

Sands of Time

Siuslaw Alumni Association Newsletter

June 2011

Volume 6 • Issue 1

Siuslaw Alumni Association Board Meeting Schedule

September 10, 2011

Three Rivers Casino
& Hotel

Florence, Oregon

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President's Message

Hello to all,

The year 2010-2011 was a great one for the Siuslaw Alumni Association. The Board of Directors worked diligently to accomplish the goals of making this organization something we all will be proud to support. All of the board and their committees made this possible.

Highlights for the past year were:

The 2010 all-class reunion held at Three Rivers Casino was our largest with attendance totaling 218 alumni and guests.

Scholarships: Thanks to all the generous donations, we will be awarding two \$2000 scholarships to Siuslaw High students.

Your Board of Directors would like to say a special thank you to everyone who supported the Alumni Association this past year. We can only continue our success if we all support this organization. Plan to attend the All-Class Reunion on September 10, 2011! See you there!

Wes Strahm, SAA President

CHANGES FOR THE ALL-CLASS REUNION CHECK IN

- 1 - There will be two entries into the dining room.
- 2 - A table will be set up outside the dining area at 3 PM for early pick-up of name tags & dinner tickets.
- 3 - The deadline for pre-paying for the dinner will be moved to September 1st. This is to help with a more accurate count for Three Rivers Casino. This will facilitate having enough tables set up for everyone. These changes will make everything run more smoothly during the evening.
- 4- Sign up for Sunday breakfast at the banquet. There will be a table at the door of the Sunday breakfast for payment, casino buffet area.

See you all on September 10th!

**Siuslaw
Alumni Association Board**

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Lou Anne Wood Fore**

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Sands of Time

**Editor/Publisher -
Carolyn Lockwood Nordahl**

**Reunion Invitation -
Rita Boyce Snyder**

Process: Subject to editing,
Omissions, revisions

Santa is an Alumni of SHS!!!

by Lou Anne Wood Fore



Actually we all know him better as Jim Carlson, class of 1956. After graduation he went on to college at OCE (now Western Oregon University) and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Science and Mathematics Instruction in 1960. He returned to Florence to teach 7th & 8th grade mathematics and coach high school wrestling. After four years Jim moved to the high school to teach math and coach wrestling. By this time he had a family of five children of which two were boy and girl twins. After teaching for eight years he resigned his teaching position and spent a year doing odd jobs in the area including being an engineer for Sause Brothers on one of their tugboats.

Jim went back into his chosen career of education as a Principal, School District Business Manager and Superintendent of Schools in various locations in eastern Ore-

gon. After several years in eastern Oregon Jim says he "dried out" from the rainy western Oregon weather. He tells people that he was thirty years old before he realized not everybody had a pair of rubber boots in their utility room. However, he still needs to get his "Ocean Fix" about once a year.

In the late 1980's Jim did his first Santa Claus gig. The primary teachers in his school district needed a Santa Claus for their Christmas program. This continued in the communities where he lived from that point on so he eventually purchased his own Santa suit. Several years ago a commercial photographic business in Powell, Wyoming (where Jim now resides) asked if they could take a professional Santa Clause picture to put in their window display during the holiday season. The owners of the photography studio have become his good friends. Jim provides them with fruit from his orchard and they furnish him with jam!

Jim retired in 1992 so his wife, Kay, could return to school to earn her Masters Degree in Library Science. Subsequently, she became Library Director at Dull Knife Memorial College on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Lame Deer, Montana. While living on the reservation they took advantage of the activities

Continued on page four.

2011 Scholarship Awards
by Sharon Strahm

Megan Connor

The Siuslaw Alumni Scholarships are made possible only through all the generous donations to the Alumni Scholarship Fun. In the fall, at the All-Class Reunion & Banquet, raffle tickets are sold on donated items and all the proceeds go directly into the Scholarship Fund. The goal of the Siuslaw Alumni Board is to be able to increase the number of scholarships each year and/or increase the amount given to each recipient.

