

SANDS of TIME

Generations of family, fun and food

The annual Siuslaw Alumni Association scholarship fundraiser and all-school banquet has fun in store for all classes on Saturday, September 7, at the Florence Events Center. Reservations are required. Early bird registration of \$50 per person is due August 7. Late registration will be taken from August 8-28 for \$65. No registrations accepted after this date. No pay at door. RSVP form is inserted in this newsletter and available online.

At 4 p.m. the doors open, and alumni and guests can pick up their name tags, which are sorted alphabetically by last name and include a dinner ticket, from the front tables. A dinner buffet is served at 6:00 p.m.

Two bars will be open, accepting cash and credit cards. Back by popular demand are two colorful signature cocktails: Valiant Viking and Siuslaw Sensation.

Raffle tickets are sold cash only (1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, 14 for \$10, 30 for \$20). Choose from a fantastic display of prizes that are donated by generous alumni and community members. Watch the Facebook page this summer for descriptions of the offerings. All the money raised goes into the scholarship fund.

Need a fresh new Viking shirt or fleece jacket? Stop by the merchandise booth to make your purchase.

The board will have a short meeting and take a vote on new members. All paid members in attendance can vote.

Any SAA scholarship recipients and their families in attendance will be introduced. President Mike Bones will also recognize classes by year with extra cheers for those celebrating milestone reunions.

The dessert dash is back so bring cash and plan to get your favorite treat for your table. This is a lively event that will raise even more scholarship funds for our deserving students. We're taking dessert donations (contact Karla at 503-931-1860 or lvnlarge4u2@q.com).

Raffle tickets will be drawn with the winning numbers displayed on the big screen. Winners can claim their prizes with the assistance of our helpful volunteers.

After dinner, you can boogie off your dessert on the dance floor. Does the 60s have the best music? Or is it the 90s? Bring your whole Siuslaw family (ages 18+) and dance it out.

If you're in town on Friday, join the fans at Hans Petersen Field on 27th Street as the Vikings football squad takes on the Marshfield Pirates at 7 p.m..

Scholarship Fundraiser and Reunion Banquet

September 7, 2024

Florence Events Center

715 Quince Street

Florence, Oregon

\$\$ bring cash \$\$

Dates to know

Reunion RSVP deadline

Aug. 7 (early bird)

Banquet/reunion

Sept. 7

Board meetings

Sept. 7

Jan. 2025 (TBD)

Scholarship deadline

March 2025

Siuslaw Alumni Association Board Members 2024-25

Officers:

President

Mike Bones '66

Vice President & Reunion

Chair

Karla Large McFadden '79

Secretary

Rita Boyce Snyder '55

Treasurer

Melissa Goodrich Phillips '78

Bylaws Advisor

Tim Dodson '82

Past President

Lou Anne Wood Fore '54

Directors:

Kara Alford '80

Jennifer Archer '86

John Barnes '69

Gina Castro Brandt '85

Kevin Brandt '85

Cindy Dunaven Engstrom '66

Debbie Shirley Flores '73

Shannon Anderson Sheets '89

Bob Sneddon '75

Debbie Fender Sneddon '79

Marcee Mills Teeters '76

Tracy Teeters '82

Phyllis Bennett Wells '52

Allyn Wilson '69

Newsletter Editor

Jennifer Archer

siuslawalumniassn@gmail.com

Find us on the internet:

Like Siuslaw Alums (Beth Meadows) on Facebook.

Visit us online:

www.siuslawalumni.org

Siuslaw Alumni Association is a domestic nonprofit 501(c)(7) corporation in Oregon (registry 780807-86) designated by the IRS as Social and Recreational Clubs. Effective April 2022, we are in the process of changing our designation to 501(c)(3) that, once approved, will allow SAA donations to be tax deductible.

Board committee updates

Scholarship Selection Committee

The Siuslaw Alumni Association offers \$3,500 scholarships to current and past graduates who are planning on or are attending a post-secondary education. This education can be either an academic or vocational training pursuit. Past recipients are also encouraged to reapply annually.

The alumni association only requires a self-generated essay that explains why the association should invest money in the applicant. This completed, one-page essay should be electronically sent to the chairman of the selection committee. The Siuslaw High School Aspire Office will have more information posted and will be able to give helpful advice prior to March 1 every year. The application is due prior to the third week in March.

