

WHAT MANNER OF MADNESS IS THIS? A NEWSLETTER???

"*Surprise! Surprise!*", to borrow an old Gomer Pyle line. We on the Alumni Association committee thought it would be an excellent idea to send out a second mailing each year in the form of a newsletter. First of all, as it stands, there is not much continuity from one homecoming (HC) letter each year to the next. Something was lacking in letting you know the gist of what all happened at the previous HC....a need that next HC letter had little room to devote to. Second, you people simply need more than three-months notice about what the theme of the next HC is going to be. Now, you can get up to 1-1/2 years advance notice, as will be explained later.

Last of all, news naturally accumulates each year that we would like to share with you, assuming that you would want to be kept informed on, such as interest items on ex-students and ex-teachers, Heritage Center updates, recent deaths, etc. We also want to encourage you to supply us with any noteworthy news you know of about any exes (including yourselves).

BUT WHAT'S THE CATCH?

No, we are not raising your dues for this extra provided service, but instead are giving you more bang for your buck. However, there is one requirement that you must fulfill in order to receive this extra mailout -- you must have paid your dues earlier in the year for the July HC. That's how come you're on our mailout distribution this fall, because you paid your annual dues this past spring or summer. And in order to receive a newsletter in the fall of 1997, a person will have had to have paid his/her dues again come this next spring for the 1997 HC. In other words, it will be on a year-to-year basis.

Now we are not limiting our fall newsletter distribution just for the heck of it. The reason is that our budget won't allow us to spend a second \$1000 plus each year for a mailout to every alumni. We presently mail out over 3000 HC letters each April. So it's gotta be, for the time being, kinda like the the old James Bond 007 movie, "For Your Eyes Only".

In regard to this first newsletter, we do ask a favor of you this one time only. Would you please forward this newsletter (or a copy thereof) to at least one other Phillips ex?...for you that attended HC in July, to someone whom you did not see there....for you that were unable to come, just simply to some other ex of your choosing (your chances are about 1-in-8 that you will accidentally send it to someone else who paid their dues and thus already has received this letter).

WHAT LOOKS DIFFERENT ABOUT THIS LETTER AND ENVELOPE?

That's one of our bits of news to pass along. The association has just purchased a new printer and is now using new software to print our letters and address labels, in case you haven't noticed. For you computer literate, we are now using Word Perfect 6.1 and a HP Laser Jet 4 printer to do the job.

This acquisition was necessary because we lost our makeshift and antiquated capability to print address labels. We are back in business again and only just recently have been able to furnish those of you the address labels that you requested last summer. We apologize for the delay.

SO WHAT HAPPENED AT HOMECOMING 1996?

Thought you would never ask. Approximately 200 big-eyed, fun-lov'in, and slightly above average people (which included around 150 ex-students) showed up this past July, expecting to have a good time. And we don't think they were disappointed.

Of course, the featured class was the Class of '46 who just went ballistic in celebrating their 50-year reunion! Never saw a group enjoy themselves and each other's company any better! Memories were renewed with classmates, many of whom they had not seen in 50 years. On Friday evening 58 alumni and guests enjoyed a dinner party at the Borger Country Club. There were 30 members present from a class of 64 students, 13 of whom are deceased. Since 1946 was Mr. Kimmin's first year as principal at PHS, he was voted unanimously to be an honorary member of the Class of '46. Saturday the class ate breakfast together at the Benton's home, and later that morning they joined the rest of the HC crowd. Roy Jack Holmes won the beautiful 50th reunion Blackhawk blanket that is provided by the Association.

The clock was handed over by Lodema Armstrong Benton to Dale Platzer of the Class of '47, which symbolizes the class' commitment to holding and organizing their 50th reunion. Stu Gillispie and Bobbye Davis Harper have offered to help. So Class of '47, it's time to get busy. This great opportunity to celebrate this occasion will happen only once. You will want to make the most of it, as July will be here before you know it!

Kudos go out to Lodema and Kenneth Benton who did such a super job in organizing their reunion. Incidentally this couple from the Class of '46 was voted our 1996 HC King and Queen. The attendants (other nominees) were James Shields and Annetta Inman Atkins, both of the Class of '51, and Randy Jarnigan ('71) and Jill Rankin Schneider ('76).

Winner of the Blackhawk blanket that is awarded to one of the due-paying exes, was Catherine Armstrong Mahler ('60), who was unable to attend. There was a very special award that was presented to Mr. Kimmins, which obviously caught him totally by surprise as evidenced by his emotion. He was presented the "Hawk of Hawks" award, not only for his outstanding tenure as our principal, but for his continued moral and financial support of the Alumni Association. He seldom ever misses an alumni committee meeting which we hold once a month.

Each year the committee secretly picks an ex to honor that has devoted many hours of hard work to the support of the HC's and the association, and demonstrates the good ole Blackhawk spirit. In 1993 the first award went to Jeaneen Sparks Ingler, Class of '55, who spearheaded the two big PHS reunions that

were held in Dallas in 1993 and 1995. In 1994 the award went to Tommy Birch, Class of '61, and in 1995 to Louise Glidewell Gunter, Class of '40. This year Jo Ann Hubbard Kuhrt, Class of '48, was selected to receive that honor and also a plaque. Her value to the Association can not be over-emphasized as the rest of us would be at a loss without her wit, charm, stories, and organizational skills. Congratulations again, Jo Ann!

