



The Brick & Mortar Board

the newsletter of the HHS Alumni Association, Inc.

www.hobartalumni.org

Volume 5, Number 3

February, 2016

Save the Date for our Annual Meeting: May 13

This year's Annual Meeting of the HHS Alumni Association will be held on Friday, May 13, in the Great Room of Hobart High School.

We will recognize our scholarship winners and elect new board members. (We have openings for the coming 2-year term. See below.) Our guest speaker is still to be announced.

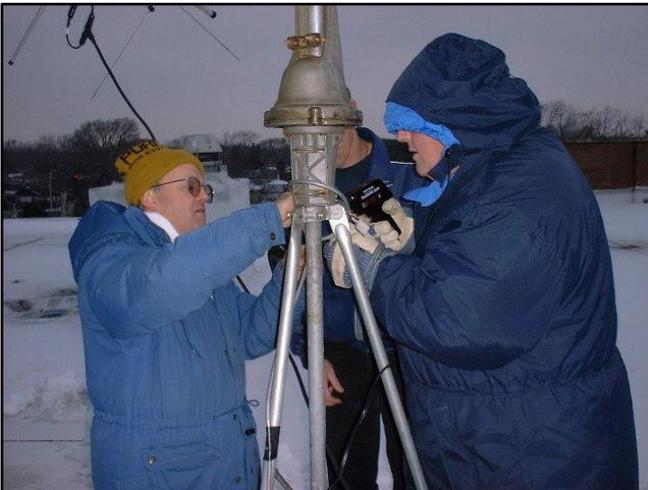
So, save the date! More info to come in our next newsletter and on our website, www.hobartalumni.org.

BOARD MEMBER OPENINGS FOR 2016-2018: Would you like to serve on the HHS Alumni Association Board? We have needs for people with accounting, paralegal and/or legal experience, as well as anyone who wishes to support Hobart High School and its alumni. Please email Paul Addison, President, at paulhaddison@gmail.com, for more information and a short Board Interest form.

Alumni Spotlight

Charlie Sufana Helps Students Talk to the Astronauts

This month's issue features an interview with Charlie Sufana, Class of 1970, an electrical engineer who has worked with schools to set up radio contact with astronauts on the Shuttle and the International Space Station.



(Above) Charlie and his crew working on an antenna rotor in preparation for the very first ARISS contact in December 2000 that took place in Burbank, IL. The temperatures were minus 30 with the wind chill.

Where are you living now, and what are you doing these days?

My wife, Karen, and I moved to Huntington Beach, CA, almost 4 years ago from Munster, IN, to be near our son, daughter, daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren. Currently I work (from home no less and only 4 miles to the beach) for General Electric Digital Energy as a Sales Application Engineer. When we moved from Munster, IN, we also brought Karen's 96 year old mom and our two black lab dogs, Chorney and Noche.

(Continued on page 2)

Alumni Spotlight (continued)

Ever since 1969, I have been an amateur radio operator (AJ9N) and since 1993 I have participated in an international educational activity involving astronauts and ham radio.

Would you describe the path you took from Hobart High School to where you are now?

I graduated from Purdue University in West Lafayette in 1974, with Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and stuck around to get a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1975. My first job right out of college was with Commonwealth Edison in Chicago where I stayed for 25 years before retiring in 2001, during a big downsizing. Since then, I have worked for Basler Electric, Electric Power Systems, I2R Technologies, KEMA, Patterson Power Engineers, and now GE. All of these positions have dealt with the electric utility industry where I have been a relay protection engineer. Along the way, I have been involved with all sorts of national and international standards writing activities that pertain to the electric utility industry.

Could you describe a typical ARISS program with a school, from planning to setting up to conducting the actual conversations with the astronauts? What parts do you like best?

Thanks for asking about this international educational activity involving amateur radio. Let me give you a little history. Back when the space shuttle was still flying, we had an all-volunteer program called SAREX (Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment). SAREX was a consortium of many countries, space agencies, and amateur radio societies where school kids around the world could talk to an orbiting astronaut in the shuttle via amateur radio. Each radio contact lasted only about 10 minutes and would allow maybe 15 to 20 students to each ask a question. I was the radio control operator for a contact that my daughter's school in Munster had with STS-58.

