



# SOUTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL

Class  
of 1963

# NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2004

## Nancy Ahrendt McKinley Goes Native American



Little did I realize sitting in MaryAnne Foley's stuffy little 2nd floor classroom, struggling to stay awake on warm

Spring afternoons, studying *The Oregon Trail* and learning about the journey of Lewis and Clark, that it would be of much more interest to me later in life.

Now, when I put on my elkskin fringed and beaded Native American dress and take part in a Rendezvous, I have more appreciation of how people actually lived in the 1700's to the late 1800's. Rendezvous is a re-creation of the traditional French fur trapper's holiday of the 18th century, and is one of the oldest and largest events of its kind taking place at Historic Sites all over the United States. When we camp, the tents are all white, replicas of the time. The clothing we wear depicts the era as well, from infants being pulled in wooden carts or riding in woven baskets on their parent's backs, to teenagers and adults. There is no electricity. We carry our firewood and water from a central point in the camp to our tent. We cook over campfires using cast iron pots and wares of the blacksmith's in camp. We light our way by candlelit lanterns at night and walking through the camp past the campfire of each tent (sometimes as many as 500 tents) in the evening is delightful. Some groups are singing, playing dulcimers, banjos or fiddles, some Native Americans are softly playing their flutes, some are telling stories. It



truly is magical, like walking through a door in time.

There are militiamen, entertainers and artisans making and selling wares of the time such as candles, pottery, weaving, linens, wooden boxes, honey, soap, wrought iron items, black powder rifles, woven baskets, leather clothing and hides, just to name a few. There are black powder shooting contests, tomahawk throws, cannon firings, archery demonstrations, fife and drum corps, canoe re-enactments, and a dance by the bonfire every evening. The music is traditional, nothing modern.

I make baskets, bowls and ornaments out of gourds. All of the designs I use are Native American, taken from books I have collected on Native American pottery. Researching the designs has led me to learn a lot about the myths and

folklore of Native Americans as well. It is a wonderful way to step away from the hectic pace of everyday life.

Miss Foley, if you could only see me now!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Besides being involved with her craft, Nancy writes that she is also involved in the Lake Sherwood, MO community where she is living, by serving on their Board of Directors. She has been participating in Rendezvous since 1999 and hopes to be able to join us for one of our mini-reunions.*

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Please send financial contributions to  
Sue Palmason  
8417 Main Street, Unit D  
Edmonds, WA 98026

# Kudos for Two Members of the SSHS Class of '63

I had the good fortune of attending the inaugural Saxon Hall of Fame evening as guest of Gary and Carol Allen. It was held in the new SSHS Commons on October 3, 2003.



*Class of 1963*

## GARY ALLEN

Gary was a three-sport athlete who excelled in basketball. The sweet-shooting guard was a first-team all-state selection in 1963. He led the Saxons to the state tournament, where he made first team. He was chosen South Salem athlete of the year in 1962-63.

Gary also was a quarterback on the football team. In the spring, he was a pitcher on the 1962 baseball team and a long jumper on the 1963 track and field team. He was captain of the football and basketball teams in his senior year. His athletic career continued at Oregon State, where he played basketball.

He resides in Salem, where he has been an attorney since 1972.

Those being honored at this event were for SSHS years 1954-1976. Of the nineteen individual honorees plus the 1954 football team, our class of 1963 was well represented with the induction of Gary Allen and Dave Johnson. Here are their bio's as presented in the program. Congrats to Gary and Dave and their many mentors. The only

inaccuracy with Gary's bio is that he and Carol just moved to Salishan to escape the city. And I thought that Seattle traffic was bad! I think you would also like to know that Lee Gustafson, Dick Ballantyne, Marv Heater and Pappy Ashenbrenner (posthum.) were also honored as inductees. I found it to be one of the most memorable times for me in recent years. South Salem is beautifully maintained and presents itself very well for a fifty year old institution. And the new Commons is well designed and ideal for such an event. I found myself wandering the halls before and after, filled with the most pleasant memories of those good days with you folks. Those were very good times.

