

FRESNO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1955 NEWSLETTER

SHaverty1955@comcast.net

No. 8 Spring 2010

In memory of the following classmates

Billie Clark Mason 4/12/05
Wayne Skinner 11/16/09
James L. Miller 3/4/10
Mr. Bruce Mecartea 3/11/10

REUNION NOTES

Reunion Date – October 16, 2010
4 Points by Sheraton
(Blackstone and Dakota)
559-230-8453

Wow! Only 6 months until our 55th reunion. It is hard to believe we have been working on this for five years. It has been our pleasure. Below are the final costs for classmates attending the reunion.

Classmate Only Coffee	\$ 5
Dinner	\$35
Address Booklet	\$ 5

All the particulars will be in the reunion packet that will be mailed the middle of June 2010. Reunion information is available on www.fresnohighalumni.com.

Hotel Reservations:

As of this moment we have 20 two-night reservations and 4 one-night reservations. With multiple people in rooms I am estimating around 60 people so far. I checked with my coordinator at 4 Points and our \$89 price per room holds until Oct. 1, 2010 or room availability. She said they have never had such a good response so far in advance of an event. Way to go Warriors! Remember there are no elevators, so ask for a room on the ground floor. There are only rooms with kings left on bottom floor. **Be sure to identify yourselves as FHS Class of 1955 for the reunion Oct. 16, 2010. Call the number above for reservations.**

Dinner Fund:

Over the past five years we have had some generous donations and we decided to put aside a little bit at a time to set up a fund to assist classmates in attending the reunion

events. We are limiting this to classmates only. We have money for 12 people. If you need assistance, please contact Sharon at shaverty1955@comcast.net or 559-275-3152. Deadline for your response is September 25th. It's on a first come basis.

Elementary School Pictures:

I made a huge faux pas. I left **Del Mar**, **Homan**, and **Roeding** schools off the list. Soooo, I am hoping that those alumni reading this newsletter will respond to our call for help. For those schools we need **K-6th grade; Lafayette, K-3rd; Addams, K-3rd, 6th and 8th; Fresno State Training School, K-3rd, 5th-6th**. If possible, identify your classmates. Joanne also needs pictures of the **10th reunion**. Send to:

Joanne Canfield Morgan
4068 N. 3rd St.
Fresno CA 93726-4449

Or email: barjomor@yahoo.com

Newsletter:

As usual we will always need your financial help in keeping this newsletter going. The USPS is in trouble and will be raising prices once again. I have bought Forever stamps in advance to help us save money. The newsletter is the best tool to reach all classmates at the same time. Emails do not work out as well. Send checks to:

FHS Class of 1955
C/o Sharon Henryson Haverty
3773 W. Robinson Ave.
Fresno CA 93722-4782

Or email shaverty1955@comcast.net with **articles**. My heartfelt thanks to all who have supported our efforts. All of our newsletters are archived on the FHS Alumni Association website.

5th Annual Bay Area Mini Reunion

Potluck-BBQ

Saturday, May 1, 2010

At Gail Giffen's

925-256-9038

3175 Teigland Road, Lafayette CA 94549

2 pm – early evening

B.Y.O.M. and a side dish

RSVP to fatslice1@comcast.net or phone.

TRIVIA PICTURE #1

Who is this cadet classmate that has the look of authority about him? (Answers on back page)



CATCHING UP

By Danny Whitby

Here are a few things I still remember from the past. It is best to get them down before I forget everything like “why I went into the kitchen and opened the refrigerator.”

Anyone want to buy some “BEAT THE RIDERS” or “DUMP THE DRILLERS” stickers? Just kidding, I don’t have any left. After graduation, **Bill Burt** and I joined the Navy and went to boot camp together. I stayed in San Diego after finishing boot camp and went to Sonar school. On one of my trips home I saw **Elvin Dau** and he then decided to join the Navy too. I went to Norfolk VA and went aboard the USS Bearas, DD 654, for about a year. Then I transferred to the USS Fessenden, DER 142 which was going to the west coast. We did not find out until shortly before we left that the home port would be Pearl Harbor HI where I spent the last year or so. It was during this time I happened to pull Shore Patrol duty for the Bob Hope Christmas show. When I got there I found out that **Ann Leonardo** was also in the show. Unfortunately I was not able to leave my post and go back stage to say hi to her. The show was fantastic.

After I left the Navy I worked for Sprague Electric Co. in Visalia. I married Cecilla Caudillo, SJM '56 and our first daughter, Elizabeth, was born there. We then moved to LA. I worked for NCR for about a year and our second daughter, Mary, was born there. We moved back to Visalia and Sprague Electric for awhile and then I worked for Bel Cal on their design of a dollar bill changer. Due to mismanagement they went broke, so we moved back to Fresno. I worked at my father’s store, BESCO, and was a motion picture operator in the evenings at various

theaters. Our son, John, was born in Fresno. I finally found a position with IBM and worked for 26 years until I retired in 1991. I hope this short history encourages some others to write something for our newsletter.

