

Sands of Time

Siuslaw Alumni Association Newsletter

June 2022

Volume 17 • Issue 1

Siuslaw Alumni Association Board Meeting and All-School Reunion Banquet

September 17, 2022

Florence Events Center
715 Quince Street
Florence, Oregon

In This Issue:

Reunion	1
Scholarships.....	2
Where are they now?	2
The Intruders.....	3
Celebrations.....	3
In memoriam	3
Viking love.....	4
Going glam for a cause	4
Class notes.....	5
Reunions.....	5
Raffle donations	6
Coach Flem retires	6
Class photo	6
SAA board members	7
SAA elections.....	7
Join the Board	7
Donation form.....insert	

Address Changed?

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 email addresses to
Beth Meadows Sandberg
siuslawalumniassn@gmail.com
or call **541-733-4377**.

Welcome back, Vikings!

After two years of uncertainty everyone is ready to come together and celebrate Siuslaw alumni and scholarship recipients.

The long-awaited all-school reunion and banquet will take place on Saturday, September 17, at the Florence Events Center. Reservations are required. Social hour kicks off at 5:00 p.m. with a dinner buffet served at 7:00 p.m. The Intruders are back by popular demand to rock the dance floor starting at 9:00 p.m. A \$10 cover charge applies to those not attending the dinner. The RSVP form in this newsletter is due by September 3.

Upon entering the event center, alumni and guests will pick up their name tags. They are sorted alphabetically and will include a dinner ticket.

Two bars will be available during the event, accepting cash and credit cards for soft drinks, beer, and wine. Coffee and tea are offered for free.

Cheerful rovers will be selling raffle tickets, cash only. Tickets can be dropped into bowls in front of a fantastic selection of prizes that have been donated by generous community members. Watch the Facebook page this summer for descriptions of the prizes and donors. All the money raised goes into the scholarship fund.

Need a new Viking hat or shirt? Stop by the merchandise booth to make your selection.

The board will have a short meeting and take a vote on new members (see page 7). All paid members in attendance can vote.

The SAA scholarship recipients and their families will be introduced. President Mike Bones will also recognize classes especially those celebrating milestone reunions (including the ones that were delayed due to the pandemic).

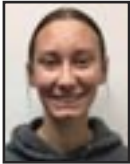
Raffle prizes will be drawn and numbers displayed on the big screen. Winners can claim prizes at the tables. Volunteers will assist in coordinating pickups.

At 9:00 p.m. everyone who is able can help clear the dance floor and put on their dancing shoes.

Attendees can choose their own level of COVID-19 protection and the venue will follow any regulations in place at that time. Please support everyone in their choices and plan to discuss high school memories and family and career happenings instead of divisive topics.

2022 Scholarship Recipients

Siuslaw Alumni Association scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors 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 all-school reunion banquet raffle. For the year of 2022, we are pleased to announce three scholarships in the amount of **\$3,500** each.



Rylee Colton

Rylee plans to attend Lane Community College to study nursing. She likes the smaller and more personalized feel of a community college. After she finishes her prerequisites, she will transfer to a university to specialize in labor and delivery. She has been inspired by our health care workers during the pandemic and hopes to join them in helping others. Rylee has been a leader on the cross country team and is proud of their accomplishments. She is a great listener and organizer. This really helped her young teammates. She may choose to participate on the LCC team, if it fits her schedule without interfering with her studies.

Ethan Halpin

Ethan plans to attend Linn-Benton Community College to become a certified electrician. He then plans to return to Florence to start his own company. Ethan thrives on hands-on activities, whether it's playing baseball, volunteering in the community, or working at several area jobs. This became evident during distance learning, when the pandemic made interactions difficult. He developed a great deal of resilience but is happy to be back on track doing the things he loves.



Imanol Pelayo

Imanol plans to dual enroll at the University of Oregon and Lane Community College, where he will study Romance languages. He already speaks three languages but may decide to study even more. He plans to become a foreign language teacher and would like to come back to Florence to teach multiple languages. Imanol has learned a great deal about adversity, hard work, and perseverance. His ability to help his family pivot their small restaurant business during the pandemic is a testament to his positive leadership, communication, and creativity.

We thank everyone for their continued support that makes the scholarships possible. We can all be very proud that our alumni scholarships are one of the largest to be awarded at Siuslaw High School. Donations for SAA scholarships are taken year-round. Visit our website for a complete list of past recipients.

Where Are They Now?

