

Hot Springs High School Newsletter

January, 2004

From former teachers

Don: A delayed message about the lovely Trojan heads you made for me. After the open house for Jones and I got things put away, I had a hard fall...tripped over rolled up entrance mat at a store...falling forward, my face hit two large ceramic objects, smashing them well...I was a mess, but no broken bones this time....scared to death. I was afraid I would be disfigured, but the Lord has been gracious..the bad bruises on face, knee and leg have mostly healed and grateful for no breaks.

I couldn't have taken more than two steps through the door when I tripped over the mat. The manager is in our church and told me they are not supposed to roll up the mats until customers are out of the store. They close at 8 p.m. and the accident happened about 7:20-25 p.m. He has been nice about my accident and I had a nice note today from him, which I really appreciated.

I was able to go over to Jones this week. I have been waiting to make a chocolate cake for the staff, since that was the Superintendent's favorite...he has eaten my chocolate cakes, cookies etc. several times since he came to town in 1985. I met him first when I went to the Administrative offices, researched the minutes of SchoolBoard and wrote a history of H.S. School District in 1985 for the Gar. Co. Historical Society. Went three times a week and carried goodies once a week to the staff...they loved to see me coming! I had new materials to put in the trophy cases: Torchlights from 1921 and 1922; spirit stick(banner the classes had to hold up at the ball games...band medals. I have three of the Trojan heads in the case and

they used one on the serving table and they kept that one at the office there. Just wanted you to know...the little train is also in the high school case. Langston had displays, also, but they were borrowed, since their materials are on permanent display at the Webb Center. I am quite pleased now that I have the cases arranged nicely now. Thanks a million for your help with your skills in woodwork.

Class of 1957

FROM: Ken Lambert (1957) & Lynné McAdoo (1959)

We are doing great and totally enjoying being back in Hot Springs, after our 39 year visit in Texas. Needless to say, this is NOT the city we left in 1964, but, it's still home and we love it here. Finally sold our home in San Augustine, TX, in May; got all of our vehicles licensed and insured in Arkansas and got our Arkansas Driver's Licenses so, I guess you can definitely call us Arkies again.

We do a lot of dancing at the Arlington, when a combo plays on Thurs, Fri. & Sat. nights and we enjoy the Hump Nite Blues Jam at Shapiro's on Wednesday nights. Great Blues, dancing and lots of talented, local musicians to hear on that night.

Lynné got her General Class, amateur radio license in May, so we can now both enjoy that hobby.

Our daughter, Teresa, still lives in LaPorte, TX and is still trying to teach AutoCAD at San Jacinto College. She is not a full-time employee of the college so she has to wait and see if there will be enough classes for her to get one. She will be 42 in October. My how time flies!

We enjoyed seeing everyone that attended the mini-reunion at the Back Porch Grill of Sun Bay Resort in June. The turnout was nice and lots of memories and gossip were exchanged, in addition to renewing some very old friendships.

We are thinking about towing our travel trailer to Las Vegas and then on up to the Seattle area in October as that is a part of the country we have yet to visit in our travels. Nothing definite set but it's in the discussion stages. We having been going to South Texas every Winter since 1988 but this year, we are going to stay in Hot Springs and see what Winter is really like.

Regards and Good Health to all,
Ken and Lynné Lambert

Class of 1958

From Larry Witherspoon

Greetings >From the Arizona High Desert,

My wife Heide and I spend our time running to Texas to see our daughter Linda (Single and never married at 41) and Seattle where Larry Jr. and his wife Ryoko, have the youngest two of our three grandchildren, Ashley and Tosh, five and three. Our second daughter Erika, lives in Sierra Vista with our oldest grandchild Brian, fifteen. Our baby boy, Kurt, 30, is single and lives in Austin, TX.

Our health could be better but we're doing OK.

Sierra Vista isn't the small town it was when we retired from the Army in 1984. The one main street we had is now three. I actually had to wait for a stoplight twice the other day. Fort Huachuca is still the main employer in the county. This place reminds me a lot of Hot Springs when I was growing up. Not the weather, it's really nice here about 360 days a year, but all the OLD people.

