Laughlin, Nevada Hosts 2009 All-School Reunion

MARCHALL/U HIGH SCHOOL
2009 ALL-CLASS
REUNION RECAP
By Nancy Abrahamson Class of '52 and Laughlin Reunion Committee member

The Cardinal western migration to Laughlin, NV is now history! The birds gathered at the Riverside Resort and Casino on Feb. 16-19, 2009 for our triennial reunion.

The reunion committee would like to thank all the Marshall High School alumni, spouses and friends for attending this reunion. There were 147 total attendees.

The committee would like to thank Ardie Swenson Lilja for her outstanding leadership as Chairperson of the reunion. Her dedication and perseverance set the standard.

Thanks also to the committee members for their time, talent and teamwork. The committee members are:

- Sharon Butler Padula
- Andy Janos
- Vernon & Mary Jane (Larsen) LaCombe
- Bee Manning McFee
- Marion Manning Bartz
- Nancy Matheny Abrahamson
- Shirley Stemper Rasmussen
- Lyman Swenson

The success of this event is due not only to those who plan it, but those who attend it. Keeping the friendships alive is what reunions are about. Marshall was a small school but for many of us it provided a good foundation for the future and left us with special (sometimes humorous) memories. And of course there are some things we would like to forget.

Some highlights from the reunion include:
Crowning Virgil Hallett as King of the reunion. Virgil is from the MHS class of 1937 and the oldest alumni at the reunion. Keep on keeping on Virgil.

The River Cruise, which was enjoyed by 119 people from the reunion. The event was both scenic and informative. The weather could have been better, but the committee was not in charge of that.

The nicely decorated hospitality room which was enjoyed by many as they gathered with former classmates and friends for coffee and conversation.

Both the Welcome Party and the Banquet were well attended. The food at both events was delicious. Vernon LaCombe and Lyman Swenson read a brief history of Marshall High School, which was compiled by Tina Olivera (class of 1952). Tina passed away a few years ago.

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Andy and Lyman presented the infamous “Cappy Jones Cape” to Marvin Donley for his outstanding athletic efforts while attending Marshall High.

Volunteers, Joe Langenberger and Tim Beasley entertained us on Monday night and Marv Donley and his Show Stoppers group performed at the Wednesday evening event.

Bob Hayes, Coeditor of the John Marshall High School Alumni Newsletter and a member of the MHS Class of 1955, spoke to us briefly regarding the Marshall Access Educational Scholarship Fund. We hope many will consider making a contribution to this wonderful fund, which provides financial aid to students with special needs while attending the University of Minnesota.

The JMHS Alumni Newsletter, which is available on line, has the
MAEF address in each issue of the newsletter.

After reviewing the survey sheets that were returned to us, we have decided to schedule the next Marshall /U High School All Class Reunion on March 5 - 7, 2012 at the same resort in Laughlin. Some people would like to see the reunion scheduled every two years, but the majority favored a three year event. Mrs. Anderson (MHS former teacher) said, “the majority always rules”.

The committee members would appreciate receiving updated mailing lists for all classes. Also, if in the next 3 years you are planning a MHS/MUHS reunion, please let us know in advance and we will be happy to have someone speak to your group about the reunion.

It is very important for the future success of our reunions to have representation from the graduating classes of the 1960, 1970 and 1980 decades. We have very few mailing lists for these years. Please be assured we do not pass these lists to anyone but those working on the MHS reunion. With all of your cooperation, we hope to increase the interest in and the attendance at the 2012 event.

You may contact any one of the committee members with any questions, suggestions or ideas. We are hoping to hear from you. END
Sidney Pratt 1938ers
By Roy Swanberg ’56

To enjoy a 50th reunion with a high school class is a great achievement and many Marshall Grads have enjoyed the moment. On June 22 and 23, 2008 Sidney Pratt class of students born in 1938, went a giant step farther.

Using e-mail and the internet (Remember those in school?) Hugh Olmsted, the real spark behind this event, John Gausted, Ed Manse, Susan Heller Hay, Martha VanAlstine Klaimon and Juanita Hein Bernard brought us together from all over the country after more than 60 years. The fact that after our years at Pratt we were split between University High and Marshall High made it all the more unique.

