To borrow a quote from that well-known novelist Snoopy (Peanuts dog), "It was a dark and stormy night." Yes, this was a homecoming that everyone will always remember who attended the Saturday morning program - when the lights went out at the WTSU Cafeteria (in fact, in all of Stinnett)...as well as the A/C and the sound system. A power outage occurred in Stinnett around 7:30 a.m. which left the gathering exes at the WTHS Cafeteria literally in the dark for three hours. There were some anxious moments early on when it was felt that we might have to prematurely conclude the program singing “Turn out the lights, the party’s over” instead of with “O the Orange and the Black over all”. However cooler heads and the Blackhawk spirit prevailed albeit the program/meeting was late starting and had to be significantly abbreviated because there was no lighting (except for a few scattered pen flashlights) nor working microphones. Hence we were unable to recognize several special classes attending, and we had to dispense with a couple of raffle drawings, forego the solemn ceremony of citing and remembering the past year’s deceased alumni, and curtail several announcements. Ironically, just as the program concluded, the power and lighting was restored - wouldn’t you know it - so at least Joey Sutphen(‘58) did not have to serve and we did not have to eat our catered BBQ lunch in the dark.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Phillips High School whose first senior class graduated in 1936. To commemorate Homecoming 2016, all exes were urged to wear orange and black to help display that Blackhawk spirit of pride and tradition...though noone could really see what colors anyone else was sporting. Someone did comment that the blackout did add an aura of enchantment and mystic to the event.

In order to preserve space for pictures taken at Homecoming (HC), the speakers, special attendees, awardees, and prize winners at the Saturday morning program will be simply listed: Incidentally, Mona Hendrickson(‘75) did a fantastic job with her photography having to take many of her pictures in the “dark room” :).

Keynote Speaker - Randy Wright(‘66) whose resonant voice was able to project and be heard by all, speaking on the privileges and advantages of growing up in Phillips. Other Speakers - Sally Caufield(‘66) who spoke on the 1966 volleyball team that won the state championship, tracing the team’s journey and transition through high school. Commemorative Coin Awardees: Oldest Ex Attendee - Laverne Carter(‘50); Youngest Ex Attendee - Lisa Howard(‘80); Coming the Fartherest - Peter Heinrich(‘61) an exchange student from Austria, Oldest 1st-Time Attender - Dorinne Moss(‘56), Oldest Ex/PHS Teacher - Juanita Burks(‘55); First-Time Attendees, Dorinne Moss(‘56), Peter Heinrich(‘61), Larry Stanton(‘61), Woody Elms(‘61), and Sonny Newcomb(‘66); $100 cash - Daren Taylor(‘86); $75 - Lynn Smyrl(‘66); $50 - Barney Turner(‘50). Raffled Blackhawk Afghan - Troy Scroggins(‘83). Blackhawk Blanket - Maurine Vaden(‘50); 50-Year Class Reunion Blanket - Candy Irwin(‘66). Blackhawk-of-the-Year Award - LaNelle White (office secretary). The 50-year reunion clock was passed from Candy Irwin(‘66) to Leslie Skinner(‘67). Mrs. Gaither, age 104 and looking ever so young, was recognized from the audience, mother of three Gaither Phillips exes.

Next year’s officers for the Alumni Assn Committee were presented at the meeting and are listed as follows: Aaronda White(‘73) - president, Tommy Birch(‘61) - vice-president, Brenda Baggs(‘75) - secretary, Tammy Arrington(‘76) - treasurer and Heritage Center Hostess, and Mona Hendrickson(‘75) - publicity chairperson.

Lots went on July 15-16 weekend outside the planned HC activities - the 50-year reunion Class of 1966 had a super-successful 50-year reunion with a turnout of 23 exes. They convened and had their program at the Hampton Inn. The Class of 1961 had a reunion dinner at the Plaza on Friday evening while the Class of 1956 did the same on Saturday evening. The Class of 1971 met at Bennigans for a Saturday evening meal.