HEY! HOW 'BOUT THEM HAWKETTES!!!

You Bet! This HC, the featured group of exes were the ladies who played basketball at PHS, with special recognition given to the State championship team of '76. Friday evening a nice banquet at the Country Club was held in honor of all the teams. Around 35 ex-players and coaches attended over the weekend, not counting guests. There was one special guest invited to speak, and that was Garet Von Netzer, present general editor of the Amarillo Daily News, who back in the 70's was the sports editor that covered the Hawkettes' games. Three metal plaques, each decoupage with the Amarillo article that appeared in the paper just after the '76 girls won state, were presented to the coaches of that team: Bill Clemmons, Lou Ann Winegar, and Debbie Chisum. A fourth plaque was won in a drawing by player Janet Morris Stieg ('77) from Brookline, Massachusetts. One girl attended *that lives in Germany!*....Becky Sikes LaRue ('80). Trina Gray Smith ('83) won a basketball autographed by those ex-players in attendance. A very nice basketball clock was won by Tammy Arrington Dowell ('76).

Tammy deserves a great big thank you for the many hours of work she put in almost single-handedly organizing and pulling this basketball feat (fete, as well) off (the HC, not the clock).

HERITAGE CENTER UPDATE

We've made some recent additions to the Heritage Center thanks to some contributions from some of our exes. Both Jeaneen Sparks Ingler ('55) and Carol Sue Martindale Holder ('56) donated a collage of 8" X 10" pictures of some of the members of the '50's classes taken back in high school, and of the school. One intriguing picture of particular significance is an 8-foot by 20-inch panoramic view of the Phillips camp taken back in 1926 when the "town" was first founded. It's now hanging at the top of the wall just to your immediate left when you pass through the entrance to the Phillips portion of the Center. Another is a 10" X 13" blowup of the 1954 State championship football team taken in the locker room right after the game. All these pictures were on display in the hotel in Dallas at the Phillips reunion held there this past June by the Classes of '50 through '61. A little over 150 exes attended.

And we are grateful for a complete set of football game programs from the the 1948 - 1951 seasons donated by Boyce Blackmon ('51).

EX-TEACHERS IN THE NEWS

Three former teachers were honored statewide this past summer. Two coaches, Cozell Foster of the Class of '43, and Jocko Harris, were inducted into the Texas Coaches Hall of Fame in Waco. Also, Ada Creel was posthumously inducted

into the Texas Music Hall of Fame in San Antonio. Unfortunately she passed away just a few days before the induction ceremony was held in late June. She was a band instructor from 1949 to 1975 at the Phillips schools.

Also we had another teacher pass away in late September.... Lillie Dell Jolly at age 93, who was living in Fritch at the time. She taught 2nd grade at Phillips Elementary for 17 years from 1950 to 1967.

DECEASED EXES THIS PAST YEAR

Kathryn Jackson ('39)	Howard Douglas ('41)	Mary Lou Martin ('54)
Billie Sue Covington ('48)	Pauline Counts ('50)	Edna Mae Sikes ('44)
Patsy Nicholas ('58)	Vileta Conklin ('59)	Norman Bauert ('56)
Vernon Hall ('65)	Brenda Turner ('65)	Connie Brooks ('59)
	Tim Nash ('53)	Mary Stephenson ('38)
		Frank Waldrep ('52)

MISCELLANEOUS F.Y.I.

In case you, for whatever reason, were unable to order the VCR cassette video at HC on reflections on the town and schools of Phillips, and still wish to purchase one for \$25, you may contact Ricky Slatton, who made the video, directly by writing to the following address, or calling:

RICKEY'S VIDEO PRODUCTIONS Tel. (806)353-6655
4206 Southpark Dr
Amarillo TX 79109

Our committee members voted at the last monthly meeting that we should determine what the themes (or what groups are to be honored) will be for two HC's in advance. So in July, 1997 it will be all the former choir members and directors. And in July, 1998 we'll honor all the girls' volleyball teams and coaches. So you have plenty of notice.

PARTING WORDS OF EXHORTATION

THAT'S RIGHT! We want to strongly urge you classes that will be (or should be) celebrating a 5-year interval reunion in 1997 to get off your gluteus maximuses and start planning your respective reunions now! What we said earlier to the Class of '47 applies to you all (you know who you are), too. We'll furnish you most of all the addresses to get you started. To spell it out, that's the Classes of 1937, 1942, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, and 1987 (the last PHS class). We also hope that you will consider celebrating it here in July in conjunction with our HC.

Hope to see all of you this next Homecoming to be held on the *weekend of July 11th and 12th*. Start making your plans now! Details, of course, will appear in our regular April letter.

