



The Brick & Mortar Board

the newsletter of the HHS Alumni Association, Inc.
www.hobartalumni.org

Volume 9, Number 3

February, 2020

Florida All-Class Reunion is Another Success Story!

The all-class reunion for lifelong Brickies was held on Saturday, February 8th, 2020, at the Huntington Hills Country Club in Lakeland, Florida. Over 50 people attended. Emcee John Mattix entertained, dressed alternately at Uncle Sam and Elvis Presley.

Lyle and Gerri Hatten brought their daughters Dawn (Apsley) and Beth (Johanson). Lyle spoke to the group about the HHS Alumni Association, Dawn reunited with her first grade teacher Kathy Throne Cox, and Beth took the pictures you see in this issue. Paul and Ruth Throne attended, as well as Tom and MaryAnn Kerr. Fred Campbell played and led the singing of oldies but goodies. Several alumni from the early 1970s attended (you can see their pictures on our website, www.hobartalumni.org, and on our Facebook page). Thanks to all who came!



Lyle Hatten and emcee John Mattix



The All-Class Reunion at Huntington Hills Country Club, Lakeland, Florida



Karen and Jim Moore, Class of 1958

SAVE THE DATES:

HHSAA Annual Dinner Meeting: Friday, May 8, 5:30 pm

HHSAA Homecoming Picnic: Saturday, September 26, 12 noon to 3:00 pm

Alumni Spotlight



Tom Kerr, Lyle Hatten, and Paul Throne at the Florida All-Class Reunion

Lyle Hatten, Former Hobart Police Officer

Our Alumni Spotlight this month is on Lyle Hatten, Class of 1958, a former Hobart police officer who now lives in California with his wife Geraldine. Lyle spoke at the recent All-Class Reunion.

Where do you live, and what are you doing these days?

My wife, Geraldine (Ahlgrim) and I live 35 miles north of San Diego, California, in the community of Bonsall. Our home is on a 3-acre mini horse ranch, and we have now been without horses for almost

Alumni Spotlight

6 years. I spend much of my time keeping our property cleared off and free from the threat of fire. Our last fire, called the Lilac Fire, gave us only about ½ hour notice to evacuate our home in our car and truck with our dog, bird, and very few belongings. The next day we returned and found our home still standing with some wind damage; however, 16 homes around us were destroyed. The fire had approached our property in two spots, but stopped at our fence line, thanks to God.



Lyle's daughter Dawn (Hatten) Apsley, with Kathy (Throne) Cox, her first-grade teacher

We frequently see our two daughters, Dawn (Apsley) and Beth (Johanson), and their families, as well as relatives and friends from past workplaces. We also keep in contact with several long-time friends and folks from Hobart. Some of our recent trips with our family include Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Devil's Tower, the Badlands, and the Hobart/Florida reunion with our daughters. We had a great time at the reunion and visited with many friends. Our daughters enjoyed taking many pictures, and Dawn was reacquainted with her first grade teacher, Kathy Throne Cox.

Could you trace your path from Hobart High to where you are now?

Upon graduating from Hobart High in 1958, I enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, and was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California. After serving in the Marine Corps, I returned to Hobart and accepted a position as a Hobart Police Officer in January, 1962. Gerrie and I were married in 1963, and she taught at Liberty and Foreman. We lived in Hobart until I retired in August, 1979. Our family, including my parents, then moved to San Marcos, California. I started working at Camp Pendleton for the Department of Defense as base construction inspector, continuing into

supervision, while Gerrie took a teaching position. When our girls graduated from college, we were raising horses, and had to move to a larger piece of property in Fallbrook, California. As I retired in August of 1999, we purchased 40 acres in Prescott, Arizona, and built a ranch and continued to raise horses. Our first grandchild was born about 2 years later, so we moved back to California. By the way, Gerrie and I have moved 17 times these 57 years.

How did your years as a policeman shape your thinking about the Hobart community?

As a newly appointed police officer in 1962, I served under Mayor Herman Pflughoeft and Police Chief William McGinn, whom I found to be great leaders of our community. During the years, I discovered and learned many things from talking to our citizens. Several things that parents wanted were to make a good living, have a good education for the family, and a good school environment and sports system. Many parents stated that the Hobart school athletic programs were tops, and they wanted their children to grow up under this system. My older brother Dale, class of '55, said that there was never a better place or time to grow up than in Hobart in the 50's. I believe that to be true even today in 2020, and think Hobart folks also want Hobart to stay that way as well.