From Bob Anderson

Susan and I took a land & sea cruise in Alaska in late July. What a place! Landed on a glacier in a helicopter and did all of the neat stuff to do everywhere we could. The only disappointment was that we did not see any bear, but we did see Caribou, Moose, Whales and lots of Eagles.

My health is decent and I am busy as a beaver. Oh, saw beaver in Alaska, too.

My daughter, Amberly, became Mrs. Daniel Benson in February. Her twin brother, Brad, is getting serious, but no commitment yet. Same for their older brother, Ashley.

Best to all and I hope the approaching holidays are blessed, healthy and fun for you.

From Lee (George) Stone

I am still in Federal law enforcement here in the New Orleans area. I guess it is one of those comfortable ruts I just cannot seem to pry myself out of.

It has been WAY too long since I have been up home to Hot Springs. I really need to get up there. I miss the family and the hills. The closest things to hills down here are the bridges. Not an acceptable substitute.

Say, has anyone heard from Whitney McFarlen? Or David Luben? I have not seen their names in any of the news letters.

We will raise up our glasses against evil forces, crying whiskey for me men, beer for me horses!!

Class of 1960

From Nancy Moss

Hello to all, even though I'm late. I enjoy getting E-mail but I'm not good at replying. Sitting at a computer for any length of time is just not my thing. I'm sure glad I took that typing class because it has been a god sent in my career. I am very proud to say this is my 35th year in the teaching profession. When we decided to come back home to AR from TX I knew I wasn't ready to stop teaching. Teaching second grade in Berryville is very different from Plano, TX. The children make the difference. Joe B. and I found the perfect house in Holiday Island. It sits on top aa hill overlooking the lake and river. We have forests all around us. Our

grandson says we live in a treehouse. There is so much beauty around us. We are so blessed. Please stop by and we'll take you boating and show you around Eureka Springs. That's it for now. Nancy Moss

From Steve Draznak

Beth & I are still able to sit up and take nourishment here in Fayetteville. I am starting my 28th year teaching Spanish at Rogers High School, and may retire in 5 years. Oldest son, Jacques, and his wife are both practicing veterinarians in San Louis Obispo, CA. Son Michael works for REI in Ft. Collins, CO and plans to be married to Kathy MacClean. He then plans to enter culinary school in Denver. I'll see everyone at the 50th reunion. Draz

From Myron (Lynn) Lecklitner

Still alive and well in Mobile. Daughter (Tonja) and husband still living in Atlanta. Only grandchild is coming up on one year old; where does the time go? New E-mail address is: lleck@msn.com. Many thanks to Donald Short and Crew for such a fine job of keeping the alums informed! I appreciate, as do others, that the production of periodic newsletters does not materialize by wishful thinking operating alone.

Class of 1961

From Sharon Fickle

Hi all,
Just a quick line to say I'm alive and well and living in Augusta, Georgia (home of the Masters). Mother is still with us (she's 82 and thinks she's 25). What a woman! My brother, Jay also lives here.
Just have one daughter and she's married and lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Three grandchildren! Live is GOOD!
I'm a Graphic Artist and work at Fort Gordon in the Army Medical Center in Medical Illustration. It's a snap of a job and I'm really happy with it!
Never get bck to Hot Springs for a visit anymore, so please think of me when you're at McClard's next time. Also, if any of you ever come east, come on by and just give me a call for directions. Would love to visit with anyone from HSHS.
Don't know how Don Crone got my email address, but glad he did and sent me a message with all your addresses in it (that's how I got all your email addresses).
Anyone who would like to keep in touch, please reply!
Sharon Fickle

who is now know to the world as Shari Russ
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706-787-2029
706-294-2911

From Frances Cockman

Alive and well...sort of...recuperating from debridement surgery on my leg 3 months ago. 3 1/2 months ago my foot went through a 1x4 board on my porch. The other boards didn't give an inch so my leg was wedged in that tiny 1x4 space with me hanging upside down off the porch. Now that's a bad predicament to be in when you live alone !

Didn't shoot my husband--just his truck--with a 357 magnum. Tore that truck up pretty good. Should have aimed for him, though.

I have worked at Lowe's for 10 years now. I am Installed Sales Assistant.