Saturday evening at the Fairlanes Baptist Church the very talented vocalist/writer/pianist Karen Bartell(‘76) put on an amazing and inspirational performance, as all in attendance were blessed beyond measure with her
gospel and popular songs. She shared her testimony not only in song, but also in between numbers expressing how the Lord has worked in her life to work all things together for good. Again, what a tremendous talent who was able to strongly connect with her very captivated audience.

**Golf Tournament Results**

Well, our player numbers were finally back up to 72 from last year’s 55 as 18 teams competed. Typical warm July weather prevailed, but was a pretty Friday morning with mid-80s temperatures. This year, a score of 55 was low. Members of the winning foursome were Jerry Smyrl(‘64), Lynn Smyrl(‘66), Chris Purcell(‘76), and Whitney Purcell, who each won $100 prize money. The runners-up were Ricky Lyles(‘79), Kris Reed(‘73), and Larry Joe Reed(‘67), and Trish Dillard. The tourney was able to donate $700 to the Alumni scholarship fund from the proceeds left over.

**Horseshoe Tournament Results**

Our second annual horseshoes tournament was a very fun event in which there were 20 participants or ten teams. Despite the high temperature and wind, there was plenty of shade, benches, bottled water and restrooms available. The winning pair was the sister-team Tammy Arrington (‘76) and Kim Arrington(‘77) who took home $75 apiece, while the 2nd-place team was Tommy Birch(‘61) and Linda Birch who garnered $50 each. So you see, there was good prize money, and that in itself, ought to be incentive for you to sign up for next year’s tournament. Even if you don’t place, the fun is definitely worth the $5 entry fee. Again, you’ve got another year to practice up, so no excuses. We expect and would like more players to sign up next year!

**Who’s Who List of Class Reunion/Homecoming Attendees**

**Class of ‘56 (60-Year Reunion - 24 attendees)**

<table>
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<th>Joyce Allen</th>
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<th>Dorinne Moss</th>
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<td>Mel Webb</td>
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<td>Rinky Chivers</td>
<td>Tommie Johnson</td>
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**Class of ‘61 (55-Year Reunion - 22 attendees)**

| Fred Alexander | Peter Heinrich          | Jerry Redden |
| Sue Alford | Jo Carol Hickox      | Rick Richard |
| Tommy Birch | Helen Kale              | Jimmie Smith |
| Joyce Chapman | Mike Kendrick        | Larry Stanton |
| Woody Elms | Dave Lane              | Larry Stevens |
| Bill Frogge | Bruce Mahan            | Sharon Wallace |
| Rick Harbison | Patsy Pierce          | Jim Word    |
| Ann Hatton |                        |              |

**Class of ‘66 (50-Year Reunion - 23 attendees)**

| Ronnie Bowling | Karen Kindy           | Kristi Rickard |
| Norvell Brown | Shirley King          | Donnie Smith |
| Sally Caufield | Kaye Litchford       | Gary Lynn Smyrl |
| Janice Drake | Steve Maloney         | Karen Tisdale |
| Helen Grace | Jesse Martin           | Jerry Winn    |
Candy Irwin  Sara McCall  Randy Wright
Virginia Kilkuskie Sonny Newcomb Lynda Young
Mike Kimmins  Susan Redden

Class of ‘71 (45-Year Reunion - 7 attendees)
Teddy Buckland  Butch McMillan  Marquette Meyer
Billy Culwell  Debby McWilliams  Debbie Odom
Raymond Guest

Class of ‘76 (40-Year Reunion - 12 attendees)
Tammy Arrington  Randy Key  Chris Purcell
Karen Bartel  Sondra McCollum  Denny Roark
Carrie Braymer  Andy Murry  Brad Sable
Teresa Justice  Tony Patak  Kellie Snider

Heritage Center Upgrades/Donations for 2015

Dorinne Moss(’56) - Homecrafted Phillips Blackhawks afghan (sold at auction)
Jo Ann Kuhrt(’48) - 1958, 1961, and 1981 high school annuals
Chrystal Winegar(’48) - Individual football player pictures from 1953, 1954, and 1955 teams
Patsy Pierce(’61) - Football programs for 1969, 1970, and 1971 programs, twirling outfit,
PISD policy and student handbooks for mid-1970s
Shirley King(’66) - Painting(print copy) of Phillips Pet. Co storage tanks seen entering Phillips