Were there any particular teachers, coaches, or experiences at Hobart High School, or in growing up, that had a strong influence on you?

Playing football for Coach Russ Deal for three years, a firm and strong coach, prepared me to enter the

Marine Corps. I will always remember him – thank you, Russ. I knew Coach Paul Throne from elementary school through high school and learned many things



Kathy (Throne) Cox and Gerrie (Ahlgren) Hatten, at the Florida All-Class Reunion

from him but most importantly how to better communicate with others – thank you, Paul. Throughout my Hobart police career, I became closer to these two coaches as I worked many school functions.

Growing up in Hobart, my good friend's father, Art Hanson, took me under his wing like a second dad. He was a contractor and started teaching me many areas of construction that I have used my entire life. Without Mr. Hanson's knowledge and advice, we would not have our California ranch today – thank you, Art.



John Mattix, Jim Moody, Lyle Hatten, and Bill Myatt at the All-Class Reunion.

Do you have any advice for students today who might be considering a career in law enforcement?

My advice for someone intending pursue law enforcement as a career would be to make your hometown or surrounding cities your first choice, as you already know the area, people, businesses, etc. If you know someone in law enforcement, talk to him/her and get his/her opinion. As an officer you will make advancements by being on time and dependable, doing your best in every situation, and using good common sense for this type of work. Personally, I enjoyed being a police officer and felt good about it as I worked daily knowing I was helping to keep the people and city safe. Throughout the years the Hobart Police Department has been one of the top quality departments in the state. In this year, 2020, I suggest that you consider staying away from any municipality that abides by sanctuary laws. All officers today take an oath to enforce the Constitution of the United States. Please research the community you wish to serve in, and be aware of what's happening in law enforcement in our nation.

Your Brickie Stories

Your Brickie Stories: What Do You Remember?

In our December issue of *The Brick & Mortar Board*, we launched a new feature called Your Brickie Stories. You can add to stories presented here, and start telling new ones. We had several responses to "Working at the Art Theater" (below), and we have some more stories for you to comment on, courtesy of Lyle Hatten, Class of 1958.

Read these stories, and if you would like to add to them, just email me (Paul Addison) at paul@hobartalumni.org, with the story title and your comment. It will be added in the next issue of the newsletter.

Gum in the Classroom?

This story takes place in the fall of 1955 in Mr. Hamman's class with Sophomore, Junior and Senior students. On the first day of the semester, before the bell rang, some class members were passing out chewing gum. I [Lyle] took a piece and said thanks. Several students were chewing their gum and blowing their breath out.

As soon as the bell rang, Mr. Hamman came in from the hallway, closed the classroom door, went to his desk in the front of the class, and faced us. He then started to sniff the air around his desk and looked at the students. I must have been only one chewing my gum as he walked in front of me. He looked at me, asked if I was chewing gum, and when I answered yes, he then asked if I was chewing grape gum. As I answered yes, Mr. Hamman used his strong loud voice, and yelled at me to get rid of the gum! I said "Yes, sir," walked to the waste basket, and threw the gum away. Then he yelled again and said to get the gum



out of the room. As I got the gum out of the wastebasket, he roared “take the gum out of the building and bury it!” The whole class went out to watch the burial ceremony. The rest of the class somehow got rid of their gum without getting caught. I know now that the senior students knew how Mr. Hamman hated of the smell of grape gum and they threw me under the bus!

Hobart Varsity Football Team Picture

We know that many pictures can have several stories. This story is about a '56 football team picture. When lining up for this picture, the first row was kneeling, the second row was standing, and the third row was standing on benches. Coach Deal and I [Lyle] are on the left side of this picture and preparing to get onto the bench, but the last player, Ron Ritter, stepped onto the end of the bench and left no room for Coach Deal and me. When Coach saw this, he called to Manager Bill Ledyard (first row, second from left) and told him to get a short bench from the dressing room. When the bench was in place Coach allowed me to get onto the bench with him following. Notice in the picture that we were about 3 inches shorter



than the nearest player, Ron, because the bench was 3 inches shorter. Another part of this story is that a player in the third row fell off the right side of the bench, grabbed another player and they both fell off causing everyone to laugh. But that story belongs to them.

RESPONSES TO: Working at the Art Theater

From Jim McLuckie (Class of 1947): I can provide some personal recollections about the Art Theater. In the middle 'forties **Tom Bishop, Jim Shurr** and I, all of Class of '47 ushered. **Gwen Sohn** and **Betty Reissinger** sold tickets. The refreshment counter was tended by **Lorraine Allen, Mary Dudgeon** and **Mary Lou Thiede**. There were others of course, but my memory is getting selective.