The selection committee reviews the received applications and interviews the top six or so candidates. The association mandates that at least one scholarship be awarded to a student who is pursuing vocational education. The committee decides who to interview by the first week in April. The Siuslaw Alumni Association is the only provider that conducts student interviews to help the selection process.

The students who will receive scholarships will be selected around the first week of May. The recipients are not named publicly until the academic awards night at the Florence Events Center around the third week in May. Over the past several years, the alumni association has given three \$3,500 scholarships. The quantity of scholarships that will be awarded may go up or down depending on available funds. The available monies come from generous support from alumni mostly contributed during our annual banquet in September.

—*Allyn Wilson, Siuslaw Alumni Association Scholarship Selection Committee Chairman*

Membership Committee

The new membership chair, Debbie Shirley Flores '73, is creating a list of at least one person from each class (most likely the reunion organizer) who can be counted on to share information out to their classmates. After each board meeting, the class contact will be emailed and given updates on upcoming important dates and how people can donate cash/prizes, share scholarship info and more. We will still send the newsletter and an event reminder email to those we have addresses for. New address? Please let the SAA know of any changes as we mail our newsletter out as second class and it may not be forwarded to you. You can also choose to get the emailed PDF only. Please send your new mailing and/or email address to Debbie at siuslawalumniassn@gmail.com or 541-510-7778.

Raffle /Merchandise Committee

SAA scholarships are funded solely from raffle prize and monetary donations. If you, your class or your business would like to supply a gift card, gift basket, item, or service, please contact Shannon Anderson Sheets, SAA.Shannon@gmail.com or 541-999-6867

Where Are They Now?

Kaylee Graham '18

"I studied speech communication and earth science at Oregon State. Go Beavers!"

Favorite SHS memories:

"Honestly, I remember the teachers most from SHS. I was lucky to have some that were really great mentors."

"I took a gap year after graduating college. I lived abroad in Costa Rica for three months before moving to Japan where I worked at a hotel for nine months. Now I am living in Bend and working part time at Mt. Bachelor as a barista (but only so I can have the fee ski pass, ha ha) and nearly full time as a pantry manager for St. Vincent de Paul."

Alex Dodson '13

"I graduated from the University of Oregon with a BS in business administration with a concentration in marketing and sports business and a minor in economics."

Favorite SHS memories:

"Running stairs during basketball practice, practicing dives/rolls during volleyball and hill sprints up Kingwood Street for track."

"I'm currently a project manager on the marketing/communications team at The National WWII Museum in New Orleans."

2024 Scholarship Recipients

Siuslaw Alumni Association scholarships are awarded to graduating Siuslaw students who plan to attend or continue at a college and/or trade school. These scholarships are solely supported by donations to the scholarship fund and by all proceeds from the scholarship fundraiser banquet raffle.

For the year of 2024, we are pleased to announce three scholarships in the amount of \$3,500 each.



Jacob Freudenthal '24 is passionate about his future and technology. This passion has led him to pursue a bachelor's degree of science in cybersecurity at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls.



Ariana Mendez '24 had demonstrated a strong sense of determination to complete her goals of studying cosmetology and start a career as a nail technician. She has plotted and planned all the details so carefully and hopes to one day own her own shop.



Hailee Outlaw '23 is currently working on her CNA, as well as prerequisites for nursing school. She plans to enter nursing school in fall of 2025 with a targeted plan for graduating summer 2027. After graduating, Hailee plans to enter into sports medicine, or return home to nurse at Peace Health Hospital.



Connect With Your Class

This year's milestone reunions

MEET THE BOARD

Melissa Goodrich Phillips '78

I was born and raised in Florence and stayed to raise my family here. My husband of 43 years, Tony, graduated in 1979 and my son Kevin graduated in 2006 and son Kyle in 2009 and also my daughter-in-law Katie in 2012.

I joined the alumni association in 2002. I was a worker bee until 2022 when I took over being treasurer. In high school I was a cheerleader and homecoming queen my junior year. My favorite SHS human was Mr. Whitmore, our principal, and after I graduated, he ended up being my neighbor as well. I still get together with my besties from high school three or four times a year.