2015 Endowment Scholarship & Heritage Center Cash Donors ($50 and Over)

Gary Wendel(’67)  Wayne Hickman(’60)  Deanna Hatley(’56) in memory of Pat Routson & Phyllis Corley
Carrie Nicholson(’63)  Billy Ward(’59)      
Ronnie Woods(’69)  Dusty Duesterhaus(’47)  Jim Wade(’54) in memory of Phyllis Corley
Ronnie Wood(’69)  Milton Hoff(’58)  Jo Carol Hickox(’61) in memory of Bill Hickox
Janet Milam(’60)  Bob Roland(’60)  Vance Orr(’59) in memory of Eddie Pennington
Cozel Foster(’43)  Jimmie Burris(’57)      
Sara McCall(’66)  Roy White(’60)      
Kim Trumbly(’82)  Barbara Meek(’52)  Doug/Barbara Tomlinson(’65/’67)
Mary Anne Svetlik(’62)  Eddy Dickey(’63)  Walter Prock(’79)
Kathy Lane(’73)  Sharon Flinn(’64)  Mike Caddell(’60)
Nancy Board(’51)  Gary Anderson(’56)  Joyce Sweeney(’56)
Mary Forbus(’70)  Charlotte O’Neill(’60)  Dick Robie(’70)
Joe/Karla Hayes(’65)  Teddy Buckland(’71)  James Glosson(’62)
Ray Robbins(’62)  Peaches Hood(’65)  Lynn Alexander(’64)
Ron Shaw(’55)  Mary Anne Ewing(’60)  Dick Robie(’70)
Kristi Brown(’72)  Mary Kube(’65)  Leon Glenn(’56)
Deanna Hatley(’56)  Stanley Allen(’60)  Jerry Vaden(’60)
Wanda Fouty(’43)  Sharon Wallace(’61)  Phillip/Mary Joe Mahan(’63/’64)
June Wood(’55)  David & Wanda Reese(’55/’58)  John/Gerry Taliaferro(’67/’66)
Johnny Cook(’58)  Helen Grace(’66)  Rick/Terri Lyles(’79/’81)
Doyle Hughes(’38)  David Watkins(’77)  Mike Kimmins(’66)
H.F. Ritchie(’57)  Stancy Akers(’73)  Jimmie & Janelle Dean(’57/’58)
Ralph Smith(’57)  Don Reed(’49)  Cheryl Adams(’63)
Penny Walker(’54)  Mary Ann Campbell(’56)  Joyce Sue Davis(’47)
Judge Perry(’56)  Dana Wright Rusging(’68)  Mike & Sherry Zink(’69/’69)
Sylvia Brown('67)                Jean Brakebill('40)                Derryl & Kaye DeShields('64/'66)
Ben White('55)                    Joan Chandler('65)                Fred & Judith Banes('65/'65)
Laverne Carter('39)               Melinda Kuhrt('71)                 Maurine & Dee Wilson('50/'51)
Steve Williams('72)               Kellie Snider('76)                 Janice Jenne('49)

PHS Class of 1966

Deceased Exes Over Past Year (learned of since last fall newsletter)

Bonnie Smith('48-?)                Philip Noland('66-congestive heart failure)            Danny Kindy('67-cancer)
Judy Creacy('59-cancer)            David Quisenberry('59-cancer) *                     Tommy Hale('51-?) *
Charles Maple('37-?) *             Florene Young('45-?) *                              Nonnie Garrett('38-?) *
Betty Marchman('59-?) *            James Litchford('42-?)                             Myra Hinds('66-?)
Ronnie Scroggins('72-head injury)  Pat Routson('55-cancer/stroke)                      Rosalie Fndon('57-?)
Billie Veatch('40-7)                Mickey Fellingham('66-7)                         Dean Kruckenberg('62-prostate cancer)
Wayne Lambert('55-heart attack)    Sue Witt('45-cancer)                                Virginia Ewing('60-heart attack)
Amanda Surles('66-7)               Tom Routson('55-cancer)                           Diane Dunklin('55-7)
Bryant Clements('45-7)             Melvin Shaw('45-7)                                 Paul R. Hancok('47-pneumonia/knee surgery)
Irma Leta Tisdale('40-7)           Dennis Hudson('80-7)                               Sherry Neasblitt('73-lung cancer)
Norma Pfrimmer('46-7)              Mary Jo Simmons('47-7)                             Helen Fowler('40-7)
Donald Eldon Burris('45-7)         Steve Dickerman('70-7)                             Jim Hatley('49-7)
Vernon Winans('39-7)               George "Dub" Fisher('49-7)                         Colleen Smith('47-Alzheimers)
Dana Sue Hughes('56-7)             Dwight Huth('38-7)                                 Jimmy Martin('61-7)
Linda Hughes('60-7)                Roger Fitzjarard('48-7)                            Billy Ponder('58-7)
Phyllis Hogan('55-Alzheimers)      Dee Wilson('51-aneurysm)                             Barbara Austin('63-Lou Gehrig's)
Phyllis Crupper('51-7)