Oh yea, one more little tidbit. While I was waiting inside the front entrance to meet Gary and Carol, who should walk in but Gary and Mark Gustafson with their father Lee. My heart nearly stopped as I hadn't seen Gary since early college days. Well, you will have to suffer through this final shot of the foursome gathered there. Since there really isn't much change from our '63 class photos, I won't have to tell you who is who, right? Okay, Okay. I guess we might have aged a bit more than the 50 year old edifice.

## DAVE JOHNSON

Dave was a first-team all-district running back in 1962 and played on the 1963 Shrine football game. He lettered in 1965 at Oregon State.

He coached football at South Salem from 1975-87 with 88 wins. His teams had a winning season 12 of 13 years and gained the state semifinals three consecutive years. He was athletic director at South from 1987-98 and named Oregon Athletic Director of the Year in 1998.

Dave has been Associate Director of the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association since 1998.



*Class of 1963*



Regards from Seattle, Glen Johnson  
gjohnson@u.washington.edu

# Notes From Classmates ...



## Howard Phillips writes ...

It was very nice to hear from you, I did not know that there was such a newsletter and will contribute some monies towards its continuance. Thanks so much for your time towards our gathering last fall, I was horribly dissappointed that I was ill and did not want to spread any more germs than I did on the first night so I did not attend the second night. I spent about five days in the Westin in Portland actually not leaving the room, certainly hope that I didn't make anyone ill at the Friday night Mago's affair.

I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of two baby horses which should arrive any day and I have a new granddaughter who is three months, almost, now. I'm already looking forward to gathering at Mago's again next September.

*Howard Phillips*



## LaVonne Bolstad writes ...

I appreciate all the work that you and others are doing. Sue mentioned the idea of submitting an article about my May trip to China and I haven't written it.

I have returned to work (psychotherapist, working with many children who have been abused) and looking back I don't know how I had time to do the China trip. I am wondering if anyone else has been to various parts of China? I would be interested in comparing notes.

My husband is an atmospheric scientist at Colorado State and that is why I have so many opportunities to travel with little cost. I want to say "hi" to everyone and say that I am not the same person who I was in high school (no longer quiet, etc.)

I was prompted to return to work when our grandson was diagnosed with autism and we learned about the cost of early



intervention – so my decision to return to work was a good choice.

I would love to join you but I can't this time. Everyone looks great in the class reunion pictures and I would love the opportunity to see everyone again. (I am betting I am not the only one who has had a personality change since high school). I enjoy the newsletter a great deal. We do get to Oregon at times. We have a condo at the Embarcadero in Newport. Would love to connect with classmates.

*LaVonne (Bolstad) Johnson  
vonniejoy@earthlink.net*



## Paula Frederick writes ...

Thanks for your great work on the newsletter! I see that Jeanne Cannon recently moved from Seattle to Phoenix for her retirement. We live in the Phoenix/Scottsdale area and I would love to get a hold of her to welcome her to the "Valley of the Sun" (and heat, heat, heat during the summer months). Actually, Becky Lorenz is moving down here this Fall and I thought it might be fun if we could all get together.

*Paula (Frederick) Garlick*



## Bonnie Boese writes ...

Greetings from Bursa, Turkey. My husband and I have lived in Turkey for three years, doing volunteer work with a Christian group. Since graduation from South High, I had lived in Denver, Colorado until 2001. We will return to the states in October to welcome our second grandchild. Many of you can relate to what a special blessing grandchildren are. I am sorry to miss your celebrations on September 17.

*Bonnie (Boese) Waesche*



## Didi Warren writes ...

We are still with Transworld Systems and run a district office for them. We hire and train sales people to sell out of

our office. We market an internal billing and collection service to businesses all across the United States. We are all independent contractors with no territorial restrictions. We work with clients in every kind of business category out there as well as 10,000 medical clients.