In 1993, after my daughter's school contact, I was asked to be a SAREX technical mentor. Each



(Above) Charlie Sufana and his wife Karen out at the beach near downtown Huntington Beach. Surfs up!

school would get assigned a mentor to help them have a successful radio contact. I later was asked to be the customer support rep for the radio that flew on STS-94 in 1997. Each payload (the radio was payload) had to be managed during each shuttle mission. I got to spend my vacation at Johnson Space Center in Houston for the last 10 days of a 16 day mission. My job was to make sure all of the school contacts were going well, and generally having a great time. I enjoyed being at Mission Control.

Once the shuttle program wound down and the International Space Station started getting built, the SAREX program became ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) in 2000. I went from SAREX mentor to ARISS mentor. Once again, each radio contact only lasts about 10 minutes. I was lucky enough to be the control operator for ARISS contact #1 which occurred at Burbank School in Burbank, IL. Since that first contact in December of 2000, we have had over a 1000 schools from all over the world get to talk to a crewmember on orbit in the ISS. I have now mentored 70 schools. You cannot imagine what happens at one of these contacts as it does change lives. We have been told many times that a student has switched to something in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program; all because of their involvement in a contact that lasts 10 minutes and perhaps having 15 students each getting to ask 1 question. After most of these contacts, the kids are yelling and screaming; the parents are usually crying.

Alumni Spotlight (continued)



(Above) Charlie and Karen's two dogs Chorney and Noche, ready to party at any time.

If you have a school in mind that you think might want to participate in the ARISS program, then here is a good starting point; <http://www.ariss.org/>. Each school wanting to participate must apply. Twice a year for a two month window, school proposals are accepted. The next window should open sometime in June, and would be for school contacts to happen in the first half of 2017. If a school gets accepted, then the list of schools goes to the ARISS mentors and we take it from there. The schools have a choice of whether they would like to have all of the ham radio equipment located at the school (called a direct contact) or via a phone patch system (all via ham radio ground stations and called a telebridge). Presently, it breaks down to about 2/3 direct; 1/3 telebridge.

Once a school has a mentor volunteer to help, then the real fun starts. Scheduling opportunities are discussed, students and their questions get planned, and all of the logistics get worked out. The direct contacts are a little more difficult to do because of all of the equipment involved, but it is well worth it.

Eventually, a date and time for the contact is picked (easier said than done as we have to work with the ISS planners and are considered secondary) and the school hopefully has a successful contact. Many of the schools get the entire school doing space stuff and have an assembly for the contact so everyone can watch what transpires. For many schools, you can hear a pin drop during the 10 minute contact period. I can't say what happens 1 microsecond after the

contact as it is usually bedlam. We at ARISS are pretty sure not much formal education happens the rest of the day after one of these events.

If anyone is interested, please drop me an email at aj9n@aol.com and I can help.

What are your thoughts about our plans to get a person to Mars specifically, and the importance of the space program generally?

I don't doubt that we will get to Mars; maybe within the next 15 to 20 years. The problem will not be technical; we could do it today. The problem will be political and money. If the countries of the world want to advance science and help out mankind, then they will need to act together and go into that final frontier of space. I think one would have to have just crawled out from under a rock to not realize all of the benefits to everyone that the space programs have produced despite the costs.

My family is passionate about space, so we would like to see the space program expand. We like the thrill of rocket launches.

Were there any teachers or other people at Hobart High School, or any experiences growing up in Hobart that had a particular influence on the direction of your life and career?

I don't think I can single out any one specific teacher but all of the math and science classes certainly helped me get an engineering degree. I knew I wanted to be an electrical engineer way back in probably 3rd or 4th grade (believe it or not). Everything from there on out was geared towards engineering and the sciences; which is why I was in the Math-Science (Chemistry-Physics) curriculum (I think there were probably only about 6 of us that were crazy enough to be in that one).

Along the way, I became an amateur radio operator (ham operator) in 1969 and remain one to this day. Although it is just a hobby, it is one where you can learn a lot, get into leadership roles depending on what you do, and have you meet interesting people. I've worked with 20-30 astronauts in the ARISS and SAREX programs.

Alumni Spotlight (continued)

Do you have any advice for high school students who are thinking of a career in some aspect of the space program?

