



The Brick & Mortar Board

the newsletter of the HHS Alumni Association, Inc.

www.hobartalumni.org

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January, 2014



RSVP Now for the Sweetheart Dance on February 15 at Rosser Hall

The Hobart High School Alumni Association invites you to the Sweetheart Dance on Saturday, February 15, from 7:00 to 11:00 pm at Rosser Hall, 1421 W. 37th Avenue (Highway 6 west of the Red Rooster). For \$20 per person, you will get a supper of sloppy joes, chips and a drink. Music will be provided by DJ Travis Stojanovich (aka Firefly) from 8 to 11. You must be 21 or older, as beer, wine and a limited selection of liquor will be served at the cash bar.

You can RSVP your reservations to us at dance@hobartalumni.org. Tell us your name, and how many are in your party, including yourself. You can pick up your tickets (\$20 each) at the door. Tickets are also available from some HHSAA board members, and at the Hobart High School office.

Bring your sweetheart, and we'll see you there!

SAVE THE DATE! The HHS Alumni Association Annual Meeting will be held Friday, May 2, in the Great Hall at Hobart High School. Hobart Middle School Principal Carolie Warren will be the guest speaker.

Alumni Spotlight

Chuck Dingée: "We are The Walrus"

Hobart High School alumnus Chuck Dingée, Class of 1971, is a musician with a group called The Walrus. Chuck has lived in Bellingham, Washington for the last 20 years. Here is his story.

What are you up to these days? How do you make your living and how do you spend your time?

I am playing lots of music, which is (mostly) how I make my living. I also have a small home business building and maintaining web sites, and I occasionally do some photography work.

I play acoustic guitar and sing as a solo or in a few different duos and trios, and I have a really fun 5-piece band called The Walrus. We all sing, and I play rhythm guitar, flute, sax, and occasionally congas. Check us out at www.tusktusk.com. We are mainly a cover band, but we also recorded an album of original music a few years ago called "Uncovered." It is still available at www.cdbaby.com/walrus.

My wife (Kathy Sheehan) and I are loving life in the Pacific Northwest. We have a 36' sailboat that we share with two other couples here in Bellingham, Washington, and we spend many summer weekends cruising in the San Juan Islands. We also love to hike and hunt for delicious wild mushrooms.

(continued on page 2)



Alumni Spotlight (continued)

A lot of musicians wish they could make their living from playing, but not many get to. Is it difficult depending on music for a living?

It is often challenging to survive on the low income, but it is very rewarding to be an artist or musician. Of course it can be difficult to deal with the business aspects of playing music. You have to strike a balance between the music you like to play and the music your clientele wants to hear. You have to be able to read an audience to know what is appropriate, so it helps to have a versatile, diverse repertoire. And you have to be able to deal with audiences that are not paying attention to you in bars. It takes some getting used to but I always find people to play to.

Can you describe the path that led you from Hobart High School to Bellingham, Washington? What kinds of things happened along the way?

Well, after High School I went to IU Northwest in Glen Park for a few years. I had a scholarship in Math and French, so I majored in Math and minored in French. I found that what I really loved to do was play music with my friends, and eventually I dropped out and became a hippie musician, traveling around the country with fellow Hobart grads Rich and Dave Franzwa. We called ourselves the Obscure Travelling Band. We spent time in Wisconsin, Colorado, Florida, and other places and eventually ended up in the Bellingham, where we fell in love with the NW. After living in Bellingham for a couple of years, people started asking us: "When are you gonna either leave town or change the name of the band?" So we left town. We travelled back to Colorado, and came back to Hobart to visit friends & family. Then we moved to Florida, where the band broke up, and I moved back to Bellingham.

For a few years (1986-1993) I lived in Philadelphia where I worked for the World Game Institute, an

offshoot of Buckminster Fuller's office. We conducted a simulation game taking place on the world's largest & most accurate map of the world. It was the size of a basketball court. We put participants on the map in the same proportions as world population, and then distributed props representing food, energy, literacy, money and debt and then gave the regions problems to solve, given the resources they had. It was a very interesting experience, and I got to travel all over the world presenting the workshop for colleges, high schools, corporations, and many organizations including the United Nations in NY and the Diplomatic Corps in Washington DC.

Eventually my wife and I moved back to Bellingham, where I continued to work with the World Game for a while and started building web sites and eventually formed my band.

Were there any teachers or experiences in the Hobart schools, or growing up in Hobart, that led you to where you are today?

I did have some great teachers at Hobart. I was very close to Mr. Wuchner, who I had every year for either French or Math. And of course the HHS Band was a very big part of my high school experience. I remember my first day of band class (7th grade) when Mr. Bondi said "I want you to know right now that I think this is the most important class you have." I remember thinking "This guy's nuts!" But I grew quickly to learn that music is to be taken seriously, and I cherish my years in band with Mr. Bondi, Mr. Grivetti, and Mr. Matlock.

Do you have any advice for high school students today who would like to go into music for a career?

Don't expect to make much money! But be professional. Take every gig seriously, even if it doesn't pay much. A professional attitude really helps with getting gigs, and winning over audiences.



Chuck Dingée's band, The Walrus

HHS Alma Mater Turns 60!