For the start of our time together on June 22nd we met at Lake Harriet for a picnic and a streetcar ride to Lake Calhoun, we rekindled great memories of our times on “The Yellow Banana.”

That evening we gathered at Vescio’s in Dinky Town, (mutual turf between University and Marshall). The mingling, talking, hugging and laughing over shadowed the dinner. At 10PM we were just getting settled into our friendships of the 40’s when the evening was over.

The next day we met again at Sidney Pratt for a tour few people today are privileged to take. Because of “progress,” many 70 year olds’ don’t have a grade school to return to. Sidney Pratt has a rich history serving Prospect Park since opening its doors in 1898 as “A School in the Country.” Pratt has served Minneapolis in many ways throughout the years and now is back to a neighborhood grade school.

The 1940’s came alive again when we stepped through the doors of the school on Malcolm Ave. We enjoyed the dark sparkling concrete stairs and floors in “The new part,” the wide wooden halls and wooden steps still with the imprints our little feet helped make. In every room, memories came fast and easy about the great teachers from Miss Padgett to Mrs. Kuckenbecker who were really the ones who taught us all we needed to know about life. We stood in Miss Kasa’s office, but because of technology, could not see the old coal fired boiler.

Continuing room to room, visions of our days at Pratt returned through the years. Miss Beckstrom’s hanky tucked into her ¾ inch sleeve length black dress. Mrs. Cowen’s Christmas tree symbol, with our hands, for the proper posture. Thick green pencils, eating paste – not the girls - and of course, Sturdy and Sparkle. Time and space forbid me to go on. When the tour was over we returned to the playground for a small reception at the foot of Pratt’s other unique playground, Tower Hill. That’s another story for some other time.

The time we spent at Pratt this summer brought back the innocence and friendships we knew before we grew up and entered this life we know as adults. At the age of 70, we all need a brief time of reflection. This summer, the 38ers of Sidney Pratt had ours. I would like to encourage any of you to try to do the same with your grade school class.

The 38ers who attended this truly once in a lifetime event were: Margaret Armstrong Bancroft, John Campbell, Deanna Christ LeTourneau, Dianne Cox Olsen, John Gausted, Juanita Hein Bernard, Susan Heller Hay, Lois Lipovsky Kovach, Joan Livingston Saba, Betsy Long Gridley, Eddie Menze, Donald (Tucky) Miller, Bruce Nimmer, Hugh Olmsted, Carol Prentis Remarcik, Roy Swanberg, Martha VanAlstine Klaimon and Barbara Yore Douglas. Spouses and some others joined us for this special reunion.

**Class of 1955**
The Marshall class of 1955 has begun planning for their 55th Reunion to be held in 2010.

They invite all grads interested in helping and planning to contact Otto Lausten at owlausten@msn.com and/or Tom Daly at tmdaly@q.com.

**For those of you who want a printed copy of each Alumni News Bob Hayes offers the following:**
**NEWSLETTER HARD COPY AVAILABLE**

**SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 9**

**LEAVE A LEGACY!**
**A CONTRIBUTION TO MAEF LIVES ON & PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN NEED.**

See article on page 8.
The class of 1959 has had a fantastic response for their 50th REUNION. The enthusiasm is contagious, so if you would like to join the fun contact a committee member at the bottom of this announcement. We want to see YOU there. MAJESTIC OAKS Golf Club is north of Minneapolis. Take Highway 65 North to Bunker Lake Boulevard, then 1/2 mile west to entrance.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26  *an added event*
MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL  •  MAIN DOOR
1:00 TO 5:00 P.M. tour of Marshall and Dinkytown

• Meet at the Main Door of Marshall, closest to House of Hanson at 1:00 p.m.
• Following the tour we will take a walk through DINKYTOWN to Vescio’s for a social gathering. Food and beverage will be at your expense. Parking is available behind Hanson’s and West of Marshall on the street.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27
MAJESTIC OAKS
TERRACE ROOM
1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

• Hospitality Room open to meet and visit with classmates. Lunch will be available at your expense.

