

NEWSLETTER



Aztec Calendar

AZUSA HIGH SCHOOL AZTECS
Kiowa Class of 1961

September 2011 - August 2012
Issue 21

General Information

After a one-year hiatus, I am pleased to bring you the 21st issue of our class newsletter. But first, an IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: Since most of you now have access to the Internet, the newsletter will be published less frequently. Instead, we will post classmate information and announcements directly to our class blog where information can be viewed as soon as it's uploaded at <http://azusahigh1961.wordpress.com>. We will also continue to publish past newsletters, alumni bios, questionnaires, stories, photos, events, etc. to our class website where you can access archived information anytime 24/7 at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com>.

IMPORTANT REQUEST: We have always mailed copies of the newsletter to classmates who don't have access to the Internet, but that is both costly and time-consuming. Therefore, we would like to encourage all of you to establish an email account so that you can receive information in a timely manner and still be kept in the loop. Even if you don't pay for Internet service it's easy to set up a free email account at yahoo.com or gmail.com at an Internet Café or by having a family member or friend set it up for you.

Thanks to everyone who provided alumni information and updates so that we would have something to write about. If you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please email the info to me at cheryl.tango@gmail.com or phone me at 503-781-2658. Be sure to email your photos in a JPEG format.

If you have changed your mailing address, phone number or email address, PLEASE let us know so we can update our list. **Janice Quick Ashborn** is the "point man" where all your contact information should be sent. Her email is okayjan@hotmail.com and her mailing address is 8670 Robles Dr., San Diego, CA 92119.

As previously announced, scanned copies of some of our high school sports programs and copies of the Slauson 7th and 8th grade yearbooks, plus the completed Getting to Know You Questionnaires have been uploaded to our website at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com>. To view the programs and yearbooks, click on the corresponding links under Favorite Links in the left column of the website. To view the completed classmate Questionnaires click on the following link: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/knowingyou.html>

As you probably know by now, our 50th Reunion was a tremendous success. We had a nice turnout and those who attended the Reunion said they had a great time. The Meet-N-Greet was held the evening before the main event and it gave classmates to reconnect in a more casual setting. Many who didn't make it to the Meet-N-Greet, showed up at the dinner-dance on Sunday. Some of us, reluctant to say goodbye, continued the fun on a cruise to Baja. You can see photos of the 50th Reunion and Cruise at http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/photos_and_video.html

Happenings

DAVE HARTLEY'S UPCOMING CLASS OF '61 GOLF TOURNAMENT

Dave Hartley's Golf Tournament will take place on **Wednesday, September 5 at 9:00 am** at the [Spring Hill Country Club](#) in Albany, Oregon. The total cost to play in the tournament is \$64.00, which includes green fees and cart rental. It looks like there's going to be a big turnout, so if you want to be included, please let Dave know ASAP. That goes for you non-golfers too because Dave is hosting two big barbecues at his house-- the day before the tournament and the day of the tournament-- and he needs to know how much food to buy. Besides golf, there's plenty to do in the area, such as hiking, camping, fishing, antique shopping, to name a few. AND it's worth the trip just to enjoy Chef Dave's famous BBQ.

If you haven't booked lodging yet, you'd probably better start making plans. Dave has provided a list of hotels/motels close to where the golf tournament will take place. Please note that the starting rates might have changed and the hotels may now offer special rates. I added links to the hotel websites to make it easy for you to get more information before you book your room.

Holiday Inn Express	(541) 928-8820	\$179 per night
La Quinta Inn	(541) 928-0921	\$80 per night
Comfort Suites	(541) 928-2053	\$99 per night
Best Western	(541) 928-5050	\$119 per night

For you campers, Dave has space on his property for self-contained RVs only. If you need hookups, there are several campgrounds in the area.

If you'd like to sign up for the tournament and/or attend Dave's barbecues, please call Dave at 541-619-4031 or email him at coldspringstrees@msn.com. Please don't mail your check to Dave. You won't need to pay your golf fees until the day of the tournament.

Classmate News

In October 2011 **Irene Ashkenas** joined 20 other quilters and their hosts on a guided tour of Bali. Being quilters they were primarily interested in studying the batik dyeing process. They visited several batik factories and even met some royalty along the way. Their tour also included other activities such as a ride on an elephant. Read Irene's Bali adventure story at: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/Ashkenas-Bali2011.pdf>



Irene Ashkenas and friend enjoying Balinese transport – October 2011

On July 7, 2012 Joe Avalos (class of 1960) and **Josie Mora** Avalos, celebrated their 50th anniversary by renewing their wedding vows at St. Bruno Catholic Church in Whittier, California and then hosting a dinner-dance afterward for family and friends at the Ritz in Whittier. Joe and Josie have known each other since the first grade and started dating while Josie was in the 11th grade. They married on July 7, 1962 at St. Francis of Rome Church in Azusa. To read more about their anniversary and to view additional photos click on the following link:

<http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/AvalosWeddingAnniv.pdf>



Avalos' 50th Anniversary Party. Photo of Azusa H.S. grads with name and year. From R to L: Johnny Chavez (60), Tony Cruz (61), Frank Perez (61), Charlene Owen Babish (61), Gloria Chacon (60), Cookie Lujan Feliz (61), Joe Avalos (60), Josie Mora Avalos (61), Dora Acosta Kraninunberg ('58), Ruth Contreras Aguirre (61), Fred Aguirre (61), Salma Luevano Martinez (62), Joe Martinez (61), Tina Contreras Garcia (62), Richard Montes (61), Blas Chavira (63).