Your committee,
John Sellenger ('51 - Pres.)
Mr. Kimmins Burch Ingram ('55)
Louise Gunter ('40) Tommy Birch ('61)
Clytee Armstrong ('43) Jack Lane ('51)
Deanie Carroll ('50) Jane Lane ('52)
Colleen Hooper ('54) Tammy Dowell ('76)
Jo Ann Kuhrt ('48) Janice Ingram ('58)
Kenneth Benton ('46) Lodema Benton ('46)

From the "what it's worth department", for you stat rats, here's more numbers than you'll probably be able to digest. For you left-brained people, please ignore and proceed to GO, but do not collect \$200. Listed below are the enrollment size figures for each class based on the unofficial count from the high school annuals or senior group pictures. We say, "unofficial", because the annuals are definitely known to contain omissions.

Class	Fresh.	Soph.	Jr.	Sr.	Avg.
'36	?	?	?	29	29
'37	?	?	?	32	32
'38	?	?	?	40	40
'39	?	?	?	42	42
'40	?	?	?	54	54
'41	?	?	54	58	56
'42	?	64	72	75	70
'43	78	90	84	79	83
'44	82	84	82	62	78
'45	84	73	66	60	71
'46	101	78	69	68	79
'47	82	83	82	87	84
'48	81	85	72	71	77
'49	83	74	62	60	70
'50	97	79	70	75	80
'51	79	64	60	52	64
'52	98	85	75	62	80
'53	119	110	109	95	108
'54	112	99	90	82	96
'55	128	121	106	93	112
'56	126	115	113	92	112
'57	142	132	118	103	124
'58	126	118	112	89	111
'59	143	141	130	114	132
'60	147	135	129	118	132
'61	164	152	137	118	143
'62	132	121	100	85	110
'63	138	138	118	104	125
'64	85	81	71	68	76
'65	124	115	112	102	113
'66	102	97	82	78	90
'67	106	95	87	79	92
'68	83	79	68	67	74
'69	101	87	83	73	86
'70	84	80	76	73	78
'71	98	95	73	70	84
'72	66	71	64	60	65
'73	80	78	66	64	72
'74	71	61	49	48	57
'75	61	52	41	35	47
'76	64	53	43	40	50
'77	65	53	45	41	51
'78	53	38	39	38	42
'79	44	40	35	32	38
'80	41	41	34	34	38
'81	38	33	30	31	33
'82	39	39	39	34	38
'83	35	35	35	33	35
'84	37	28	29	23	29
'85	21	23	24	21	22
'86	20	24	23	18	21
'87	34	33	24	19	28

No more S-F transfer students attend PHS

1997 HOMECOMING GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The winning team members of the Blackhawk Golf Scramble were as follows: **Linda Culver('67), Jan Railsback('67), Gary Adkins('68), and Ray Robbins('62).** Each one of this foursome received an \$80 gift certificate at the golf pro shop as his/her share of the first place prize. Eat your heart out, Tiger.

HOMECOMINGS SET FOR 1998 AND 1999

Remember, at HC on July 10-11, 1998 we'll honor all the girls' volleyball teams and coaches. And in 1999 (exact dates to be announced in April) we've decided to honor the Sanford-Fritch-Plemons transfer students. So you have plenty of advance notice....please try not to schedule other things for then. Now as for new babies or grandbabies that might be on the way, that's a different matter....we may just have to exempt you from coming in that case.

PARTING PARTISAN WORDS OF PROVOCATIVE PRODDING

That's Right!...whatever that all means! We want to strongly urge you classes that will be (*or should be*) celebrating a 5-year interval reunion in 1998 to start thinking about and planning your respective reunions now! What we said earlier to the Class of '48 applies to you all (you know who you are), too. We'll furnish you most of all the addresses to get you started. **To spell it out, that's the Classes of 1938, 1943, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, and 1983.** We also hope that you will consider celebrating it here in July in conjunction with our HC. If you personally can't help plan your class reunion, please call now someone else in your class who you think might can, light a fire under them, and get the ball a rolling!

Hope to see all of you this next Homecoming to be held on the *weekend of July 10th and 11th.* Start making your plans now! Details, of course, will appear in our regular April letter. Until then, please do try for another year to stay out of our blue PHS Deceased Album/Register.

Your committed committee

P.S. - Yes, we all have been *committed*. But those nice people in the white uniforms do let us out now and then so that we can have our little meetings.

P.S.S. - Just about forgot to say - we welcome any feedback.... either your comments or questions about this letter, or any suggested topics or noteworthy bits of news about a PHS ex you might want to pass along for future newsletters. Also, feel free to forward any copies of this letter to other PHS exes you might wish to. The odds are only 1 in 6 that you will send this letter to someone who has already received one from us.

P.S.S.S. - Mr. Kimmins observed his 85th birthday on Oct. 12.

Johnnie Royall	Tommy Record	Laverne Kube Jolly
Baylor Hospital Rehab	4626 S. 72 East Pl	P.O. Box 1391
3505 Gaston Ave, Rm 203	Tulsa OK 74145	Fritch TX 79036
Dallas TX 75246		