Overcoming adversity and loss at a young age

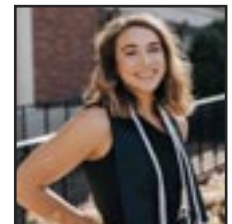
After I graduated from Siuslaw, I went to Colorado State University to pursue my academic and athletic endeavors. I was on the track team for one year but ultimately decided schooling needed to come first. During my second year, my father passed away and it became apparent that I needed to come back to Oregon and surround myself with loved ones. I transferred to Oregon State University. I graduated summa cum laude with my bachelor of science degree in

biohealth sciences in 2021. I was accepted to OHSU School of Dentistry in Portland. I am finishing my first year out of four, and I have learned an extraordinary amount over just the first year alone.

Throughout my young adult life, I have faced a lot of adversity due to coping with the death of both my mother and father. However, this has fueled my desire to pursue my passion of dentistry and ultimately provide a way for me to give back to

others. The scholarships I received at SHS have helped me tremendously to pay for my very expensive educational undertakings. I cannot express how grateful I am to those who have helped me along the way, and I look forward to returning the favor to others someday.

By Carissa Oliver, Class of 2017



Celebrations

Anniversaries

Dave and Pam Shollenberger Jensen, both from the class of **1964**, will celebrate 55 years in September.

Don and Betty Jackson Larson, both from the class of **1954**, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on September 7, 2021. They still own property in Florence.

Jerry '61 and Julie Stewart Stephenson '66 will celebrate 55 years of marriage on June 25.

Graduations

Lainey Goss '18 is graduating from Oregon State University Honors College with a bachelor's in bio-health sciences, premed option. Her proud parents, Trisha and Jon Holden and Brian and Liz Goss, are all SHS alumni.

Evan Teter '18 is graduating from George Fox University with a degree in elementary education.

Championships

The Siuslaw girls and boys cross country teams were state champions in 2021.



Put on your dancing shoes! The Intruders are back by popular demand!

The band was formed in Florence in 1962. Current members Mike, Tom, and Denny will be playing your favorites after the banquet, starting at 9:00 p.m. If it's anything like last time, there will be smooth dance moves and special alumni singers joining in. Don't miss it!

In Memoriam

- Ted Allen, Class of 1967
 Ardith Ruth Hartzell Bernhardt, Class of 1947
 Lillian Austin Bernhardt, Class of 1940
 Sharon Brackett, Class of 1976
 Dixie Miles Buss, Class of 1962
 Dusty Clark, Class of 1977
 June Ross Cleveland, Class of 1951
 Pat Lamm Dearman, Class of 1952
 Bud Earl, Class of 1961
 Grant Eckroth, Class of 1967
 Don Fender, Class of 1964
 Loren Fleming, Class of 1979
 Carl Forsell, Class of 1954
 Sandra Meink Friese, Class of 1958
 Jerry Gnau, Class of 1953
 Rex Graham, Class of 1988
 Virginia 'Virgie' Hanson, Class of 1945
 Dolores Riesenhuber Haslem, Class of 1952
 Mike Hayes, Class of 1968
 Steve Hill, Class of 1968
 Paul Holman, Class of 1962
 Patty Payne Kaus, Class of 1975
 Aaron Kief, Class of 1994
 Tommy Kief, Class of 1960
 Laird Krieger, Class of 1967
 Samuel (Norman) Ledgerwood, Class of 1949
 Brooke Lundeen Lev-Sieger, Class of 1999
 Shane Lindberg, Class of 1980
 Helen Bales Lilly, Class of 1966
 Hans Lindbloom, Class of 1949
 Steve Lockhart, Class of 1968
 Art (Chapman) Morgan, Class of 1969
 Gary Morris, Class of 1963
 Mark Noack, Class of 1975
 Deane Prindel Nordahl, Class of 1946
 Rich Prater, Class of 1982
 Terry Chastain Reed, Class of 1972
 Joyce Landwehr Richardson, Class of 1971
 Larry Robinson Sr., Class of 1965
 David Robson, Class of 1976
 Janel Wilkins Ruede, Class of 1991
 Troy Sathe, Class of 1985
 Bill Shelton, Class of 1961
 Katherine Huston Shirley, Class of 1950
 Tina Martin Smith, Class of 1977
 Marvin Strahm, Class of 1959
 Mickie Boyer Stephens, Class of 1962
 Donna Stonefield Petersen, Class of 1949
 Mike Swoboda, Class of 2009
 Leroy Walrod, Class of 1961
 Billy Wilson, Class of 1978
 Doug Wood, Class of 1987

Siuslaw School System Educators and Staff
 Elia Sardiña-Miles

please send any graduation date changes or obituaries to editor

Viking love

Not every Viking love story starts out as high school sweethearts. Some take a while to be realized.

Ron Miller '65 played basketball for Siuslaw. **Karla Austin '72** remembers watching his team play although she was probably in the fifth grade at that time.



They met in person the first time at his parents' house. He was home from serving in the Army until 1970; she was friends with his sister and still in high school.