The 1954 *Memories* yearbook reveals that the Hobart High School Alma Mater was written that year, in response to a request by the yearbook staff. Choir director Hilmer Jacobson composed the song to an “Austrian Folk Tune”. The yearbook staff said, “We sincerely hope that this song will become one of the cherished traditions of Hobart High School.” Indeed it has.

Hail, Alma Mater
 Hilmer Jacobson, Austrian Folk Tune
 Hail all hail, Hobart High School! We students true
 Pledge thee our love and give support to you.
 In less or victory,
 We sing your praises high.
 Our Alma Mater, dear Hobart High.

Thank you, Mr. Jacobson
 We appreciate your response to our request for an alma mater song for Hobart High School.
 Last June at the first staff meeting, we discussed a possible theme for the 1954 *Memories*. Because we felt that Hobart had long been in need of a hymn to be sung on various occasions, the staff decided to ask you to write the song.
 We sincerely hope that this song will become one of the cherished traditions of Hobart High School.

Hail, Alma Mater
 Hail, all hail, Hobart High School
 We students true,
 Pledge thee our love
 And give support to you.
 In less or victory,
 We sing your praises high.
 Our Alma Mater, dear Hobart High.

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

- Brent Martinson, *Principal, Hobart High School*
 Lynn Sheets Kostbade, Class of 1966
 Dawn Briney Krull, Class of 1968
 Sherry Oswald Peterson, Class of 1965
 Michael Trammel, Class of 1967

STUDENT MEMBERS

- Stephany Hill, Class of 2014
 Nathaniel Wilfong, Class of 2014

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

Hobart Historical Society's Elin Christianson Honored by Indiana Historical Society

Elin Ballantyne Christianson, the recently-retired President of the Hobart Historical Society, was presented with the 2013 Hubert Hawkins History Award by the Indiana Historical Society. The full story can be found [here on the Post-Tribune's website](#). Congratulations, Elin!

The Hobart Historical Society has a Facebook page. Look for **Hobart Indiana Historical Society Museum**, and click Like!

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 HHSAA, including memorials, donations, and new and renewed members. Membership in the HHS Alumni Association is \$10 per year, and life memberships are \$100.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Dr. Kathy Alexander III (1973)
John Aughey (1969)
Rose Bonczek Wibbing (1967)
Dawn Briney Krull (1968)
Greg Heuer (1965)

Barb Phillips Rowley (1965)
Marvin Rowley (1962)
George Vavrek (1962)
Donna Wood Gietl (1965)

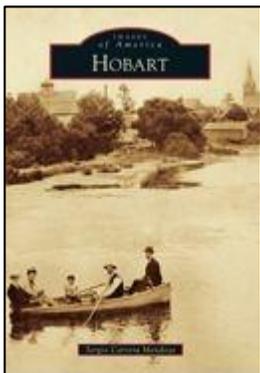
NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS

Paul Addison (1970)
Ronald Allen (1967)
Lorraine Anderson Rearick (1942)
Allen Blanchard (1954)
Sharon Brady Honolka (1967)
James Briney (1947)
Debra Broker Opolski (1970)
Rita Carlson McBride (1964)
Linda Collins Binkley (1964)

Judy Dusczyński Dragon (1967)
Terry Fasel (1965)
Patricia Glynn Dudley (1962)
Dorita Holder Lavish (1967)
Linda Jackson Bakos (1967)
Mary Jarosz (1970)
Martha Jordan Nichols (1953)
James Marler (1961)
Shari Ammer Miller (1977)

James Nichols (1951)
Robert Shone (1955)
Ronald Smith (1961)
Robert Swisher (1967)
Sheryll Trager Bennett (1967)
Annette Tyre Allen (1970)
Dave Vinzant (1975)
Sharon Wozniak Palmeri (1966)

Launch and Signing for Arcadia Book "Hobart" Friday



The Hobart Historical Society has announced the book launch of "Hobart", written by Sergio Mendoza. The event is this Friday, January 24, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Hobart Community Center, 111 Old Ridge Road.

The book is a compilation of images from our nearly 170-year-old community. Copies of the book are \$20, and the event is free. You can meet the author and have your book signed. Sergio Mendoza is the former Hobart city planner and a Hobart resident, who serves on the Hobart Park Board and the Hobart Plan Commission. He is also a member of the Hobart Chamber of Commerce and Indiana Landmarks.

Dessert and cocktails will be served, followed by an open auction and a silent gift basket auction. Royalties from the book benefit the Hobart Historical Society and the Hobart Historic Preservation Commission. You can pick up your copy of the book at the Friday event, or at the Hobart Historical Society Museum, 706 East 4th Street, which is open on Saturdays from 10 am to 12 noon.

Please RSVP to hobartbooklaunch@gmail.com, so they will have an idea how many people are coming.

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. 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. The editor of The Brick & Mortar Board is Paul Addison.



Membership Application Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc.

Check one: New member ____ Renewal ____

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

First Name _____

Last Name (in high school) _____

Married Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

Your class graduating year at HHS _____

"Once a Brickie, Always a Brickie!"

Thank you for your support!

Membership is \$10 per year, or \$100 for a Life Membership
(proceeds go towards 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