LIVING AMONG THE WILDLIFE

By Fred Bergander

(I saw a picture of Fred with a moose he had bagged on the 1955 site of classmates.com. I asked him to email the picture and an article. Here is his reply.)



Just opened my email after five days off the net. Mary and I just crossed the US/Canada border into Washington State and checked into a KOA with wifi. I don’t remember giving classmates.com my picture, but I’m reaching that age when I forget little things.

Here’s what I’ve been up to over the years. I spent 7 years working as a fishery biologist for the Calif. Department of Fish and Game. In 1970 I was offered a fishery research position with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I accepted and spent a year in Ketchikan, then moved on to Juneau where I took over as project leader responsibilities for sockeye salmon research in SE Alaska. After 27 years in that position I retired in Juneau with my wife Mary.

My hobbies are hunting, fishing, boating, trap shooting, skiing, and traveling. Several friends and I spend about three weeks each year near the Yukon River. Mary and I travel to the “lower 48” each year to visit family. I spent 12 years year’s as a volunteer with the National Ski Patrol, two of which I was Director of the Juneau Patrol. Mary and I have a small cabin boat that we use for salmon, halibut, and crab fishing. Mary loves cruises and we’ve enjoyed several since we were married.

I have two daughters by a previous marriage and five grand children; all live in California. Mary has a daughter and son that live in Nashville and Las Vegas. Visiting family fills our travel schedule. The picture is one taken with Mary on a recent cruise.

FHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DINNER
Saturday, May 8, 2010
Social hour - 5 pm, Dinner 7 pm
Cost is \$40 per person
On Echo Ave. in front of FHS

Go to the alumni website for more detailed information or contact Marie Slater at mcsfresno@gmail.com.

If you plan to attend, mention you are with the Class of 1955. We will arrange our tables next to one another.
This is a fund raiser for FHS.

CARS CARS CARS

By Ron Hulse

I belonged to the **Kam Kats Car Club** at FHS and our adviser was Mr. Crane, the auto shop teacher. I can't remember which two were doing the driving, but it was possibly **Bob Franks, Dan Whitby** or Howard Morgan. I drove them downtown to the Ford dealer to pick up two brand new '54 Fords to display at FHS' first auto show on the school grounds. As I remember, one of the car's glove box kept popping open and whoever was driving pulled over to slam it shut, then when driving off it came open again This time the driver stopped in front of the second car that was following behind. The second car driver was looking to his rear to make sure the road was clear and rear ended the first car. We had to return two brand new cars to the dealer, one smashed in the front and the other the rear, with red faces. Lucky for me I was following both cars in my 48 Plymouth sedan.



My mom and dad built a new carport behind our house and let my car friends and me use the one-car garage for a clubhouse. We called our club "the Fresno Road Ramblers." We were living high with about fifteen club members. We even had a 34 Ford coupe club drag race car. It turned 71 mph at Madera Drag Strip.

One of my personal heroes was Bill Vukovich Sr who lost his life at Indy in 1955.

I saw **Pete Siemens** and **Dan Whitby's** names in the last newsletter and remember that Pete owned a '38 Ford coupe and Dan had a '39 Red LaSalle sedan. *(Don Brannon, who is a member of our reunion committee, brought the Rambler plaque to coffee and since Ron mention the car club we thought it should be inserted into the article.)*

TRIVIA PICTURE #2

Do you remember the faces and names of these Hypatia classmates who were dyeing eggs for the Fresno Nutritional Home? (Answer on the back page.)



MR. BRUCE MECARTEA

One of our favorite high school teachers, Bruce Mecartea passed away March 11, 2010. I am only mentioning this because we were intending to invite him to be our guest at the 55th reunion. Reading his obituary we found that he was a 1942 FHS graduate. All the teachers seemed so much older than us in high school, so it was interesting to know that he was 84 when he passed away. He could have been an older brother.

Lost Classmates: Below are classmates we have not been able to find. Please contact Sharon Haverty if you have any information.

Baldwin, Veda (Kilgore)
Bedrosian, John
Bremner, Raymond
Brink, Judith
Brown, Donald
Brown, Judith
Burke, Charles
Collman, Barbara
Crawford, Verna (Phillips)
Erickson, Joyce
Frank, Judith (Ellis)
Frost, Nona
Good, Carol
Gurley, Valerie
Harris, Jack
Heston, Joseph
Humphrey, Jenean
Klein, Barbara
Madgwick, Joann (Hall)
Martin, Donna (Huffman)
McCahill, Kathleen
McGreal, Barbara (Ely)
Missakian, Margaret
Moseley, David
Mowrey, Sandy

Mulford, Patricia
Robertson, Kenneth
Schott, Gilbert
Smith, Fred
Taylor, Kay
Thomson, David Larry
Van Cor, Colleen
Weare, Barbara
Zimmerman, Marion

TRIVIA ANSWERS

Picture #1: **Commander Bill Tomkins;**
Picture #2: **Phyllis Long, Jeanne Inaba,
And Dorothy DuBonnette**

REUNION CONTACTS

Coordinator: Sharon Haverty, 3773 W.
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shaverty1955@comcast.net
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