Blast From the Past

Like history? Let’s turn the clock back 80 years to 1936 at Phillips High School. Back during PHS’s first year, a girls pep squad was formed to root at the games for the first Blackhawk football team. (It’s uncertain whether the pep squad became known later as cheerleaders or was a separate group altogether.) Thelma Hopper of the 1939 Class (now deceased) was one of the leaders, and Jean Brakebill of the 1940 Class (presently lives in Ely, Nevada) was a member of the squad, among several other girls, during her freshman and sophomore years. They wore black skirts (pre J.I. Kimmins era, of course) and orange, long pleated T-shirts. They led the cheers at all the home games, and they traveled to most of the out-of-town football games. Mrs. Newton, wife of the football coach R.L. Newton (just prior to the Chesty Walker era), was the pep squad’s sponsor.

Borger 2016 Citizens of the Year

The Borger Chamber of Commerce last April named Harvey Hilbert('62) and his wife Sandra as 2016 Citizens of the Year. The honor is awarded each year to a man and woman who go above and beyond normal expectations in volunteer work to improve the community and make Borger a better place to live. Former owners of H & H Printing, Etc., who for years has published this newsletter as well as the Homecoming letters, Harvey and Sandra have been active helping and serving others, as they have worked tirelessly in support of local organizations. They have provided delivery service for the “Meals on Wheels” program of the Senior Citizen Center. They have volunteered at the Hutchinson County Historical Museum by welcoming and offering historical information to visitors. Harvey has served at HutchCares Living at Home in any way to help out older citizens at their homes with whatever needs to be done. He
serves as the resident handyman at the CareNet Pregnancy Center. Harvey has served in the Borger Rotary Club, while Sandra has done the same at Hutchinson County Republican Women. They serve on the Board of Directors for the Borger Chamber of Commerce, and they are faithful members of the Red Coats who encourage and welcome new businesses in town. They both are active members of First Baptist Church of Borger.

80th Anniversary PHS Coin

Folks, since unfortunately the lights were out just prior to and during the Saturday morning meeting/program, many of you attendees probably did not realize or notice the 80th anniversary coins that Daren Taylor('86), had for sell at his display table. Those of you who didn’t attend Homecoming also need to be made aware or reminded of this special limited offer. Daren is an expert jeweler who designed and made these beautifully colored bronze commemorative coins just for the high school’s 80th anniversary. It’s the size of a silver dollar, has the high school auditorium facade on one side and a blackhawk on the reverse side. The detail is amazing, which you can not only see but also feel, as the surface of the coin is somewhat raised. This is a must-buy souvenir!...only $27 each, enclosed in a box, but if you want to have one mailed to you, it will be closer to $30. You may purchase these coins by mailing your order and money to Daren Taylor, 813 N. Pine, Rolla MO 65401. For further information you may contact him at (573)364-2264 or (573)368-9822 (cell) or taylors@fidnet.com. This coin will make a nice Christmas gift to a sibling or good friend who is a Phillips alumni. Both sides of the coin may viewed on the “Phillips Blackhawks” account on Facebook. You’ll regret it later if you don’t act soon. This has often been the case when other Blackhawk momentos have been offered for sell in the past, and belated requests come in for them after the supply has run out.