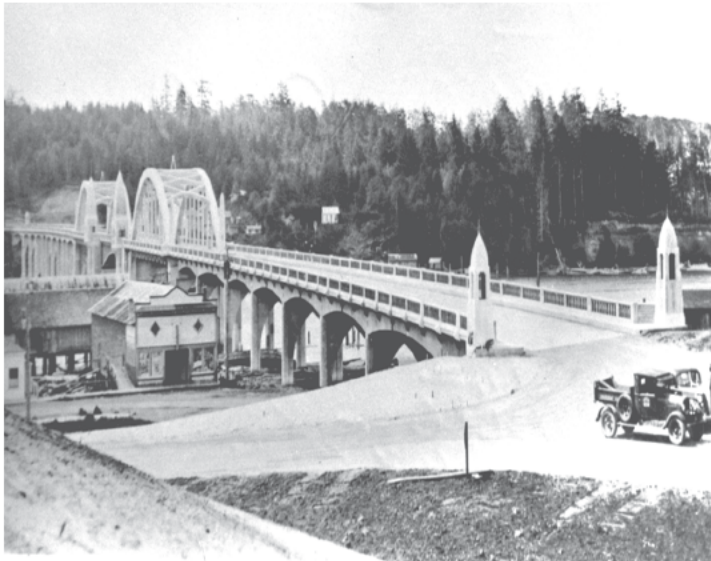
Louis Kerner

This year the Alumni Association awarded two scholarships and increased the amount of each to \$2,000 for the year of 2011.

Megan Connor will be the recipient of one of the \$2,000 scholarships. She will attend the University of Oregon where she will pursue a dual major in English and Journalism. Megan's goal is to earn a master's degree in both subjects with a career as a print or broadcast journalist.

Louis Kerner will also be a recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship. He will attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. He plans to earn a degree in Global Security and Intelligence (GSIS), with plans to work in agencies such as Homeland Security, CIA, NSA, FBI, DOD.

Both are outstanding students and will be a great representative of Siuslaw High School. Thank you for your continuing support that enabled the Siuslaw Alumni Association to be one of the largest scholarships awarded this year.

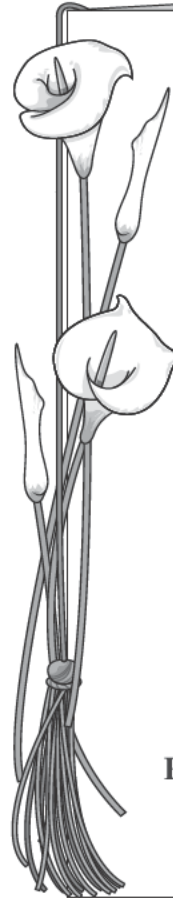


New Siuslaw River Bridge / Bill's Auto - 1936

Special Reunions Being Planned ~ Fall of 2011 ~

This September the All-Class Reunion will be giving special notice to the classes of 1961, 1951, and 1941. It is our hope that as many of you from all classes will attend to make it a very special event for these classes.

Come and enjoy the evening and find some re-connections to people in your class.



In Memoriam

Beulah Huntington Adevai

- Class of 1939 -

Harry J. Nordahl

- Class of 1943 -

Elnora "Lean" Rhinevault Wells

- Class of 1953 -

David Oare

- Class of 1957 -

Keith Circle

- Class of 1957 -

Diane Bond Hanson

- Class of 1965 -

Robert "Bob" Bond

- Class of 1967 -

Robert Johnson Ella Vanderberg

Keith Robinson

- Classes Unknown -

News from Our Past

FLORENCE, OR, FRIDAY, MAY 25, 1951

Crowds Gather for Rhododendron Day

A balmy day at the coast greeted Rhododendron Day guests at Florence. Rather than being a rainy day as many of the inlanders were overheard expressing, it was to be expected as Mother Nature's flower show for which Siuslaw Booster Club was host.

Miss Gay Nelson was selected Queen Rhododendra XII to rule over festivities and crowned at ceremonies Saturday night at the Rainbow Ballroom by John Steelhammer, speaker of the house of representatives. She was presented a shower bouquet of rhododendrons and each of the six princesses carried a nosegay of a single rhododendron cluster.

Free chowder was served to serpentine lines at the city park under the supervision of Chefs Art Harris and Mickey Murray, who lost count of the number of servings ladled out, so great was the crowd.

50-Year Reunion for the Class of 1961

by Judy McClellan and Mary Carlisle

Almost half a century ago the SHS Class of 1961 graduated. Now, thinking back, we wonder how could time pass by so quickly? Although we have chosen different paths throughout our past 50 years, we will never forget where the journey began. SHS! *Go Vikings!*

Our class will come together to celebrate this milestone during the All Alumni Reunion weekend of Sept. 9-10-11. A Class of 1961 social gathering and dinner on Friday, the 9th will kick off the weekend. On Saturday the 10th, several activities are offered for the classmates to choose from, including the All Alumni Reunion event at Three Rivers Casino and Hotel. We are hoping all class members will attend that event. On Sunday the 11th, a morning breakfast will provide a time to reminisce on the weekend and to say our good byes.