We sold our boat 12 years ago and miss cruising but we don't miss the upkeep and work that it takes to maintain a charter business. Our home address is 7380 N.E. Shaleen St., Hillsboro, OR 97124. Home phone is 503/439-9070. Work number is 503/408-1130.

I was surprised from the group picture that there weren't more classmates that live in Salem at the reunion.

*Didi Warren*

## Roy and Nancy (Donaldson) Davidson write ...



Thanks for the update. I imagine the group has considered making the newsletter via e-mail but it might be worth another look. That would reduce the costs and make handling easier.

*Roy and Nancy*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The newsletter is sent out via e-mail and also hard copy to those that don't have e-mail. We may add a website soon to help reduce the problems some are having opening the e-mailed newsletter.*



## Chris Holm writes ...

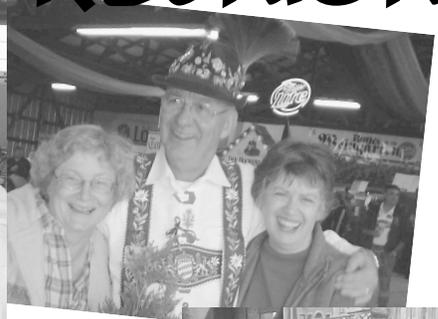
It was great to hear from you and how terrific that you are making this newsletter happen. I am hoping to spend a little more time in Salem this summer (each time I've been down it's a quick Friday night – Sunday noon trip with full attention to Mom and Dad ...) I hope all is well with everyone.

*Chris Holm*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Chris lost her Mother over the summer.*

*Continued on page 5*

# 41ST ANNUAL MINI-REUNION



On September 17, 2004 the newsletter staff called all 1963 Saxons to an informal reunion. The hope was that each year we would informally meet on this date (3rd Friday night in September) and by the 50th reunion we would have everyone located and reconnected, making the BIG "50" reunion more comfortable and accessible to everyone. A small but enthusiastic group met at both venues and a good time was had by all.

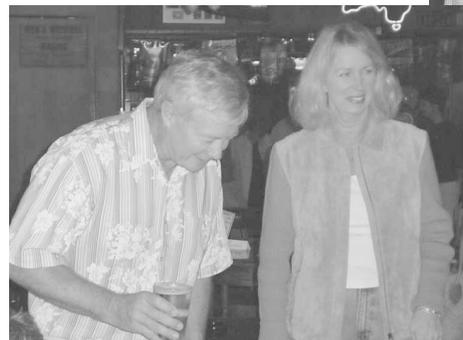


## SET YOUR 2005 CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 1.

The Friday night gather at Magoo's will be at 7 p.m. and a possible 1 to 4 p.m. picnic at Barb and Ron Cross' home in Salem is on the table for Saturday. With everyone bringing food to share. Watch the newsletter for more information and if you are interested in helping with the planning contact the newsletter staff.

Watch the newsletter for more information as the year progresses.

Thanks to Jim Eastridge for the wonderful snacks and hospitality. Hope to see more of you at the 42ND REUNION!



...Fun for all who attended

# Thoughts From The Editor ...

Thanks to all of you who have contributed articles and funds to keep the SSHS Class of '63 newsletter going. I continue to be amazed at how much many of us have in common, including travel destinations and family and health challenges.