Jill Rankin Finally Goes to the Olympics

Coach Jill Rankin Schneider('76) missed out on going to the Summer Olympics games as a player when the 1980 USA women’s basketball team had to boycott the Moscow Games because of world politics. However, she finally got the opportunity to go to the Olympics in Rio in August to work these games. She worked for the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) on the court floor, getting to watch all the women’s
basketball games and compiling reports on them for the competition committee. If you watched the USA’s women’s basketball games on TV, Jill could be spotted seated at the end of the players “bench” or row of seats as the camera panned up and down the court during play. The TV announcer also commented on Jill a time or two.

Jill has been coaching some of the younger USA women’s international teams over the past few years during the off-seasons. She has been the head girls basketball coach and a college algebra teacher at Lubbock Monterey High School for the past 18 years. She is also a member of the national Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame and the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame. Although attending the Olympics was quite a rewarding experience for her and a highlight of her illustrious basketball career, but not tantamount to actually playing in the Games, of course, it nevertheless was a fitting compensation and brought closure to sort of a long-lingering disappointment.

“They Ain’t Making Any More Blackhawks”

Exes in about half of the 52 senior classes (that we’re aware of) died this past year. Here is an updated table of class death numbers. Again, the deceased figures below are based on the information at hand, and so the actual numbers may be even higher. This is true because there are several exes of the early classes on our active rolls for whom we’ve never had addresses (i.e., who are very likely deceased), plus we just simply don’t learn of all the deaths. When these exes start turning 100 years old (in a year or two), they will be assumed to be dead. Another clarification - the class total sizes aren’t just based on the senior annual counts, but most class rolls also include exes who attended PHS at any time, even a few who only attended through junior high.

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Scholarship Status Report

The present endowment scholarship, that we have been working on, the Opal Flanders Scholarship, is now complete in reaching the required $10,000, thanks to the donations contributed by many of you exes. The next scholarship has yet to be decided on as there are several excellent nominees presently under consideration. As a reminder, your scholarship donations may be made at any time of the year to any of our established scholarships and sent to Phillips Alumni Assn/PO Box 1710/ Borger TX 79008. If you wish, you may also make your scholarship donation in memory of someone dearly departed. The scholarship program has really reinforced and highlighted the name of the Phillips Blackhawks throughout the community as we still by far have provided the greatest number of scholarships (20) at FPC. These twenty scholarships given in our name and the Heritage Center are our two main legacies. The FPC administration appreciates these greatly (not to even mention the recipients) and holds the Phillips Alumni Assn in very high regard.

Poem from “Phillips: A Town and Time Not Forgotten” (read at Homecoming)

“And the Song Goes On”
by Tommy Birch (’61)
in 2013

School colors are banners of victory,
Symbols of pride and loyalty,
The familiar words we oft recall,
“Oh the Orange and the Black over all.”

Ever improving each passing day,  
Rejecting defeat in strife and life’s fray,  
Soaring to new heights and standing tall.  
“May we rise to the skies never fall.”

Applying those values we learned back then,  
To guide our paths in this world once again,  
To make our way straight through the darkest night.  
“May we look to thee for our light,”

Maintaining loyalty to our roots,  
Defending her honor in life’s pursuits  
No matter our lot, no matter our plight.  
“And the colors for which we fight!”

A burst of enthusiastic support,  
On to victory, we strongly exhort,  
Other school songs are much too blah.  
In contrast to ours and our shout, “Rah! Rah!”

It merits our fullest attention,  
Kindred of the same institution,  
To heed these old words of address,  
“Oh, ye students of ole PHS,”

In sports and music we excelled.  
Our education, unparalleled.  
Good values instilled and always stressed,  
“The school that is always the best.”

We’ve fought life’s battles to prevail,  
Rode the storms of life that assail,  
Keeping heads high as we proudly attest,  
“We’ve stood every trial, every test.”

For our alma mater, we give unending praise,  
With hearts full of thanks, our anthems we raise.  
Dearest school, may our ties never sever,  
“To Phillips High we sing our praises forever.”