We are asking help in locating the following classmates in order to notify them about the reunion weekend: Andy Dahlman, Edit

Pew-Turner, Judy Mosley, Opal Moore, Beverly Lent, Geralda Henderson, Marvin Miller, Wayne Willit, Carolyn Young, Joanna Muller, Nancy Peerson, Joyce Meyers-Dunlap, Diane Shore-Wold, Joe Crawford, Ruth Watkins.

Please contact a reunion organizer:

Judy Worthylake McClellan at rusticwholesale@yahoo.com, Mary Stone Carlisle at Mrymyr@q.com or... Class of '61, p.o. box 327, Florence, OR 97439

SIUSLAW HIGH SCHOOL APPAREL

Design and order your Alumni Apparel
On-line

visit

www.alumni.class.com/siuslaw



Rhododendron Festival Best Ever ~ 1961

THE SIUSLAW NEWS - FLORENCE, OR, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1961



Queen Rhododendra XXII
Carmelita Beck

The climax of the Rhododendron Festivities was reached Saturday night at the high school gym, where the Queen's ball was held, when Carmelita Beck, the Lady of Elks and Elk's candidate was crowned Queen Rhododendra. The Queen was overcome at the announcement and took several minutes and the ministrations of "Uncle Charlie" LaFranchise and Bill Dunaven to compose herself enough to approach the front of the stage.

Mary Middleton was escorted by her brother, Randy, who was here for the occasion from his navy base at Whidby Island, WA; Carmelita Beck's escort was Tom McClure; Mary Stone was escorted by Coleman Carlisle; Leilani Gallo's escort was Archie Meadows, and Marcia Mann had her brother, Jim as her escort. The white bouffant gowns, long white gloves, and rhododendron nosegays each carried set off the charm and youthful beauty of the Princesses.

Bette Hueller was crowned Junior Queen of the Rhododendron Festival in a colorful ceremony and program at the high school gym on Friday afternoon. The little princesses preceded Bette down the hall and up onto the stage. She was attended by her court, Princesses Karen Saubert, Janice Grosenbach; train bearer, Dawn Gilbert and Kathleen Peterson.

"I believe this was the largest crowd we ever had at the Rhododendron Festival," was the comment of Police Chief Charles Lovell when asked to estimate the crowd here during the two day event. He estimated the crowd at "over 15,000".



Marcia Mann



Leilani Gallo



Mary Stone



Mary Middleton



Old Siuslaw School - Maple Street - 1946

Get Involved with SAA!

There are three Siuslaw Alumni Association Board meetings per year and all alumni are invited to attend and to participate. We welcome your new ideas and opinions. The board meetings are working luncheons with one held in Eugene and two held in Florence. So, if you have an interest in helping the positive direction of the SHS alumni Association and its work, please join one or all meetings.

The next meeting will be September 9, 2011 in Florence at the Three Rivers Casino and Hotel. For more information please contact Wes Strahm at weshars@aol.com or any of the board members listed on page two.

Santa continued

there. One of the skills Jim learned was how to do Native American Bead Work. After three years on the reservation they

moved to Powell, Wyoming where Kay was Library Director at Northwest College. Sadly, Kay lost her battle with cancer in March, 2010.

Memoriam Book

"In Memory of" or "Gone But Not Forgotten"??

If anyone is interested, we would like to have obituaries, or just name, class, picture etc. Anything that you would like to have included in our book, to help us remember past students. We would like to go back as far as the first class from Siuslaw High.

They don't have to be graduates of Siuslaw but any students who attended the school for any long length of time.

Name - class they would have been in - year passed away - it's whatever you want included.

Please mail information or questions to:
Zilpha Meink Smith
887 E. 39th Pl.
Eugene, Oregon 97405

How does this Santa get around the country? Jim is a long-time pilot. He was licensed in February 1978 after his 40th birthday. Later that year he purchased a 1969 Piper Cherokee (PA-28-140B) which he still owns. He has logged more than 1,800 hours of flight time.

Jim continues being a very active volunteer, most recently serving on the Board of Trustees for the local health care organization. Additionally, he serves on the Airport Commission and is the treasurer of the Powell Council of Community Services. Jim's recommendation to new retiree's is to use the word "No" more often. He enjoys what he does but sometimes becomes a little overloaded. HH

Florence Fire Department - Many Years Past

by *Skeet Arasmith*



In 1956 the department purchased a new IH truck shown in the photo above. The new fire truck on the day of delivery to Florence. From left to right, Donald Bowman whose parents owned a furniture store, Ion Herring, Vannie Arasmith, and Louie Bernhardt.

good idea, until the time all of the firemen arrived without a truck.