I think the one piece of advice that many probably don't hear often, if at all, is to take the grunt type or the ones that no one else wants to do it type projects. You might think you are "lowering" yourself or that it is beneath you; but do it anyway. When I was at Commonwealth Edison, I eventually stayed in a department called System Protection & Control. That department offered 8 semesters worth (yep, 15 week semesters, 2 hours per week) of courses that covered all aspects of power system protection. No one else wanted to teach those courses, so I did the whole series at least 3 times and some courses 6 or 7 times. I had a wonderful time, learned a lot, and ended up training over 100 engineers on the art and science of power system protection. I didn't have to do it but I saw the need for education. So I just did it.

Another thing to do is get involved with a professional society if there is one for your type of work. I have been involved with the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) since 1975. Since 1993, I have been in the IEEE Power System Relaying Committee (PSRC). The

PSRC helps write national and international standards and guides that are used by the electric utility industry worldwide for power system protection. So I have made friends around the world and have had fun doing it. I am on a first name basis with people who invented some of the equipment, philosophy, and computer software that are used to protect the power system should a fault (short circuit) occur. That is so cool. I suggest that one participate in a professional society.



(Left) Charlie receiving an award for supporting the ARISS program as the webmaster and a mentor since 2000. The shirt was worn by astronaut Mike Fincke (callsign KE5AIT) while he was a member of ISS Expedition 18 (October 2008 to April 2009). Mike made many ARISS contacts during his time on board.

Class Reunion Roundup

Here is the current list of upcoming class and all-class reunions. If your class is having a reunion, send the information to us at info@hobartalumni.org, and we will publicize it on our website and in our newsletter! More information on all these reunions can be found on the [HHS Alumni Association website](#).

Florida All-Class Reunion (February 13, 2016)

The HOBART FLORIDA ALL CLASS REUNION is at the Huntington Hill Country Club, 2626 Duff Road, Lakeland, Florida, this Saturday, February 13, 2016. If you have any questions, contact Tom Kerr, tkerrblue@msn.com.

Class of 1971, 45th Year Reunion (August 6, 2016)

To members of the Hobart High School Class of 1971: The reunion will be on August 6, 2016, at the Ambassador Hall. Cost will be \$25, and there will be a cash bar. Please save the date! For more information, contact Patty Brown Helminski at Tricia.Helminski@gmail.com.

Class of 1986, 30th Year Reunion (August 20, 2016)

SAVE THE DATE! Our 30-year reunion will be next August 20, 2016, from 6-12 pm at the Hobart Elks Lodge in Hobart, Indiana! More dates and times and event information to come in the next eight months. We will be having a meet and greet on Friday night at Hobart's Lakefront Festival, a golf outing on Saturday morning, and a dinner/dance/party at the Elks that Saturday evening. Ticket prices and times and hotel details will be posted

soon. We would like to get all of you to help us with reaching some of our classmates who are not on Facebook. If you know of anyone from our class NOT on FB, please email Janis their name and address (if you have it) at: ppd106@aol.com. Check out the Hobart Class of '86 Reunion page for more information.

Class of 1956, 60th Year Reunion (August 20, 2016)

There will be a 2016 class reunion organized again with Terry and Pat Shaw, on August 20, 2016 at the Innsbruck Country Club in Merrillville (not the Hilton Garden Inn in Hobart). Further plans are being made at this time.

Class of 1981, 35th Year Reunion (October 7-8, 2016)

The reunion committee headed by Betsey (Schroeder) Kimpan wanted to give everyone some details so we could all plan ahead :) We are also asking for updated addresses and to PLEASE get the word out! The plan is to attend the football game on Friday, October 7 which will be a home game, a school tour of "our" high school (now Hobart Middle School), a golf outing (weather permitting) and our dinner/dance will be held Saturday October 8, 2016. Contact Betsey at bkimpan1@yahoo.com.

Class of 1961, 55th Year Reunion (October 22, 2016)

Ron Smith has posted that the Class of 1961 55th reunion will be held October 22, 2016, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Merrillville. A block of rooms is being held at the Hilton Garden Inn under "Hobart High School Class of 1961." To be sure you are on the mailing list, please email Ron at hhsclass61@yahoo.com.