Phyllis Bennett Wells '52

I took over from Wanda Hoberg around 2001 and was treasurer until passing my ledger to Melissa. My kids are grads: Shelley Hill '71, Susan West '76, and Anthony (Tony) Wells '80.

My favorite class in high school was shop class. I made two pieces of neat furniture—one was my cedar chest.

If you see Phyllis on June 30, please wish her a happy 90th birthday!

Class of '55 Reunion

Sunday, September 8

Lunch meeting at the Shorewood Senior Living facility
in Florence on the invitation of

classmate Joy Scott McCourt, who lives there.

Contact Rita Snyder, 541-752-6457, rm.62sny@outlook.com

Class of '63 Reunion

Friday, September 6, noon

Honeyman Park

Contact Monty Hughes, 503-556-2820

Class of 1964 60-Year Reunion

Friday, September 6

Woahink Meeting Yurt

Contact Beth Meadows Sandberg,
541-733-4377, sandbergbw@gmail.com

Class of '74 50th Reunion

September 13-15

Friday night at Darlings Marina & RV Resort firepit

Contact Barbara Sue Shelton Reinke

Crew of 82 Annual Reunion

Friday, July 19, 6 p.m. social TBA

Saturday, July 20, 11 a.m. picnic at Darlings

Sunday, July 21, 11 a.m. brunch at Darlings

Contact Gina Haley Morrell

Class of 1984 40th Reunion

August 2-4

Friday at 6 p.m. starting at Abby's

Saturday at Darlings Resort

Contact Sheryl Van De Hey 541-999-1414

Class of 2004 20-Year Reunion

July 19-21

Contacts Kaeleen Kirkpatrick or Jennifer Neet

Class of 2014 10-Year Reunion

Sunday, June 9 at noon

Woahink Lake

Contact Desiree Menendez, 503-438-6087

Events subject to change.

Check www.siuslawalumni.org for updates.



Class Notes

Doug Barrett '76 was elected Tribal Chief of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw.

Devin Bunch '09 has joined the SHS Viking football team as the offensive line coach.

Three teams from the Business Careers in Technical Education at Siuslaw High School competed in the MarketingJAM at Connected Lane County in Springfield. On the CLC staff was Industry Outreach Coordinator Ryan Chamberlain '96 while sister Jennifer Archer '86 served as a marketing mentor representing the University of Oregon.



Haylee Cole '22 was named 2024 Miss Oregon Teen Volunteer and competed at the competitive national pageant in Jackson, Tennessee.

Noah Dotson '23 graduated from Northwest Lineman College in Meridian, Idaho.

Darrin Hollyman '89, founder of Hollyman Design, made yet another entry in the popular *Western Home Journal Magazine* with one of his latest exceptional designs.

Ali Irons '99 earned an HVAC journeyman license this year.

Brayson Myrick '21 is now a plumbing journeyman graduate.

Stephanie Osburn Norman '84, the University of Louisville women's basketball associate head coach, was named to the A STEP UP Assistant Coaches Hall of Fame Class of 2024. She has spent the last 17 years with the Cardinals and her teams have made eight Elite Eight and four Final Four NCAA appearances.

Jesse Schutte '06, a PGA professional, qualified for the 2023 US Open.

Ted Taylor '63 is the retired editor of *Eugene Weekly* and is the current newsletter editor of the *McKenzie Fly Fishermen's Newsletter*.

Evan Teter '18 is the new baseball coach for the Sweet Home Huskies varsity baseball team. They play in the 4A Oregon West Conference.

Derek Wells '96 is the new Siuslaw baseball coach. He was the 1996 Far West League Player of the Year.

Hoberg's Complete Auto Repair closed after 78 years. Over the years, the owners were Raph Hoberg, the SHS principal, teacher, and coach; Irl (Earl) Zeimer; Gary and Wanda Ziemer '49 Hoberg; and Kevin '74 and Shasta Hoberg '75 McMullen.

Authors

Arlene Nicholson Hartzel '57 has been writing short stories and one of them is a local mystery story based on the history of the Florence public library.

After writing several nonfiction books, Ned Hickson '84 wrote his first crime thriller *No Safe Harbor*.

Renée Foss Lach-Sharon '86 was an author on *Health System Management and Leadership for Physical and Occupational Therapists*.

Middle school teacher Marcelle (Marcy) Stepp Rodarte '88 wrote a young adult fantasy adventure book *The Hand of Fate*.