• Golf will be available  check box on registration / committee will set up tee times / MORE info in follow-up letter to be mailed in May 2009.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28
“BIG EVENT”
MAJESTIC OAKS
FIRESIDE ROOM
2:00 P.M.

• Hospitality “MIXER” open all afternoon to meet and visit with classmates. Hors d’oeuvre and Welcome party with cash bar available (use your beverage tickets which you can pick up at the registration table).

6:00 P.M.

• SIT DOWN DINNER (choice of entree on registration)

8:00 P.M.

• PROGRAM with LEROY MARTIN as Master of Ceremonies.

If you did not receive your LETTER with registration & questionnaire form with schedule, cost, hotel, golf and other information...PLEASE CONTACT:
Jean (Sachariason) Soderstrom  RLSODE@WISPER-WIRELESS.COM  320 283 5816
Pat (PATTERSON) Foster  PLFOSTER7@CS.COM  651 489 0335
Drifting through the summer of ‘55, I enrolled at the U. of M. for no reason other than “to go to college”. By skipping classes, exams and my monthly U.S. Navy Reserve weekend drills, I was well prepared for a change. The change came with a phone call from my good friend, Dave Grider, who was on active duty as a Station Keeper at the Naval Air Station, Minneapolis. Dave told me that I was about to be called to active duty as a result of missing the required weekend drills. Not wishing to spend two years at sea pushing airplanes around, I quickly withdrew from the “U” and ran out to the NAS and signed on as a Dental Technician station keeper. I spent three good years on active duty at NAS, Mpls. From February ’56 to February ’59.

During those three years on active duty some good things occurred: I grew up a bit more, learned I did not want to be a dentist, decided that I wanted to be a teacher and met a wonderful woman. LuAnn and I were married in December of 1958 in her hometown of Dodge Center, MN. We celebrated our fiftieth anniversary this past December.

Upon release from active duty I returned to the U. of M. with a new commitment and a new wife. I went to school full time and worked part time for the Mpls. Board of Park Commissioners. Four years later I was a college graduate with a teaching degree and moving to Madison, WI. to teach all subjects to a class of seventh graders. Those unfortunate young people. I learned the first week that having a degree does not make one competent. Those students taught me a lot about how little I knew. This may have been one of the most significant learnings of my life. It is when you think you know it all, you are most dangerous and vulnerable.

After four years of teaching Social Studies at the junior high level and going to the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, I decided to become a school administrator. By 1967 I had taught the mandatory four years and had a Masters degree in school administration. Realizing that in Madison, a Ph.D. was necessary to even be considered as a candidate for a principalship, I began my doctoral work. LuAnn kept on working as an X-Ray technician, I applied for the G.I. Bill and a Teaching Assistantship. Between the three sources we had more income than we ever had.

But, life was to get even better. Before I had finished my dissertation I was offered an Assistant Superintendency in a small Illinois school district for a staggering $14,000. We jumped at it. During the fall of ’69 I finished my dissertation and received my Ph.D. in School Administration in January 1970. Our son was born in March of ’70. With a change in superintendents, I went back on the job market and quickly had a position as an Ass’t. Sup’t. in Waukesha, WI. Three years later I was offered my first Superintendency in Austin, MN. We moved to Cottage Grove, MN. in 1980, to Charleston, WV. in 1986 and to Portsmouth, Va. in 1990. I retired in 1999 after 25 years as a school superintendent. It was time to move on.

Looking back to MHS, there were a number of teachers who saw more in me than I did. Their support and encouragement could not be repaid. I could only pay it forward. Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Lien, Mr. Straiton, Ms. Walsh, and others are my heroes. Years later at a Schoolman’s luncheon, I was asked by Mr. Straiton to publicly speak to an important lesson from high school. I said that due to “Howie” I leaned that day in and day out talent will win. But, on any given day a well trained, well coached team (organization) will upset the heavily favored, more talented team. If my school division was not the best, we were at least going to be the best prepared. We were going to be persistent and well trained and courageous enough to challenge stupidity, ignorance and complacency.