Oldest son, John, is a jailer at Garland County Sheriff's Dept. Oldest daughter, Tracey, is grocery manager at Brookshire's in Ashdown. Youngest son, Tony, is General Manager of the new Baymont Hotel here in Hot Springs. Youngest daughter, Amanda, is currently unemployed. Six grandchildren and two great-grandsons (Hunter almost 2 and Caden 8 months)

I really enjoyed those "reminiscence" letters. They brought back so many memories. Except for the hubcaps. Never did that.

I don't know about the rest of you but I don't understand how I got to be so old so fast ! What happened ? I'm trying to grow old gracefully but I'm not sure it's working.

Hope everyone is doing well but most of all I hope everyone is happy and has peace of mind.

From Ricky Witherspoon

Evelyn and I are back from a 5 year stint living in France. NO, our return has nothing to do with the political situation on Iraq. Jacques Chirac is a politician, not a diplomat. Almost ALL of our French friends, in confidence to us, were either embarrassed or apologetic on the subject. The real reason for returning is Personal Income Tax Rates change after 5 yrs (and they don't go DOWN).

Now for the update – We decided some time ago to live in St. Louis, MO, we have many friends here. My everyday work is changing (NO, I'm not retiring). I will be Consulting for a different companies; including Sara Lee Corp.; Price Waterhouse Coopers, Chicago & Paris; Cap Gemini//Ernst & Young, Chicago & Paris; also working with some Venture Capital groups related to consolidating some Consumer Package Goods categories-manufacturing facilities. Active, is the word. Meanwhile, Evelyn is managing the total renovation of our kitchen, master bath and family room. We are about 3 weeks from completion. She (and I) are looking

forward to her daughter, Chris' visit starting in October. Chris, her husband David Alderson and MOST important our granddaughter, DELLA BLOSSUM ALDERSON will return from Dubai, UAE. Where David has been practicing Law, International Tax and Transport litigation is his specialty. We miss Della B., babies grow so fast, and it is difficult to miss out on the different stages. For the Witherspoon clan, we all met in Dallas for 4th of July. This was the first time since Mother died in 1997, that everyone was able to attend the soirée. Most of this group knows my brother Larry. Few of you know Janie (HSHS 1972, Michael Kim (HSHS 1973) or Mary Kay (HSHS 1976). With the children and in-laws we had 35 people. My niece Linda Witherspoon put together notebooks for everyone, which included the Witherspoon Family tree information, dating back to the 1700's. Very neat stuff... It was fun!!!

Class of 1962

From Ron Cheek

My road to Fame was and is music. I still love to play my drums to Rock N' Roll or swing or Jazz. [picture attached] Been married to Vicki-Jo for 33 years, raised three girls and now have two grandsons. [picture attached] For music lovers, a Web site to visit: www.hotspringsjazz.org
p.s. Still have my 1967 Chevelle SS which needs to be restored; if you have parts let me know. findrcheek@aol.com or rcheek@mountainvalleyspring.com
p.s.s. Don Cheek is my big brother! I am proud of him.

Editor's Note: Ron's pictures follow



Ron's Ludwig



The Four Winds



Phoenix and Andy (2002) Ron Cheek's grandchildren

From Don Crone

I married Linda Williams from Pine Bluff. We will be married 37 years in September. We have 2 children, Nora and Travis, both celebrate their birthdays in August. Nora had our first grandson 4 years ago, Gabriel. Gabe and I spend a lot of time together. At church they call him my shadow. Travis and his wife had our next two grandkids, Noah who is 3 1/2 but is going on 25 and Drew, a sweet little girl about 8 months old. Noah is way too smart to be part of my family. I work for a small company in North Little Rock called Biotechnical Services. We help pharmaceutical companies perform clinical trials. I manage the data processing part of it. Linda works for Southwest Airlines. We travel. We are doing better at keeping in touch with classmates since the 40th reunion last year. The reunion was an absolute blast. We had so much fun at it that I wanted to do it again this year. We were able to get more of the Hot Springs group to attend and had a wonderful time.

If you are not getting email from me, send me something and let me capture your email address. I do forward jokes and good stories. Write me at dcrone@biotechnicalservices.com