HHS Alumni Association Board

The Hobart High School Alumni Association was officially incorporated on July 17, 2010. The current members of the Board of Directors are:

OFFICERS

Paul Addison, Class of 1970.....*President*
Holli Smith Kostbade, Class of 1998..... *Vice-President*
Debra Broker Opolski, Class of 1970 *Treasurer*
Lynn Hasza-Heintz, Class of 1967 *Recording Secretary*
Tracy Estabrook McCullough, Class of 1978*Corresponding Secretary*

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Angela Patrick, *Principal, Hobart High School*
Lynn Sheets Kostbade, Class of 1966
Dawn Briney Krull, Class of 1968
Michael Trammel, Class of 1967
Jane Woodruff McDaniel, Class of 1969

STUDENT MEMBERS

David Kostbade, Class of 2016
McKayla DeLeon, Class of 2016

The Brick & Mortar Board is a publication of the Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc., a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation. It is an electronic publication, delivered by email to members of the Association, and made available on our website.. Membership is \$10 per year, or \$100 for a Life Membership, and donations are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to: **HHS Alumni Association**, and mail it to: HHSAA, PO Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342. Our website is: www.hobartalumni.org, and you can reach us by email at info@hobartalumni.org. The editor of The Brick & Mortar Board is Paul Addison.

Recent Obituaries

(since our December 2015 newsletter;
in PDF form these are links to the obituaries on the HHSAA website)

FEBRUARY 2016:

[Eugene Beckner, Class of 1938](#)

JANUARY 2016:

[Eugene Erwin, Class of 1960](#)

[Jack Overturf, Class of 1959](#)

[Shirley Brown Jancaric \(Staff\)](#)

[Sharon Marie Downey Dujmovich, Class of 1956](#)

[Nicholas Holzmer, Jr., Class of 1943](#)

[Orvin "Butch" Mills, Class of 1974](#)

[Helen Evans Cavanaugh Boltz, Class of 1949](#)

[Jean Butler Thornton, Class of 1972](#)

[Jeffrey Stack, Class of 1967](#)

[Pat Wiczorek Murray, Class of 1957](#)

[Dolores Enslin Lalevich, Class of 1946](#)

DECEMBER 2015:

[Mark Adelman, Class of 1976](#)

[Adeline Schultz Kasperek, Class of 1964](#)

[John Glad, Class of 1959](#)

[Patty Shroyer \(Staff\)](#)

[Marilyn Emory Moehl, Class of 1952](#)

[Warren Crowder \(Teacher\)](#)

[Amy Cook, Class of 1975](#)

[Gregory Doucette, Class of 1972](#)

[Robin Cunningham, Class of 1967](#)

[Steven Dean Jackson, Class of 2011](#)

[Dave Vernigor, Class of 1969](#)

NOVEMBER 2015:

[Sue \(Margaret\) Winske Brown, Class of 1966](#)

90 Years Ago: William Revelli and the Hobart Band

In the spring of 1926, William Revelli was finishing up his first year as Music Director of the Hobart High School Band. Of the 32 players, only five had played an instrument before that school year, but they were outfitted with uniforms in January, gave concerts in other cities, and "added pep to all our Basket Ball games".

The Hobart High School Band went on to become one of the most famous high school bands in the country, winning its first national championship in 1930, and becoming the first to play for a third time at the Midwest National Band Clinic in 1967, a concert which included guest conductors William Revelli and another former director, Frederick Ebbs. The band is now under the able direction of Brian Grenier, in his 12th year at Hobart.

The *Hobart History Advocate* (a publication of the Hobart Historical Society) from 1993 has an extensive history of the Hobart bands, and lists as "charter members still playing with the Rusty Pipes" Nic Holzmer (clarinet) and Eugene Beckner (tuba). Both gentlemen passed away within the last month, and you can read their obituaries in the "Recent Obituaries" section above.



Clarinets—Nicholas Havrilla, Den Brantigan, Wilbur Thompson, Harold Sandstrom, Walfred Nelson, Arthur Schuechow, William McAfee.
Cornets—Thomas Messick, John Stewart, John Wanamaker, William Wood, Max Brand, Linden Holdeman, Esterling Allen.
Trombones and Baritones—Gordon Argo, Frank Brown, Kenneth McDonald, Gordon Shore.
E Alto Horns and Saxophones—Peter Marquart, Walter McAfee, Harold Wood, Harold Heyer, Warren Boyd, Ralph Hawke, Robert Lutz.
Bass and Snare Drums—William Messick, Maynard Argo, Carl Scheid.
Saxophone—Harry Coons. Drum Major—Nicholas Havrilla.