Vanessa Nixon '88 has a story included in the anthology *Love Notes from the Soul: Stories and Transformation and Hope*. She is also the author of *Meno-Morphosis: Rituals, Spells and Natural Remedies for Peri, Mid, and Postmenopausal Women*. She is also a traditional naturopath, natural cosmetics company CEO, and professional belly dance instructor.



Rhody Royalty

[CORRECTION: This couple graduated from Mapleton High School. But aren't they adorable!] Riding on a float in the Grand Floral Parade was Queen Joyce (1952 Rhododendron Festival princess) and King Willie (Joyce's escort in 1952 and her husband of 72 years).

Photo courtesy Shorewood Senior Living

Volunteer to join the Siuslaw Alumni Association board

- Are you true to your school?
- Do you love to wear blue and gold?
- Looking for a way to give back to your alma mater and community?
- Have a few open Saturdays or Sundays per year for meetings?
- Do you have enthusiasm, interests, and skills in fundraising, finances, event planning, local outreach, or education?

SAA board members are unpaid volunteers who meet three times per year in Florence. Many 50-year class reunion organizers participate on the board during the year leading up to their milestone reunion.

We are recruiting for board members to learn the positions from current members, so the transition is seamless when they choose to retire. We are also seeking other members-at-large.

Contact Secretary Rita Snyder for a position description, 541-752-6457, or by email rm.62sny@outlook.com, or chat with any board member.

In Memoriam

- Frank Adams, Class of 1965
 Mary "Jeannie" Chapman Bales, Class of 1971
 Deanna Durbin Black, Class of 1957
 Gertrude Prater Center, Class of 1955
 Ken Cook, Class of 1971
 Patricia Lamm Dearman, Class of 1952
 Gary Dollinger, Class of 1984
 Blake "Corky" Donica, Class of 1973
 Beverly Sullivan Pelham Garneau, Class of 1972
 Rodney Goble, Class of 1965
 John Green, Class of 1957
 Mike Hazen, Class of 1964
 Al Hendrickson, Class of 1967
 Edwinna Lemke Kirk, Class of 1966
 Janet Beecher Light, Class of 1980
 David Lockwood Jr., Class of 1988
 Ted McClellan, Class of 1958
 Clifford Phelps, Class of 1974
 Jeanette Marie Harvey Pinkerton, Class of 1958
 Judy Chapelle Yarbrough Poe, Class of 1962
 Mike Salyers, Class of 1968
 Denise Trotter Shaw, Class of 1971
 Richard "Dick" Shelton, Class of 1965
 Carmelita Beck Stellato, Class of 1961
 Ted Simmoneau, Class of 1958
 Judy Girton Sindt, Class of 1961
 Larry VanCurler, Class of 1969
 Aimee Rose Harris Vasquez, Class of 1989
 Brian Webb, Class of 1976
 David Wilson, Class of 1967
 Sherry Holloway Winona, Class of 1969
 Ellen Baker Zimmerman, Class of 1943
- Siuslaw School System Educators and Staff
Olive Martin

please send any graduation date changes or obituaries to editor

1965 Quiz

- Q. Where is the most dangerous place you've been?
- a. Vietnam
 - b. Mr. Waite's chemistry lab
 - c. Locker room after 1963 loss to Newport, 97-3.
 - d. Outside the teachers' smoking room with the door open.

Submitted by Susan Sampson; question by Patty Pirrie from a past class reunion. (Ask Sue about how the chemistry students found the recipe for making nitroglycerine, which is explosive, before the internet existed.)



Growing up Viking

I was not a native to Florence, in fact I moved there from Lookingglass at the ripe old age of three ... and never looked back. It was a long drive down the paved Highway 38, with its occasional mudslides, rockslides, and traffic jams at Elkton and Scottsburg. The traffic at Reedsport was a nightmare with the old Chevy still hot from pulling the hill a mile east of town. I could have taken 99 to Route F, but the tunnel wasn't finished yet; still gravel and only one lane. I ended up on the wrong side of town, the north side. Nobody knew me, I was invisible. Those four miles were a vast expanse separating me from the town folk and the cool kids on the south side. Life was solitary, few neighbors, no side streets, just the bustling artery of Highway 101. A car or truck came by every five or ten minutes in the wintertime, mostly log trucks in the cold rain. It was paradise though. Eventually I could run more than fifty feet without falling over and filling my pockets and my ears with sand. I was growing up Viking in more ways than one, but this isn't a story about me. This is a story about the people outside of my home who turned me into, well, a bigger and better version of me.