I was working the night the war in Europe ended. A great conga line/snake dance of Hobart's finest citizens came in one door, down the aisle across the front of the theater and went out. At least most of them did.

During these years the old Strand Theater located between the new Art and the Dyche drug store was sometimes operational.

What a flood of memories, most of them good!

Karol Johnston Curtis (Class of 1959) worked there. **Susan Hunsicker Franko** says she and **Sheryl Nelson Draschil** (both Class of 1961) worked there. **Lynn Eikenbary** (Class of 1963) says her sister, **Myrna Eikenbary Hart** (Class of 1957) worked there. **Ken Nibbe** (Class of 1960) says **Linda Prusiecki Senne**, whose dad owned the theater, and **Marti McMurtry Christina** (both Class of 1961) worked there.

If you have any stories to share, please email Paul Addison at paul@hobartalumni.org, Thanks!

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.

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 (as of May 3, 2019) are:

OFFICERS

Paul Addison, Class of 1970*President*
Lynn Sheets Kostbade, Class of 1966*Vice-President*
Debra Broker Opolski, Class of 1970*Treasurer*
Tracy Estabrook McCullough, Class of 1978..... *Secretary*

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Craig Osika, *Dean of Students, Hobart High School*
Beth Scott Barney, Class of 1970

STUDENT MEMBERS

Audree Vann, Class of 2020
Adam Barney, Class of 2021

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

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS (since our December 2019 newsletter)

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Sandra Yover Haas (1974)

ANNUAL MEMBERS

Linda Jackson Bakos (1967)
Linda Collins Binkley (1964)
Sandra Scott Casperson (1953)
Patricia O'Hara Cieskiewicz (1954)
Karol Johnston Curtis (1959)
Lynn Eikenbary (1963)
Terry Fasel (1965)
Alan Govert (2019)
Elizabeth Govert (2017)
Richard Govert (1987)
Judy Hood (1960)
Mary Ellen Routes Hutnick (1966)
Maryann Brush Kerr (1957)

Tom Kerr (1957)
Lawrence Koziol (1958)
Linda Quinlan Koziol (1960)
David Matsey (1962)
Josie Berkes Mattix (1967)
Robert Mattix (1967)
Aaron McCullough (2011)
Adam McCullough (2004)
Andrew McCullough (2009)
Angela McCullough (2012)
Ashley McCullough (2002)
Philip McDowell (1965)
James Nichols (1951)
Martha Jordan Nichols (1953)
Sherry Oswald Peterson (1965)
Sam Preissler (1953)
Wilma Hasse Preissler (1953)

Debbie Reynolds (1971)
Kimberly Berry Rujevcan (1979)
William Rujevcan (1979)

Bruce Scott (1947)
Paul Sheehy (1961)
Debbie Scharbach Vega (1971)

Class Reunion Roundup

Here is the current list of upcoming class and all-class reunions, listed in order of occurrence. 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 can be found on the [HHS Alumni Association website](#).

CLASS OF 1965 55th REUNION (August 22, 2020)

From Barb Phillips Rowley:

Our 55th reunion will be on August 22, 2020 at the River Pointe country club in Hobart, some of you may remember it as Superior farms and then the Supervisors Club. So mark it on your calendar so you won't book something else that weekend. If any of your mailing info has changed or phone numbers, emails etc. let me know. We have lost 108 classmates as of this message, so keep in mind that if you want to see someone you may be running out of time. Hope to see you all in 2020. Thanks, Barb

CLASS OF 1970 50th REUNION (September 26, 2020)

Hobart High School Class of 1970: Our 50th Year Reunion will be on Saturday, September 26, 2020 at St. Mary Orthodox Center, 8600 Grand Blvd., Merrillville, IN 46410.

Ticket Cost is \$45 per person, \$80 per couple

Contact Beth Barney at: bethbarney1103@gmail.com for more information

ATTENTION. CLASS OF 1977:

Hobart Class of 1977 is looking for their classmates! We are trying to get ready for a 50th reunion. So if you can contact Ann Springman by phone 219-947-1766 or PM me on Facebook, that will be fine. And if you have address for fellow classmates, that would be great.