The family challenges can be great for those of us who have aging parents. I just completed the process of moving my Mother from a senior mobile home park in Salem to a retirement center (Lancaster Village). Her move was long overdue, but I wanted to wait until she came to the conclusion that she needed to move. (I know some of us are not that fortunate.) She has macular degeneration, which has slowed her down considerably. She is no longer able to volunteer at the Salem Senior Center—an activity that she and my Dad enjoyed for many years (he passed away in February 2002). I believe the transition was made easier by giving her

time to adjust to the thought of moving from her home of 26 years and visiting several Salem retirement centers over a period of weeks. Once the decision was made, things moved quickly. She sold her mobile home to the second person that looked at it, and then it was time to move. We had an estate sale (can any of you relate to this?). (A special thanks to Barb Hoxsey-Cross for her valuable assistance the first day.) Mom was able to take with her the things that mean the most and those that she can still enjoy because of her eye sight. Those items that did not sell are stacked around our house. Needless to say, the whole experience was very tiring for everyone. I am now inspired to simplify our household by reducing the “clutter” and have even read several self-help “declutter books.” Any of you have any helpful advice? By the way, I’m very fortunate that my Mom has several friends at the same retirement center, including people

she met through her work at the Senior Center and two high school classmates (Salem High School, class of 1938). They still have monthly class luncheons



and are planning for their 70<sup>th</sup> reunion! That’s a goal we should aspire to.

I am encouraged by the number of organizations that are devoted to making our parents’ lives, and someday our lives, easier. My Mom regularly rides Wheels, the Salem area public transportation agency serving seniors (60 and over) and persons with disabilities. Other services are also available for seniors in Salem and most parts of the country.

If you have suggestions or thoughts on how to make these life transitions easier, please send a note to the newsletter committee for inclusion in a future issue.

*Bernadette Stone Barrett*

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## Notes From Classmates ...

*Continued from page 3*



**Jack Price writes ...**

Thank you for keeping all of us informed with regards to what is happening with and to the Class of 1963. I will

forward a donation to Sue Palmason, as I believe this is the only way I can be supportive of this great project. It would be helpful to know what level of costs you are in need of offsetting as I am certain it would help calibrate what level of donations one should be considering. Again, thanks for your outstanding efforts and please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.

*Jack Price*



## Note from our Treasurer ...

The following is being provided in response to a question from a classmate. We hope it will answer questions as to where your generous contributions are going.

The cost of the Spring 2004 newsletter was \$260 (copies and USPS bulk mailing). The cost of the first newsletter was \$172 but it was a single page, legal size and mailed first class. We’ve grown to eight standard pages, and it looks like that may be the norm for upcoming issues.

We are sending the newsletter by e-mail to as many classmates as we have e-mail addresses (currently about 100); others are USPS’d in print format. We

will keep gathering more e-mail addresses as we continue working on this activity.

Thanks to many generous classmates, we have collected what is needed for this issue; however, fundraising will be ongoing. We appreciate whatever level of support any one person is able to submit.

The newsletter planning group is considering several alternatives for the future, including the possibility of establishing a class website, where the newsletter would be accessible to any classmate with internet access (available at most public libraries). That, too, comes at a cost and will require a different setup and ongoing maintenance of the site.

*Sue (Gleckler) Palmason*

# Finding Chuck

By Kathy (Hall) Highcove

"What's next?" my spouse inquired as we rested on the lip of the congressional fountain. "We have one day left in Washington DC."

"I need to find my old classmate, Chuck Burrell. He died in Vietnam in 1969 and his name is on the Vietnam Memorial. Are you up for another long walk tomorrow?"

No problem," replied the former Air Force captain. The next day we walked a mile further than the day before. We found the Vietnam Memorial situated a few yards off a wooded path and settled into a shallow depression in the park. I stopped at the edge of the clearing and took in the clean lines of the structure and the profusion of green life rising over the wings of black granite. A group of people moved slowly back and forth on the sidewalk that ran the length of the monument. As they walked, adults and children brushed the etched names lightly with their fingertips as if they read stories in Braille.

"Ain't going to study war no more..." a gray bearded guitar player, his rough salt and pepper hair covered by a red bandanna, sang as he reclined under the white birch trees behind us. We remembered our mission, and approached the memorial.

All Americans should see the Wall. All Americans should run their fingers over the engraved names of young men and women who died in the jungles, or in the air, or on the rivers that flowed like thick blood from the torn flesh of rice paddies and rain forest. Everyone should witness the painful resignation of families, gray-haired veterans and comrades who stand with bowed heads as they remember ... so much ... that can't be put into words, just songs. Some veterans

stand at attention and salute the names of their fallen comrades, some leave flowers, a poem, a tear.