Many years later, they met again. At that time, he was married to another SHS graduate, **Barbara Barnum**, and Karla recalled being so very appreciative of how kind they were to her and her son that day. Sadly, Barb passed away in 2014.

Ron and Karla later became Facebook friends and began chatting.

At one point, he mentioned that he had a nice supply of fresh crab given to him. Karla said, "I made a joke that if he had leftovers, I would be happy to help rid him of them. Generously, he took me up on that offer, shared them with me, and we became much better acquainted."

In a fairly short time, she found herself with an 18-year-old son, a 13-year-old granddaughter, a 10-year-old grandson, and a lovely 40-something step-daughter, and son-in-law.

Today, Ron and Karla live in Florence and enjoy time with family, camping, boating, traveling, and everything retirement has to offer.

Bill finds his passion in drag

June 1977. I, **Bill Sullivan**, said farewell to Siuslaw High and my many friends and took that leap of faith into the real world. Moving to "the big city" of Eugene, entering college, and discovering the real ME after being in such a shell for years. In 1980, I was welcomed into the world of drag entertainment. Maybe it was Mt. St. Helens that rocked my world open as this rapidly developed into a lifelong passion for entertaining and raising money for charities and nonprofits. There were two key people at Siuslaw who helped push my comfort zone and always urged me to step outside my box and try new things. Herb Brodin, who taught band and put so much faith in my abilities, and Sharon Lutero, who taught Greek mythology where ironically, would be the birthplace of my drag persona many years later (Daphne, the love of Apollo). Sharon had faith in me and encour-

aged growth that I never knew I had. I hope I have made them both proud today as 40 years later I am still going strong and loving life to the fullest. A major fundraising special I have been involved with for 21 years was the annual Damsels, Divas, and Dames, a drag spectacular at the Hult Center in Eugene. This event has raised over \$100,000 for HIV Alliance and been a favorite for so many people in Oregon and beyond. Kind of a makeshift SHS alumni reunion each year means the world to me. Knowing there is that support from friends and family can change your life and make it amazing.



Be you, Be kind, Be fabulous!



Cindy Dunaven Engstrom, Beverly Sullivan Garneau (Bill's sister), Bill Sullivan performing as Daphne Storm, Jennifer Archer, Beth Meadows Sandberg, Debbie Shirley Flores attend the final Damsels, Divas, and Dames show in April at the Hult Center in Eugene.

Class Notes

John Turner '60 celebrated his 80th birthday. He was the class valedictorian and after graduating from Oregon State University he spent 40 years as an electrical engineer for a national consulting engineering company.

Third-generation Florence resident **Terry Duman '76** ran for West Lane County Commissioner District 1 in the May 17 election.

The University of Louisville women's basketball team made it to the NCAA Final Four with an assist from associate head coach **Stephanie Osburn Norman '84**.

President and Chief Operating Officer **Tim Brackney '89** and his staff at Resources Global Professionals rang the bell at NASDAQ in April.

Vanessa Shelton Buss '89 was named CEO of the Florence Boys & Girls Club.

Retirement congratulations to Siuslaw School District employees: **Ward Large** (Class of 1983), 35 years; **Kim Pickell**, 32 years; **Cindi English Ramsey** (Class of 1979), 30 years; **Rachelle Krause Campbell**, 25 years; **Gay Davidson**, 15 years; **Peggy Brown Arnhold** (Class of 1963), 5 years; **Carole Cohen**, 4 years; and **Janet Mitchell**, 3 years.



Connect With Your Class

This year's milestone and postponed reunions

Class of 1955

September 18

Contact: Art German, text 209-482-0214,
call 209-887-3254,
or mail PO Box 1044, Linden, CA 95236

Class of 1964

September 16

Friday, 5:30 p.m., Abby's Pizza
Contact: Beverly Plaep Estep, 541-997-7939, or
Beth Meadows Sandberg, 541-733-4377

Class of 1965

September 16

Friday, banquet at Driftwood Shores
Contact: Pat Pirrie, 541-515-2058

Class of 1966

September 16

Friday, Bones Nursery (Mike and Kathy's house on Hwy 101).
Contact: Kathryn Thrall, kathrynthrall@hotmail.com

Class of 1971 "50 Plus+One" Class Reunion

September 16-17

Friday evening, Abby's Pizza
Saturday at all-school banquet
Contact: Don Hunt

Class of 1972 50th Reunion

August 12-13

Friday, 6:30 p.m. Abby's Pizza
Saturday, noon, lunch, 5:00 p.m. happy hour, 6:00 p.m. dinner
at Woahink Yurt
Contact: Karla Austin Miller, karla.pike@gmail.com

Class of 2000 20-year Reunion

August 6

Contact: Courtney Caswell

Events subjects to change.