REGULAR CLASS GET-TOGETHERS:

CLASSES OF 1952 and 1953: These combined classes meet every 2nd Thursday of the month at 9:00 am at the Paragon Restaurant. Contact Martha Jordan Nichols at j.mnichols@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 1956: We meet on the last Saturday of every month at 9:00 am, at the Paragon Restaurant. Contact Mary Jo Hopkins at mjhobby@comcast.net

CLASS OF 1958: We have a luncheon on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the Lake Park Restaurant on Old Ridge Road in Hobart at 1:00 PM. Hope to see more HHS1958 alumni there. Contact Larry Koziol at larry58koziol@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1960: We have a luncheon on the second Saturday of every month. We have changed the location to the Lake Park Restaurant on Old Ridge Road at Lake Park Avenue. Hope to see more HHS1960 alumni join us. Contact Linda Quinlan Koziol at larry58koziol@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1964: We have a breakfast brunch on the second Saturday of every month at the Paragon Restaurant, 6 and 51 in Hobart, from 11am to 1pm. Hope to see more 1964 alumni there. Contact Marsha Longacre Shabi at marbi22@juno.com

CLASS OF 1970: Classmates from the Class of 1970 are meeting at 10:00 am on the third Saturday of the month, at the Paragon Restaurant in Hobart. For more information, contact Beth Scott Barney at bethbarney1103@gmail.com

Recent Obituaries

(since our December 2019 newsletter;
in PDF form, these are links to each classmate's In Memory page)

FEBRUARY 2020:

[Antonette \(Toni\) Pawlicki Harrison, Class of 1954](#)

[Janet Thelma Schavey Harding, Class of 1956](#)

[Daniel Lemon, Class of 1968](#)

[Terry Storey, Class of 1961](#)

[Robert \(Bob\) Ruzbasan, Class of 1985](#)

[Joseph \(Joe\) Vossberg, Class of 1987](#)

JANUARY 2020:

[Shirley Mundell Stozek, Class of 1943](#)

[Richard "Ricky" Messina, Class of 1997](#)

[Helen Dollstedt Stern, Class of 1947](#)

[Michael Shiyan, Class of 1976](#)

[Marilyn Ledyard Nathan, Class of 1969](#)

[Richard \(Dick\) Morehouse, Class of 1958](#)

[Eugene \(Ted\) Mioduski, Sr., Class of 1952](#)

[Dennis Stevens, Class of 1969](#)

[Glenn Carlson, Class of 1950](#)

[Judy Thompson Hall, Class of 1959](#)

[John Batzel, Class of 1959](#)

[Anna Snyder Wring, Class of 1953](#)

[Richard \(Rick\) Balutewicz, Class of 1990](#)

[Charles \(Chuck\) Luedtke, Class of 1948](#)

[Lauren Romeo, Class of 2020](#)

[Doris Novotny Bessigano, Class of 1958](#)

DECEMBER 2019:

[Wayne Bauer, Class of 1959](#)

[Richard \(Rick\) Lind, Class of 1973](#)

[Eugene Brandt, Class of 1945](#)

[Sandra \(Sandy\) Dees Caldwell, Class of 1958](#)

[Lorraine Anderson Rearick, Class of 1942](#)

[Shirley Carstensen Price, Class of 1947](#)

[Ralph Kennedy, Class of 1964](#)

[Rebecca \(Becky\) Taylor Currie, Class of 1975](#)

[Robert Rauscher, Class of 1978](#)

OLDER OBITUARIES RECENTLY RECEIVED:

NOVEMBER 2019:

[Bill Bloom, Class of 1949](#)

[Robert \(Bob\) Caesar, Class of 1955](#)

APRIL 2019:

[Al Powell, Class of 1957](#)

JANUARY 2019:

[Gerald "Jerry" Madacznyk, Class of 1959](#)

JULY 2015:

[Mary Lou Klahn Comerford, Class of 1955](#)

FEBRUARY 2014:

[Marilyn Krause Brennan, Class of 1949](#)

OCTOBER 2011:

[Stephanie Kushneruk, Class of 1979](#)

JUNE 2011:

[Wayne Fasel, Class of 1959](#)

DECEMBER 2010:

[Donald Gilbert, Class of 1959](#)

JULY 2010:

[Eileen Kaye Ohmann Roe, Class of 1959](#)



Membership Application Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc.

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

Check one: New member ___ Renewal ___

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

First Name _____

Last Name (in high school) _____

Married Last Name _____

Your class graduating year at HHS _____

(Renewing members only need to fill out the following if anything 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!

Make your check out to: HHS Alumni Association

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

Our website is: www.hobartalumni.org