Because of my many teachers I came to believe that as educators we were responsible for giving our students the ability to envision a greater future and the tools to create their own destinies.

Richard (Dick) Trumble, MHS Class of ’55

Biographies Continued on Page 7
Barbara Braun Huber, Marshall High class of 1950, is a member in the Minnesota Rock and Country Hall of Fame.

Barb Braun attended Tuttle through the sixth grade and then Marshall from 7th through 12th grades. She is the youngest of four sisters who graduated from Marshall all of whom were interested in music. Barb says her interest in music was enhanced by her participation in the Marshall Glee Club and Choir. She was admired for her looks and her beautiful voice. In the 1950 Cardinal, describing Barb, it says “A pretty girl is like a melody". Barb also took singing lessons at McPhail preparing for her future career.

Barb sang for the first time at the age of four on the Slim Jim Radio Show. She later (at about age 22) along with two other girls, sang back-up for Slim Jim. She was also on a radio show at the Flame Café in downtown Minneapolis. She joined the Country Squires band where they were the house band at Archie’s in Hopkins for eight years. Shortly after Barb joined the Country Squires she was approached by a banker who backed her and she received a contract with Nashville to cut some records. She was musically backed by the Grand Ole Opry Band. The first record was titled “Rags Upon My Shoulders” and made #1 in Musicland for the five state area and #17 nationally. She sang as Hurricane Barb Huber. Another song she recorded was “The Last Thing On My Mind”. She went on to tour the five state area with the Country Squires; being with them for almost 20 years. During her career Barb made radio and TV commercials and even turned down the opportunity to be a stand-in for Ann Margaret during the filming of “Grumpy Old Men”.” “This was a fun time in my life”.

One highlight in her career was being picked as the centerfold for the Country Magazine in 1976. Barb’s most prestigious recognition was being inducted into the Minnesota Rock and Country Hall of fame in 2006. The award states “Presented with honor for performance in the entertainment arts and dedication and contribution to the history of Minnesota music”. Illustrating the significance of the award: the Andrew Sisters were inducted into the hall of fame at the same time. Barb continues her singing and playing keyboard, doing one-hour shows; as many as fourteen jobs a month and enjoying every minute of it.

Barb has been married to Bob Huber from Hopkins since 1953 where they live in a home they built in 1956 in Minnetonka on a piece of Bob’s father’s farm land. Bob is retired from the excavating and trucking businesses. They had four sons and one daughter and have 12 grandchildren and two great-grand daughters (twins).

Barb comes from an interesting and talented family. Barb’s mother, described by Barb as a “quiet little woman” started being in commercials and three movies at the age of 91. Barb’s dad was the original owner of the Blue & White Cab Co. Also graduating from Marshall were her sisters: Virginia Braun Prussman, who graduated in ’41 and lives in Colorado on a wheat farm with her husband Neal. Doris Braun Finn ’43 who lives in Wayzata; Dori has been an extra in 32 movies. Finally, Jacki Braun Holy ’47 who lives in Washington and performs “The Jacki Holy Show” providing “variety music for every occasion”.

RKH
ALL ABOUT AHLIE

Most of us had a friend who did crazier things than the rest of us and often involved us the innocent. Ahlie (Ahlie, as in Kukla, Fran and Ollie and Stan and Ollie) was one of them. From time to time, we’ll reflect upon Ahlie, and others we remember fondly.

I Remember Ahlie – A&W.

Ahlie along with a gang of us were riding home from a beach outing in the car driven by Vera Olsen’s mother. We stopped at an A & W Root Beer stand and placed our order for drinks. The car hop brought the order and placed the tray on the edge of the door. Ahlie in his haste to grab his drink dumped the entire contents of the tray into the car and on Vera’s mother.

OBITUARIES

DARVIN LEONARD VISSE R Class ’55 on March 16, 2009, Robbinsdale, MN Survived by wife Marlene, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren & mother Helen.