Check www.siuslawalumni.org for updates.

Class of 1954 holds mini-reunion



Classmates in attendance were (from left to right) Lou Anne Wood Fore-Patterson, Carol Wade Grantom, Billie Hanson Faulkner, Zilpha Meink Smith, Careen Smith Morley, Jeannine Worthy-lake Dante, Arnold Colwell, Donald Larsen, Betty Jackson Larsen.

Raffle donations needed

SAA scholarships are funded through raffle prize and monetary donations. Many local businesses struggled during the pandemic and we hesitate to request large donations. Please consider buying items or gift cards locally and donating them to the prize committee. Or go in on a basket with your graduating class. SAA needs a receipt by donor for retail value of donated item. Contact Shannon Anderson Sheets to make a donation at 541-999-6867 or SAA.Shannon@gmail.com.

Two-time state champ Coach Flem hangs up whistle

The stands were packed with Viking football fans last November as Siuslaw capped a perfect season with the 3A state championship title. The Viks also played South Umpqua for the state trophy in 1981 but that game resulted in a co-championship.

The team was led by coach **Sam Johnson '13** who learned under **Tim Dodson '82** who learned from Len Lutero. It takes a village to win games and those members are the assistant coaches. They include **Jeff Gray '90**, **William Jones '15**, and **Jerry Fleming '88**, who is retiring after decades of roaming the sidelines.

"I have enjoyed my time coaching offensive and defensive line at Siuslaw. To finish my career coaching my son, Rhys, has been amazing and to coach him in a state championship has been a dream! It really doesn't get any better than that," Jerry said.

He played football while at Southern Oregon University, then worked in law enforcement in Oregon and Alaska. After earning a

master's degree from Eastern Oregon University, he began a career in elementary education working first in the Salem area.

In 1993, he coached as a junior varsity (JV) coach with Lutero, Dodson (his neighbor at the time), Steve Galbraith, and **Randy Fisher '87**.

One of the first dates with his wife, Mary, was a football scouting trip to Myrtle Point.

He was back in Florence to teach and coach in 2006. SHS won the state championship that year too. His oldest daughter, Margot, was a ball girl in the 2011 state final but Jerry was bummed they didn't win it all that year.

When Coach Dodson retired the team struggled but the kids still showed up and played their hearts out. Jerry dedicates the 2021 state title to those boys.

Jerry said, "Now it's time for me to focus on family and teaching second grade here at Siuslaw Elementary. My wife, Mary, has been so supportive of my work in football. I



Jerry on the gridiron in 1987.

Photo from the *Siuslaw News*.

have a sixth grader named Anna who loves playing soccer. Time to start the next chapter."

Relive the season and all the ones prior in book form.

For Viking football fans wanting to read more about each season **Don Hunt '71** has released the third edition of his book *The History of Siuslaw High School Football, A Tradition of Excellence* that includes the 2021 championship game.

To purchase a copy, go to www.lulu.com, put the title of the book in the search area and follow the prompts. The 448-page, hard-cover book is available in color and black and white.

Siuslaw Alumni Association Board Members 2022-23

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:

Jennifer Archer '86

John Barnes '69

Mary Stone Carlisle '61

Cindy Dunaven Engstrom '66

Jim Himmel '69

Judy Worthylake McClellan '61

Beth Meadows Sandberg '64

Shannon Anderson Sheets '89

Bob Sneddon '75

Debbie Fender Sneddon '79

Phyllis Bennett Wells '52

Merne Entgelmeier Wilson '68

Allyn Wilson '69

Editor/Publisher

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 vote to take place at banquet

On Saturday, September 17, paid members of Siuslaw Alumni Association will be asked to ratify by vote the nominating committee's three candidates to fill expiring positions on the SAA board of directors.

The vote will take place during the banquet portion of the reunion event.

The twelve-member board has four-year terms of office with graduated expiration dates.

The candidates this year are Tim Dodson, bylaws advisor; Beth Meadows Sandberg, membership committee chair; and Melissa Goodrich Phillips, treasurer. These are returning board members. Their new term

of office will begin in 2023.

Annual membership dues are \$10 for individuals or an alumni household (or \$5 with paid banquet dinner), payable each October. The board has three meetings per year that are open to the SAA membership.

Please fill out the enclosed form and mail to the SAA.

Alumni websites

Please note our website and Facebook page are the official sources for alumni news. If you pay money to other sites such as Classmates it does not benefit SAA and the local community.

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.

Open positions include raffle prize committee, webmaster, historian, and 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.

Siuslaw Alumni Association
PO Box 1924
Florence, OR 97439

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PD
PERMIT 344
SALEM, OR