The fire chief in those early years was Al Morten, who ran the local liquor store. The only fire truck that was available when Vannie first moved to Florence was a Chevy hose truck. I



*Al Morten
Fire Chief 1955*



*Vannie
Arasmith*

In 1947 Vannie Arasmith and Clyde Kimble purchased the Front Street Garage which was located on the Southwest corner of Front St. (now Bay St.) and Maple. On the southeast corner was the Fire Dept. Maple at the time extended onto the dock. I am not sure when Vannie joined the



fire dept. However, what I do remember was fire calls would come to the shop by phone. Then someone, usually Vannie, and when I became older it was me, who ran across the street and hit the siren. This was the call for me to show up at the fire hall or to telephone the operator (there were no dial phones at the time) and find out the location of the fire. The idea of calling the operator and then going directly to the fire was a

have some memory of this truck as it did not have a pump. I can't remember if it had a cab or not. It may have been a 1934 or 36 Chevy. The Chevy hose truck may have looked like the one in the background. Shortly after or within 1947 the fire dept. purchased a military surplus pump trailer. It was OD green. The guys took turns hooking it up to their individual cars so it would be available at all times. They did this until their new truck arrived. Similar to the trailer pump used by the early Florence Fire Dept. The first truck was a 1947 Ford. I think it was a 300 gpm midship pump.

Later the Rural District was formed and an



agreement was made between the City of Florence and the Rural District to house their new trucks at the Florence Fire Hall. Both of these



new trucks were before 1951 as the grill on the 1951 was significantly different. If my memory is correct, it was at that time that Vern Passenger was elected chief of the Rural District. Fire Hall at Florence in the mid 1950's - after its renovation. I have no documentation about when Vannie became chief, although it would have been about 1954 or 1955. He was with the fire department for about 15 years and chief for 7 of those.

Shown are photos of significant fires that took place in the early years before the department split into two independent departments.

This was an old school that was being used by a company to sort brush and ferns used for flower arrangements. The theater fire was located on Front Street.

Reuniting with Your Class - Plans for Special Gatherings

**SHS Class of 1954 - and friends
Dinner & Social Hour Gathering
September 9th • 5:00 p.m.
RSVP Sharon (Gwynn) Strahm
541-345-7024**

**SHS Class of 1959
Maui, Hawaii • Oct. 2011
Contact Carolyn Nordahl
echographics@charter.net
541-999-9384**

**SHS Class of 1961
Weekend Social Gatherings
Sept. 9, 10, & 11
Please refer to article on page 3
of this newsletter.**

Siuslaw Alumni Association
PO Box 1924
Florence, OR 97439

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Purpose: To Promote and Recognize the
Graduating Classes, Former Students and
Teaching Staff of Siuslaw High School

Membership: Contact
Lou Anne Fore

Phone: 360-942-5445 (home) or
425-231-2483 (cell)

Email: louanne@woodnnickols.net

2011 All-Class Reunion Registration and Membership Application

The Siuslaw High School Alumni Association invites all graduates and non-graduates to attend a banquet and their annual meeting. Non-Members of the Alumni Association are also invited.

Place: Three Rivers Casino & Hotel 5647 Highway 126 Florence, OR 97439 (541-997-7529)	September 10th September 11th	Social Hour5:30 Dinner6:30 No Host Breakfast 9 a.m. - Trio Room
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Keep this section for your record of tax deductible donation to the Scholarship Fund

Donation: SHS Alumni Association – Scholarship Fund

Date _____	Amount\$ _____	Ck# _____	Your Name _____
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Mail this section and check to: SHS Alumni Association RSVP by September 1, 2011
P.O. Box 1924
Florence, OR 97439

Name _____	(Maiden) _____	SHS Graduating Class _____
Yours _____		
Spouse/Guest _____		
Address _____		
Phone - - - - - E-Mail _____		

Number of dinner reservations _____ \$ _____ Dinner: \$30/per person– includes gratuity

Note:
We are hoping everyone pays in advance to ensure a more organized event.

**\$ _____ Member Dues: \$10 per household
(10/01/2010 to 09/30/2011)

**\$ _____ Scholarship Donation

\$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed

****This form may be used for Membership and/or Scholarship donation even if you are unable to attend the reunion.**

Lodging: Three Rivers Hotel has reserved 35 rooms for SHS Alumni Assn. at \$91/night. All reservations for these reduced room rates must be made by August 15th directly to Three Rivers Hotel. Call Toll Free (877) 374-8377 or above number. Free valet service provided.

Information: Call Phyllis Wells (541-997-2529) or e-mail Rita Snyder (rsnyder14@msn.com)