"Let's go look for Chuck now. I think the kiosk over there has a Book of the Fallen". The Book of the Fallen was well thumbed by thousands of fingers before us.

"Such a thick book. And the names are listed in very small print. So many names. Incredible."

"Remember the nightly body count on the evening news? Here they are."

"Let's first find the Oregon section, and then the list of casualties for Salem. Right here it says Charles Burrell, who died in 1969."

"I already investigated his record in the National Military Records. Chuck died in a C-123 cargo plane that crashed after he heroically delivered ammunition to troops under fire. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross posthumously."

"Charles Burrell can be found on panel 14, in the 1969 group of casualties."

We joined the crowd's horizontal movement and scanned the plethora of names. Finally, "There it is! I see his name!" I felt a chill of recognition.

**Charles Franklin Burrell**, my grade school classmate, my wise-ass religion class buddy, my hometown casualty. Joe snapped a picture, as I remembered his face. I thought of his family. The guitar player strummed a quiet tune. Joe put his camera away and suggested,

"If you're ready, let's go back to the hotel. It's getting dark."

On the way back we revisited the Lincoln Memorial. We read again the moving speech at Gettysburg, also etched on a wall; *It is rather for us, to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us. – that, from these*

*honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve these dead shall not have died in vain; that the nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth ..."*



Still meaningful today, isn't it?" I observed. "Like never before. We need to remember the costs of war."

"I'll drink to that. Which reminds me. The last thing I need to do is visit that Irish Pub uptown... and lift one for Chuck and all his buddies." We turned and the great stone visage watched our forms move into the twilight. In the distance, the gold dome glowed, and hundreds of lights lit the dusk before us, like stars on a giant flag. Long may it wave.

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The following was submitted by Shelley Lewelling (Chuck Burrell's sister) The inscription on Chuck Burrell's headstone is "In Loving Memory." The stone also contains a poem Charles wrote to his beloved Sweet Pea, his wife Lynn Beth. It reads:

*"To know and never say a word  
I feel just how it is,  
To open up and laugh aloud  
With sounds that fail this bliss  
Perhaps some day I'll find the way  
I'll seek to tell you then  
The warmth, the love, the private pride  
I feel for you within."*

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## Two former South High teachers recently passed away:

GARY BURCH  
died August 21, 2004

Mr. Burch taught for 30 years at South High as a Social Studies and Modern Problems teacher. Mr. Burch retired in 1991.

LIDA HANNA HALVORSEN  
died October 19, 2004

Mrs. Halvorsen taught English and was the English Department Coordinator. She began her career at Leslie Junior High in 1948, moving to South Salem in 1958 and retired in 1978.

*With  
Sadness. . .*

# MESSAGE BOARD

This space will be used for you to post messages to classmates or for general notes of interest. Please use it! We are using it this month to post names of fellow classmates that we cannot locate. If you can help please send information to Barb Cross at [barb.cross@comcast.net](mailto:barb.cross@comcast.net). (This list is from the 40th reunion)

Judith Brimm	Leona Filis	David Nicholas	Patricia Standal
Kathleen Glenn	Carol Haynes	Kathryn Nunn-Burch	Robbin Sughrue
Katherine Clyde	Paula Johnson	Nancy Owen	Sharon Thompson
Shirley Coon	Jane Jones	Elaine Pecht-Herle	Mary Walberg
Robert Day	Diane Sansburn	Bjorn Persson	Daved Wesley
Marvin Dolezal	Connie Miller	Emily Sellers	Marilyn White Evans
Beverly Fillis	Elaine Nelson	Diane Welton	Kathryn Wilson
			Paul White

Have ideas for next year's get-together? Give the newsletter staff a call or e-mail us if you would like to offer suggestions!

