

October 15, 2003

Class of 1963 Newsletter South Salem High School

Volume 1, Issue 1



South Salem High School Class Of 1963 40 Year Reunion

September 12-13, 2003

Welcome to the first issue of the '63 Class Newsletter. We hope that by reconnecting with old friends, our common interests and strength as a community will grow.

Notes from Reunion Participants



To those SSSH classmates who did not come to our 40th class reunion in September, you missed a wonderful opportunity to informally catch up on what others in our class of '63 are doing these days. I was not able to attend the Saturday night dinner program; however, the Friday night event was the first time (out of all our reunions) that it felt like everyone really wanted to visit with everyone else there – regardless of who their best buddies were in high school. People genuinely wanted to know where others are living now, who is still working – and at what – (I know I was totally “bummed” that so many of you have already retired!), and asking about families. It was simply good, fun conversation among classmates wanting to hear about each other's lives. And, it was very nice to see some classmates for the first time in 20-40 years! Jim Eastridge's sports bar was a fun place to be for the evening; the weather was quite warm and we were able to use his outdoor patio area. Thank you Jim! Did others of you go home with hoarse voices? I know I did!

I was sorry to miss Saturday night; however, my younger daughter chose that evening to get married. So, I headed back to Seattle that morning, just in time to shower and change for the big event. I missed being with you all, but family was the priority!

With 10-year reunion intervals and distances between us, it is difficult to stay in touch. I hope our new class newsletter provides a good way for more of us to be connected. I personally feel that another 10 years is too long and would love to hear from you. We have a lot of history of growing up together (some going back as far as grade school); I have very special memories.

Sue (Gleckler) Palmason

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Thank you and the rest of the newsletter team for your work in putting it out. If any members of the Class of '63 are currently living in Los Angeles or its surrounding communities, Penny (Penny Brandt, South Salem '65) and I look forward to meeting them. We can be reached at 310-470-1796. Please consider this a standing invitation.

Kindest regards,

Robert E. ("Reg") Gipson



As with all of our classmates, many changes have occurred in my family since our last class reunion in 1993. Two more graduates of South Salem High School were added to the alumni roster. My daughter, Stephanie, graduated in 1994 and my daughter, Diana, graduated in 1998. They both went on to graduate from DePauw University in Indiana. The good news is that both girls have returned to the west coast to pursue their careers. Stephanie is married to Mike Leeper, another South Salem graduate. She is the event management coordinator at Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland. Diana has just completed her first year of law school at Seattle University, and looks forward, hopefully, to a career in law. My husband, Tom Hill, South High Class of 1962 died in 1995 from complications of leukemia. He is greatly missed and fondly remembered by our family and friends.

I am currently a wardrobe consultant for Doncaster, a designer clothing line out of New York City. I continue to be active in the community. I serve on the board of directors for Family Building Blocks, a relief nursery, serving children age 6 months to 5 years of age who are at risk for child abuse. I also serve on the board of the YWCA, and I continue to volunteer for the ASSISTANCE LEAGUE® of Salem.

I am looking forward to reconnecting with classmates and friends at our 40th class reunion. Wow! I can't believe that it's been 40 years since our graduation. **Sue Maris Hill** (by the way, Sue pulled a reunion committee together – Thanks, Sue!)

A friend and I left work together to go to lunch. We soon found ourselves in a huge traffic pileup on Lancaster Drive so that we couldn't get to our favorite deli, at least not in a conventional way. I was driving a very wee car, and with my friend in the passenger seat, we went up over a curb, down the sidewalk a ways, the wrong way though a Taco Bell's drive-up window, and landed smack in front of the deli.

My friend, having remained very calm during all this, turned to me and said, "This reminds me of what you must have been like in High School." **Kris Campbell Lockard**



Class Reunion in 1993

Where are They Now? We missed you, if you didn't make the reunion. Please write and catch us up on your life, family, or whatever you want to write about.

Senior Skip Days Return



Taking Off for Senior Skip Days

In May of 1963, Sharon Johnson, Bernie Stone, Barb Hoxsey and Vicki Andrews headed to Lincoln City for Senior Skip Days. Staying at Barb's aunt's place in Cutler City, the girls enjoyed beach fun and found their way to Devils Lake to enjoy water skiing. They were told that a cute bunch of boys were staying in the vicinity. At the same time, Cobe Grabenhorst was hosting a skip-days function at his family vacation home. Others in that group were Craig Hobbs, Glen Johnson, Gary Allen, Wayne Metzger, Jim Shinn, Dan Solomon and George Robb.

Bernie Barrett, Vicki Sanders, Sharon Bradford, Barb Cross and Sue Palmeson – Skip Day friends in 1993



In January of 2003, thanks to e-mail, the five ladies found each other again and SKIPPED to the Washington Coast for their own "Senior Moments." The first evening was spent reconnecting at a wonderful restaurant in Hoquiam. The Hoquiam Castle provided 14,000 square feet of living for these seniors who spent the remainder of the night (and into the early morning) reviewing the Class of 63 annual and catching up with the knowledge each had for their classmates. The next morning, the group headed for a motel overlooking the ocean. With lots to talk about, a challenging puzzle, food, champagne, a beach and games, the five classmates reminisced for the new two days. In the picture below, Vicki is trying to imitate a great leader. Missing from the Skip Days Reunion was Linda Barker DeSantis.



Vicki ready to pantomime

Now the friends have found each other, they plan to stay in touch. Multi-talented career women, all had gone different directions in their lives but each now supports the need for us all to stay in touch and be supportive of our next 40 years. Sue is currently an executive director for non-profits in the Seattle area. Bernie is wrapping up obligations as the transit department manager for the city of Corvallis. Sharon is a graphic specialist in Roseville, California. Vicki retired from the State of Oregon. Barb retired last year from Salem-Keizer School district. Linda works for the State of Oregon.

The newsletter will need articles to stay alive.

Skip Day Memories

Flash Backs to High School

Memorable Teachers

What's your doing and thinking at the moment!

We want to hear from **EVERYONE**.

Newsletter articles or photos may be sent to 2680 Doughton St. S, Salem, Oregon 97302 or e-mailed to barb.cross@comcast.net

South High Unofficial 1963 Newsletter staff – Editor: Bernadette (Stone) Barrett, Graphic Designer: Sharon (Johnson) Bradford, Roving Reporters: Vicki (Andrews) Sanders, Barb (Hoxsey) Cross & others , Lead Photographer: Kris (Campbell) Lockard, Editorial Staff: Sue (Maris) Hill, Historian: Cobe Grabenhorst, Jr., Newsletter Treasurer: Sue (Gleckler) Palmason.

Please send donations for postage to Sue at 8417 Main Street, Unit D, Edmonds, Washington , 98026