**Fall Newsletter/Alumni Dues Reminder**

**REMEMBER!** In order to receive this fall’s newsletter and so on each year, you will have needed to have sent in your dues in response to the Homecoming letter mailed out to you the March before. To repeat what we’ve explained in the past, this isn’t because we want to be hard-nosed about it, but because we would go into the hole each year if we were to do a full mailout to every ex in the fall like we do in the spring. Typically
only between 20% to 25% of the exes on our mailing distribution list send in their dues each year. And our mailing list is decreasing by the rate of 50 to 60 deceased each year, not counting the 20 to 25 exes we lose track of annually due to moves with no forwarding addresses available. This leads us to ask those of you, whom we generally only hear from once every five years when you attend your class reunion, to support our Alumni Association each year in this financial regard. Below is a graph showing our number of gradually declining prepaid responses to our Homecoming letter we have received in the mail over the past ten years. (This graph does not reflect the 50-to-60 exes who wait to pay their dues at Homecoming, which is fine, other than the fact that they do not furnish us with their full current contact information as requested in the Homecoming letter). With a present mailing list of some 2150 exes, for 2017, let’s see if we can reverse this downward trend.

**Future Homecoming Set**

Be sure and mark down on your 2017 calendar the dates **July 14-15** (second full weekend of July this next time around) for our HC next summer at which our rallying theme and honor group(s) have yet to be decided on, but will be forthcoming in next March’s homecoming letter. It is hoped and anticipated that the Classes of ’52, ’57, ’62, ’67, ’72, ’77, ’82, and ’87 will be planning special reunions for that weekend, with the Class of 1967 the featured 50-year reunion class. It is unconfirmed at this point as to who or who all in that class will be heading up their reunion effort. It also has been confirmed that the Class of 1962 will be having their 55-year reunion in 2017. God willing, hope to see all of you again next summer!

PAC (Phillips Alumni Committee)

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**Photos from “Reunion Pictures 2016” Aug 23rd** Email with attached file “phs2016collage.zip”

Picture#1 “66ers at heritage center”/Caption: Class of 66ers at Heritage Center. From left to right: Randy
Wright, Candy Irwin, Steve Maloney, Shirley King, Donnie Smith.

Picture#2 “Class of 63”/Caption: A few of the Class of 1961 exes seated around tables. In the foreground, seated from left to right: Jim Word(side view), Tommy Birch, Peter Heinrich, Larry Stanton

Picture#3 “Class of 66”/Caption: Group picture of the Class of 1966 exes at Saturday morning program.

Picture#4 “Class of 71”/Caption: Class of 1971 members Glen Guest and Teddy Buckland.

Picture#5 “Class of 1976”/Caption: Class of 1976 members. From left to right: Karen Bartel, Kelly Snider, Tammy Arrington, Randy Key, Sondra McCollum, Brad Sable, Carrie Braymer, Tony Patak

Picture#6 “Class of 79”/Caption: Class of 1979 members Darla Lynch, Debra Rankin

Picture#7 “Handing over bell to Class of 67”/Caption: Candy Irwin(‘66) passing the 50-year reunion clock to Leslie Skinner(‘67)

Picture#8 “Hawk of the Year, LaNelle White”/Caption: Aaronda White(‘73), president, presenting “Hawk of the Year” plaque to her mother LaNelle White

Picture#9 “Heritage center”/Caption: Items of display at rear corner of Heritage Center

Picture#10 “Karen Bradshaw 76, concert”/Caption: Karen Bartel of the 76 Class performing at her concert at the First Baptist Church

Picture#11 “Rankins”/Caption: Gene and Becky Troxel(‘43) Rankin

Picture#12 “selling of 80th celebration coin”/Caption: Daren Taylor(‘86) and Mona Hendrickson(‘75) pictured with 80th Anniversary Blackhawk coins that Daren was selling

Photos from “Reunion” Aug 7th Email with ten attached jpeg files (use 3rd and 4th pictures)

Picture#13 (3rd picture)/Caption: Class of 1961 members walking towards Phillips High School. From left to right, Jim Word, security guard, Tommy Birch, Jo carol Hickox

Picture#14 (4th picture)/Caption: Blackhawk (still in good shape) on the floor of the foyer of Phillips High School