Too many to list here, but I will anyway, the people who raised me outside of my home, they were just doing their jobs, I suppose. They probably couldn't see me. All Mrs. McDonald could see was that number two pencil in the wrong hand. I didn't need to sharpen it often; my letters came slowly. Mrs. Yarbough couldn't see me; I had shrunk into the chair at the back of the classroom where I could stare out the window and daydream about my first-grade sweetheart, now my wife. She got to go to second grade at the bottom of the hill with the cool kids. The separation was tearing me up inside. Mrs. Pringle only saw me when I pulled Kathy's hair as she sat at the desk in front of me. She hated me, perhaps both of them did. Mr. Harrington, in the new elementary school, saw me through whisky glasses, but just barely. My wife was in the room with me so it was okay. Mr. Gee saw my backside with a paddle but that didn't count, he saw every boy's backside with a paddle after the Great Riot of fifth graders ended ... only Karla knows why it began. Back at the bottom of the hill in town, Mrs. Ulrich might have seen me; Bic pens were new and made perfect spit wad shooters. Silent but deadly! I could hide better in the old junior high school, once the high school. It was huge, I could get lost in the crowd and Mr. Kink never found me. I purposefully hid out from Mr. Duncan; he reminded me of Alfred Hitchcock, and I was scared the whole eighth-grade school year. Judy got me into more trouble than a man should have to bear, and Mr. Duncan's glare was enough to chill my blood.

A teacher saw me in high school and I panicked, I'm caught, no way out. Mr. Lynn Lockwood '58 saw me and I knew it. He didn't let on, but I knew it. He started slowly by sneaking up behind me and helping me. It was awful. I didn't know anything about saws, jointers, lathes, planers and wood. Wood was for splitting all summer long and burning all winter, wood ... who cares. And to make it worse, I think he must have gone to summer school himself to learn more ways to torture me. Sophomore year we were in the new high school and we had a metal shop. I was doomed. Mr. Lockwood lit up the oxy-acetylene torch for the first time right in front of me. He must have seen the flame in my eyes. It mesmerized me and he knew it; the welding arc too. He taught me how to manipulate steel, pour liquid brass and aluminum; and I was hooked. There was no going back. These were the dark arts of industry and Mr. Lockwood was the Master Wielder of Metal. We made oil-sand castings of brass and aluminum, welded trailers, dune buggies and broken engine mounts. We even built a garden-sized bulldozer, which contained lesson after lesson of the dark arts. Mr. Pickett next door could keep his airplane, we were doing heavy metal projects! I don't remember a single paper and pencil test. There must have been some, but it was all about hands-on skills and muscle memory. I learned fast for the first time in my life and, whether he knew it or not, he set me on my career course for the remainder of my life. I never spoke to a guidance counselor once in high school; there was no need. These are solitary skills. There is no one under that welding hood but yourself and no one holding that cutting torch but you. Mr. Lockwood built my foundation out of metal, and I am forever grateful.

Today I am retired, less than ten miles from where I started, Lookingglass, near Winston. I traveled the world as a hyperbaric welder. Made my first underwater weld at the age of eighteen as a US Navy diver in a MK V hardhat diving helmet and a canvas suit. I repaired oil rigs in the North Sea before I was twenty-six years old. I worked and welded on rigs in the Caspian, Caribbean, and South China seas, a spy buoy in the eastern Mediterranean, navy ships in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, on ice breakers at McMurdo Station Antarctica on three different occasions, and submarines in the Persian Gulf and the Peugeot Sound. I pioneered underwater aluminum welding for the US Navy as a civilian welder/diver as well as naval bronze and stainless-steel propeller material. But this isn't a story about me. This is about Mr. Lynn Lockwood, the first teacher who really ever saw me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart and sometimes ... the bottom of the sea. (Watch Ken in this [YouTube video](#) on underwater aluminum welding.)

By Ken Elliott, Class of 1972

Siuslaw Alumni Association
PO Box 1924
Florence OR 97439

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PD
PERMIT 344
SALEM, OR