Hobart High School Band

TOOT toot! Boom boom! Twa twa! 'Tis the Hobart High School Band, which was organized in the fall of 1925, by our Music Director, Mr. Revelli, and now has thirty-two members. When organized there were only five of this number who had ever played any instrument. Instruments were purchased and work began in earnest. Only the interest and perseverance manifest by the personnel made possible its appearance in a month. All the organizations in the school have helped the band make its mark and by this hearty co-operation, it was outfitted in uniforms for its first real concert, January 17th. It has added pep to all our Basket Ball games. It has given concerts in other cities, and will enter the Lake County Dramatic and Choral Contest.

*"Then with sound as profound as the thunderings resound,
Come thy wild reverberations in the throes that shakes the ground."*

Mission Statement

The mission of the Hobart High School Alumni Association is to develop and maintain a close relationship between Hobart High School, its constituents, and its alumni for their mutual benefit. The Association is committed to, and involved in the support and well-being of Hobart High School and its alumni.

OUR GOALS

- To assist Hobart High School in communication with its alumni
- To convey to Hobart High School the views, attitudes, and needs of the alumni in seeking to preserve, advocate, and promote alumni interests
- To strengthen alumni activities and programs
- To support educational programs through teacher grants and student scholarships

Our Supporters

The HHS Alumni Association is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation, and our entire financial support comes from membership dues and contributions. We recognize our supporters by listing the names (not the amounts) of those who have contributed to HHSA, including memorials, donations, and new and renewed members. Membership in the HHS Alumni Association is \$10 per year, and life memberships are \$100.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS (since our December 2015 newsletter)

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS:

Gary Addison, Class of 1964 (Lifetime)
Sheryll Trager Bennett, Class of 1967 (Lifetime)
Judy Duscynski Dragon, Class of 1967 (Lifetime)
Donald Huminsky, Class of 1952 (Lifetime)
Harry Kneifel, Class of 1969 (Lifetime)
Charlie Sufana, Class of 1970 (Lifetime)

ANNUAL MEMBERS:

Paul Aleman, Class of 1958
Annette Tyre Allen, Class of 1970
Linda Jackson Bakos, Class of 1967
Linda Collins Binkley, Class of 1964
Raymond Boudreau, Class of 1963
Carin Carlstedt Caras, Class of 1968
Rebecca Eastwood Demo, Class of 1969
Sandra Erwin Edwards, Class of 1967
Terry Fasel, Class of 1965
Alan Govert, Class of 1962
Richard Govert, Class of 1987
Sandra Yover Haas, Class of 1974
Mary Ellen Routes Hutnick, Class of 1966
Lawrence Koziol, Class of 1958

Linda Quinlan Koziol, Class of 1960
Rita Carlson McBride, Class of 1964
Aaron McCullough, Class of 2011
Adam McCullough, Class of 2004
Andrew McCullough, Class of 2009
Angela McCullough, Class of 2012
Ashley McCullough, Class of 2002
Joseph McCullough, Class of 1977
Tracy Estabrook McCullough, 1978
Jane Woodruff McDaniel, Class of 1969
Phillip McDowell, Class of 1965
James Nichols, Class of 1951
Martha Jordan Nichols, Class of 1953
Sharon Wozniak Palmeri, Class of 1966
Kimberly Berry Rujevcan, Class of 1979
William Rujevcan, Class of 1979
Paul Sheehy, Class of 1961
Ronald Smith, Class of 1961
Robert Swisher, Class of 1967
Beverly Benson Troumouliaris, Class of 1967
David Vinzant, Class of 1975
Diane Kursch Voglund, Class of 1967



Membership Application and Renewal Form Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc.

Check one: New member ____ Renewal ____

Check one: 1-year membership (\$10) ____ Lifetime membership (\$100) ____

Additional donation for scholarships _____

First Name _____

Last Name (in high school) _____

Married Last Name _____

Your class graduating year at HHS _____

(For renewals, fill out below only if your information has changed)

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

"Once a Brickie, Always a Brickie!"

Thank you for your support!

**Membership is \$10 per year, or \$100 for a Life Membership
(proceeds go toward student scholarships and teacher grants)**

Make your check out to: HHS Alumni Association

Mail to: HHSAA, P.O. Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342

Our website is: www.hobartalumni.org