Happy Holidays and New Year's Wishes from the Newsletter staff!

## In Memory of our Classmates...

Mary Ann Agalzoff  
 Dean Brendle  
 Charles Burrell  
 Bob Cummins  
 Fred Fagg  
 Theresa Fawcett  
 Karen Jensen  
 Dorothy Jones  
 Stephen Kurtti  
 Gary Lunda  
 Robert McAlpine  
 Peter Maltby  
 Diane Marth  
 Mike Myers  
 Nann Nelson  
 Dennis Olson  
 Thomas Pace  
 Tim Plummer  
 James Rosanbalm  
 Kathryn Russom  
 Douglas Schlieski  
 Dale Schneider  
 William Southworth  
 Douglas Squire  
 Catherine Stone  
 Donna Weston

## Hyper-Tufa is enjoyed by classmates



On August 4, 2004, at the Eugene, Oregon home of JoAn Silke-Walpole, five classmates gathered for a Hyper-Tufa party. Along with JoAn, were Lark Brandt, Carol Boers-Mahrt, Phyllis Jenks-Bauer and Kris Campbell-Lockard.

Hyper-tufa is a gloppy mixture of concrete, peat-moss, perlite and water. It is mixed in a large wheelbarrow and then shaped into garden art. Lark and Carol made birdbaths, Kris and Phyllis made pots, and JoAn made a water feature.

After a massive clean-up of the party-goers, JoAn served a wonderful lunch followed by a trek down the street to a Godiva Chocolate outlet for dessert.

By the way, if you should see Lark, ask her about the frozen banana!

*Article and photos by Kris (Campbell) Lockhard.*



**In order to keep this newsletter coming we will need funds and articles! Please help with a donation of both!**

Newsletter articles or photos may be sent to –  
 2680 Doughton St. S  
 Salem, Oregon 97302  
 or e-mailed to  
[barb.cross@comcast.net](mailto:barb.cross@comcast.net)

### SOUTH HIGH CLASS OF 1963 NEWSLETTER STAFF

*Editor:*

Bernadette (Stone) Barrett

*Graphic Designer:*

Sharon (Johnson) Bradford

*Salem Liaisons:*

Vicki (Andrews) Sanders

Barb (Hoxsey) Cross

*Newsletter Treasurer:*

Sue (Gleckler) Palmason

# ROSES TO YOU ...

ROSES AND THANK YOU to the following classmates who have contributed financially to the newsletter since the last issue:

Nancy (Ahrendt) McKinley, Gary Allen, Jim Eastridge, Reg Gibson, Doug Hill, Sue Maris Hill, Dave Johnson, Glen Johnson, LaVonne (Bolstad) Johnson, Mary (Howser) McLurg, Jim Noteboom, Larry Nunn, Jack Price, Miles Schlesinger, Howard Phillips, JoAnne (Doerksen) Stultz and Bill Weaver. This financial support enables us to regularly produce and distribute the SSHS '63 Newsletter.

So a BIG THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS to fellow classmate Diane Reynolds who is now the new restaurant critic for the Stateman Journal.

Diane is herself a chef and loves her food, whether it's in a Salem or Portland restaurant, a new Ashland find or in her own kitchen, which is outfitted with commercial-grade appliances.

She states, "I cook probably a different recipe every night. I'm very experimental, very adventurous. The fun for me is new tastes, new ideas." Reynolds, who retired in 2001 after 15 years as director of career services at Willamette University, wanted to have more time for food.

CONGRATULATIONS also to Judy Sugnet who has attended more conventions than any of the other 66 Oregon delegates and alternatives who went to Boston where Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry accepted the nomination.

The first convention she attended as in 1972 when George McGovern was the nominee.

Sugnet is a state government retiree and the leader of the Marion County Democratic Party. She began her involvement by campaigning as a ninth-grader for Kennedy. He's the one who said, "Serve, don't be served," she said.