out by playing primarily surf music, covering the music of the Beach Boys, the Ventures, and Jan & Dean. He eventually expanded to playing psychedelic rock and myriad selections from the British Invasion. He also picked up a few pointers by watching *The Ed Sullivan Show* every Sunday night. Right in his parents' living room, he was able to watch the greats, like Ginger Baker of Cream, Charlie Watts of the Rolling Stones, and Ringo Starr of the Beatles, among others.

Dan's school career zigged and zagged: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – Campos Verdes, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – Highlands, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jesuit, and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Highlands, where he played drums in the dance band and also performed for school dances.

Like many Highlands grads from the '60s, Dan served in the Army, including a year in Vietnam, where he spent 6 months as a Wolfhound in the 25<sup>th</sup> Division and another 6 months in the 196<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade with the 23rd Division. He also spent time with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division while stateside and never passed up a chance to play in some of the USO clubs while serving his time. Close to 50 years later, he gives presentations about his time as an infantryman (grunt) in Vietnam for his nephew's

U.S. History students at Reno High. He uses music and sound bites to communicate his thoughts and feelings to the students. (Maybe we can have him speak at his alma mater to those whose grandparents and great grandparents lived during that era.)

Dan also used music as a tool to transition back to civilian life. Listening to music helped him deal with some of the demons of war. He was one of many who connects to Vietnam by playing "Run Through The Jungle" and "Fortunate Son," hits by Credence Clearwater Revival; "Shelter From The Storm" by the Stones; Eric Burden's "We Gotta' Get Out Of This Place"; "With A Little Help From My Friends" by Joe Cocker; and the Beatles' "Let It Be", just to name a few.

After playing in Blues, Rock, Country, Rhythm & Blues, Americana, Jazz, and Hillbilly Surf bands for a number of years, Dan founded the group Keep on Truckin' in 2011. The band is a tribute to the "Woodstock Generation" and plays covers from the '60s and '70s with a few other selections in the mix. Go to [www.Gigmasters.com/KeepOnTruckin](http://www.Gigmasters.com/KeepOnTruckin) if you're interested in booking the band, and for upcoming gigs and band updates, you can visit their Facebook page at [www.Facebook/KeepOnTruckinBand](http://www.Facebook/KeepOnTruckinBand).

Over the years, the band has played for a number of charity benefits, including Wounded Warriors, the U.C. Davis Children's Miracle Network, Tommy Apostolos Fund (a charity that helps disadvantaged children in Roseville), and the Alzheimer's Foundation. They have also performed for various 'Concerts in the Park' series, wineries, weddings, fairs, and festivals in and around the greater Sacramento area, the Bay Area, and the Reno/Tahoe area. A future gig includes playing next year for the 50-year reunion of the class of '69.

But so much for next year. Dan is also interested in the bands and musicians who came out of North Highlands in the late 1960s. Here's a list of some of those bands and their members and some of the talented musicians who attended Highlands:

#### '60s Bands From North Highlands

##### **Children of Stone**

Dave Carruthers  
Frances Gorre  
Erve Nagy  
Ray Nakamoto  
Rick Taylor

##### **Handle with Care**

Mike Flanders  
Mark Halverson  
John Kitchen  
Bud Spaulding  
Steve Westmoreland

##### **Junk**

Jim Baudendistel  
Dan Callnon  
Stan Chambers  
Rudy Hernandez  
Scott Hubbard  
Dave Swital

#### North Highlands Noteables

James Papastathis – Guitarist, Mr. December  
Johnny Patton – Keys/Vocals, Wayside  
Bill Peck – Drums, Beer Dawgs

Jimmy Zavala – Sax and Harp. Played with Rod Stewart, the Eurythmics, Etta James, and the Jimmy Z Band. (Note: You can read more about Jimmy Zavala in the July 2016 newsletter, the one with Rodney Carson ('80) and Prince Harry on the first page.)

## ALUMNI READING LIST

I watched a show about reading some of the great literature that a lot of us read when we were in school, too many to name here. So I thought I could publish a list of what Highlands alumni are reading this summer. Here it is:

Alumnus	Class	Books Being Read
Gary Mckenzie	1960	<i>Assegai and War Cry</i> by Wilbur Smith
Jeanette Null	1960	<i>Deliverance: Mary Fields</i> by Miantae Metcalf McConnell
Barbara Burton	1961	<i>Sons and Soldiers</i> by Bruce Henderson
Kay Stothart	1963	<i>The Perfect Couple</i> by Elin Hilderbrand
Cheryl White	1964	<i>My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry</i> by Fredrik Backman <i>Planets</i> by Dava Sobel <i>Sleeping Beauties</i> by Stephen and Owen King <i>How to Talk to Your Cat</i> by Jean Craighead George <i>I, Eliza Hamilton</i> by Susan Holloway Scott <i>The Outsider</i> by Stephen King <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeline L'Engle
Dale Stroble	1964	<i>The Privilege of Peace</i> by Tanya Huff <i>Red Waters Rising</i> by Laura Anne Gilman
Steve Heath	1965	<i>A Whole Different Ballgame</i> by Marvin Miller
Donna Kidd	1965	<i>Summer in the South</i> , by Cathy Holton
Mary Peek	1965	<i>The Cloud</i> by Matt Ritchel
Beverly Adams	1967	<i>A Scent of New Mown Hay</i> by John Blackburn <i>The Medici Giraffe and Other Tales of Exotic Animals and Power</i> by Maria Belozerskaya
Mary Anderson	1967	<i>Alexander Hamilton</i> by Ron Chernow <i>The Road to Character</i> by David Brooks



Diana Lancia	1967	<i>Angels of Detroit</i> by Christopher Hebert
Bruce Enos	1968	<i>The Caine Mutiny</i> by Herman Wouk <i>Blood Meridian</i> by Cormac McCarthy <i>Fail Better, or Why Baseball Matters</i> by Marc Kingwell
Lynne Mann	1968	<i>The Outsiders</i> by Stephen King
Jackie Torfin	1968	<i>The Great Alone</i> by Kristen Hannah <i>White Rose, Black Forest</i> by Edin Dempsey
Marie Small-Blaylock	1969	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon</i> by David Grann
Sherreta Lane	1973	<i>Something in the Water</i> by Catherine Steadman <i>Crazy Rich Asians</i> by Kevin Kwan <i>The Sun Does Shine</i> by Anthony Ray Hinton <i>The President is Missing</i> by James Patterson and Bill Clinton.
Toni Gonzales	1979	<i>You Can't Make This Stuff Up</i> by Teresa Caputo

Is your name not on this list and you're reading? Especially you alum from the '80s and '90s! Send me your name, year graduated, the book, and its author. If I get enough names, I'll publish another list. Have fun reading.

### ***ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER***

If you want to submit an item for *Alumni News*, you are welcome to do so. Remember that this is your newsletter. This newsletter is by, for, and about you and your classmates.

So I hope to hear from you by **Wednesday, September 5**. You are welcome to submit photos with your articles. Send your items to me at [marya195821@gmail.com](mailto:marya195821@gmail.com) or via Facebook.