MAEF Continues to Seek Funds

As you may recall the Marshall Access and Education Fund (MAEF) was originally begun by members of the Marshall High School Class of 1939. Following their 50th anniversary reunion in 1989, the reunion committee discovered that they had nearly $300 left after paying their expenses. They decided to use the money to start a scholarship program for disabled students at the University of Minnesota, and so MAF was born.

Harvey Johnson and Ruth Stone Stewart took the lead in soliciting additional funds for the scholarship program. During the next 10 years the fund grew to $9,000 but the goal was to reach $25,000, the amount necessary to be considered an endowment scholarship at the university.

Ruth Stone Stewart was instrumental in bringing together MAF and Disability Services at the U of M. In 2003 the MAF monies were turned over to the university, and the fund began to grow more rapidly. Assisted by the Marshall Alumni Newsletter, Disability Services, and many generous donors, the MAF scholarship reached its goal of $25,000 in the summer of 2007, and the University of Minnesota Foundation matched the fund with an additional $25,000.

On September 10, 2008, MAF awarded its first $1,000 scholarship to Kimberly Conlon, a junior economics major at the U of M. The MAF committee congratulates Kimberly and thanks all who have contributed to this effort, but it doesn’t want to stop fundraising yet.

The current economic downturn is affecting many aspects of the economy including scholarship funds like MAF. As a result we are asking for your continued support. If you are a regular supporter of the University of Minnesota, you can ask that your contribution be given to the Marshall Access and Education Fund at the university. If you are a new donor, you can send your donation to:

University of Minnesota Foundation
CM9407
P.O. Box 70870
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Please indicate that it should be credited to the MAF scholarship.

Thanks for all your help. TMD

HELP OTHERS TO GO ONLINE AND ACCESS THE JOHN MARSHALL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER!

Every time you see or contact other JMHS alumni, ask them if they are going on-line and reading the Alumni Newsletter. If not tell them we’ll be online 3x a year and give them this Internet address:

1. www.ds.umn.edu/
3. On the next page below the two Cardinals click on the line John Marshall High School Alumni Newsletter. Select the latest issue and Voila! there is your newsletter!

JMHS Alumni Newsletter
180 McNamara Alumni Center
200 Oak Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Disability Services,
University of Minnesota are the managers of “MAEF” & providers of the JMHS Alumni News web site.
PERPETUATE KINDNESS & GENEROSITY—
TODAY IS THE DAY YOU can make a difference in the life of a student with disabilities. Let’s all remember that Marshall High School invented mainstreaming. Those who attended our school weren’t disabled... they were classmates!!

ATTENTION MARSHALLITES! Would you help the daughter of a 1949 Marshall grad?? She needs a 1949 Cardinal Yearbook!

Read the following—
“Hi! My dad, Joe Desormey, went to Marshall and graduated in 1949. He is listed in the friends who died and I was wondering if you know where I could get a 1949 yearbook or if you know any information of where I could find one. I’ve looked on the Internet and have had no luck.”

To reply and/or send her a copy: Stacy (Desormey) Bumgardner rsbummy@sopris.net
or:
566 County Rd 266
Silt, CO 81652
970-876-0630

For those of you who want a printed copy of each Alumni News Bob Hayes offers the following:
NEWSLETTER HARD COPY AVAILABLE
Hard copies of future Marshall Alumni Newsletters, in black & white, are now available through snail-mail.
A one year subscription, 3-issues, arriving in January, May and September, is available at the cost of $5.00.
To subscribe include your name and address with a $5.00 check made out to Bob Hayes and addressed to: Bob Hayes MHSN, 2520 Le Homme dieu Hts #1, Alexandria, MN 56308.
Your newsletter mailing will begin on the next publication month following receipt of your subscription.

Thank you Committee Members and Participants of the 2009 Laughlin Reunion!

Your generous donation to the Marshall Access and Education Fund (MAEF) has been deposited in its ever-growing account!
Giving isn’t an abstract idea. It is a tangible outpouring by people & groups who care!
On your behalf the check and kind note were sent to us by:
Nancy Matheny Abrahamson
Ardie Swenson Lilja