Don Foltz and his wife, Marny, celebrated their 32nd Anniversary by “taking in” Celine Dion in Las Vegas on August 4th. According to Don, it was “a super show that would entertain all”. They also enjoyed the Bellagio water show and a ride in a gondola at the Venetian.

On the weekends of August 10-11 and August 17-18 **Robert Miller** is exhibiting his stained glass art in the 2nd Story Gallery at the San Dimas Festival of Arts.

Since becoming a full-time caretaker for his 90+ father, **Chris Englund** has taken up a new hobby-- watercolor painting. You can view samples of his beautiful work at <http://chistersart.blogspot.com> and also read a blog post about Chris at <http://azusahigh1961.wordpress.com>

During a recent fishing trip to Alaska, **Dick Bessire** caught a 197-pound halibut and a 38.1-pound King salmon--the biggest King for the Month, which won him a free trip back to Alaska in 2013. Way to go Dick! To see photos of the huge fish he caught click on the following link: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Images/Bessire-fish%20pics.pdf>

Australian **Larry Brockman** and his wife Anna recently took a two-month cruise to Europe. When he returned home Larry landed a big one at Moonee Ponds Creek: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Images/BrockmanFish.jpg> Larry is looking forward to a visit from his “rat pack” buddy and Azusa High classmate **Jim Rozance**.

This month **Sandy Evans** Smith and her daughter Shelley visited friends in Bellevue, WA and watched the Blue Angels from a boat on Lake Washington “They are truly awesome, performed a spectacular show and made us all proud to be Americans. An additional highlight was discovering a drive-in restaurant with car service, carhops and really great food.”

Invited by the Monarch Beach Sunrise Rotary Club, **John Baumann** sat atop a 1957 Thunderbird while he sang and played "Yo Ho Ho Ho A Pirates Life For Me" in the Festival of the Whales parade in Dana Point. The theme was Pirates of the Caribbean.



John Baumann – Festival of the Whales Parade, Dana Point, CA - March 2012

In February while on a camping trip to Santee with their grandson, Tommy, **Tom Roberts** and **Carol Justice** Roberts had a fun visit with Carol's childhood friend, **Josie Acero** McConnell and her husband, Bob McConnell. This summer Tom and Carol enjoyed a wonderful two-week rain-free vacation in Maui. While there, Tom and Carol tried snuba diving, which is a cross between snorkeling and scuba diving. In snuba diving, a small float holds an oxygen tank that feeds the air through a line to the swim masks. Tom and Carol just celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Tom and Carol!



Josie Acero McConnell, Bob McConnell & Carol Justice Roberts – Santee, CA

Illnesses, etc...

Several of our classmates are struggling with various health problems and appreciate our continuing positive thoughts and prayers. Others have overcome health challenges and are now leading a more normal life. If someone knows of an alumnus who is ill or who has overcome health problems, please let me know.

This month **Tom Roberts** had shoulder repair surgery—the result of too many years of racquetball, baseball and tennis. He's recovering nicely, but may have to cut down on golfing for a while.

On September 28, 2011 **Mary Eagle** O'Flynn had cancer surgery. Doctors were able to save about 75% of her right kidney and remove all of the cancer and so no radiation or chemo was required. Mary thanks you all for the well wishes and prayers.

In February **Joan Zoda** Cresci fell twice, displacing the bones in her left ankle and arch. She had surgery in July to repair the damage, followed by a grueling six-week stay in a rehab facility. She thanks everyone for the cards and flowers.

Bill Reeves has been suffering diabetes-related health problems for the past three years after burning the bottoms of his feet on hot asphalt. One foot wouldn't heal and had to be partially amputated. As some of you know, diabetes can interfere with healing, which can prolong the recovery process following any injury or surgery. It's been a struggle for Bill who is scheduled to have a dialysis fistula installed on August 16. He will start dialysis treatments after the tissue surrounding the fistula heals.

In Memoriam

Gone, but not forgotten, our former classmates who are no longer with us will remain in our hearts and minds forever.

Joyce Thomas Rollings passed away on September 28, 2011 after a long battle with COPD and heart disease. She is survived by one daughter and three grandchildren, four sisters and three brothers.

Alumnus **Terry Raney** passed away on July 4. According to his family, while Terry was on a trip to Florida he fell and injured his hip, requiring hospitalization and surgery. After he left the hospital, he apparently had a heart attack or something similar (maybe blood clot) and died. He is survived by his wife Louise and three children.

At the present time we are aware of the following alumni who are no longer with us:

Melvina Andrieux
Mary Arbuckle
Theresa Asbury Bence
Linda Beavers Ponce
Gary Bielke
Charles Brewer
Tom Campbell
Mary Ann Connor
Joe Contreras
Kenn Crafton
Geraldine Diaz Kinsey
Ronald Dunkle
Billy Estrada
Darwyn Freed
Les Frieberg
Barbara Hawley Hartley
Loree Hodge
Keith Hunt

Regina Johnson Nash
Hazel Jordan Miranda
Christine Kekos Smithhart
Harry Kimura
Jane Kunkle
Muriel Lathrop
DonRay Logan
Leslie Long
Kenneth MacDermott
William McKenzie
Joseph Mora Jr.
Frank Moreno
Doug Morris
Ray Nakama
Ken Navarro
Henry Pedroza
Gary Pollard
Jerome Pollock

Dennis Prober
Oren Putnam
Terry Raney
Mike Rawlings
Phil Rix
Richard Romero
Karol Ruffing White
Norma Rust
Neal Sparks
Nancy Stewart
Joyce Thomas Rollings
Carol Turner Seiverson
Mike Walters
Paulette Waltz McMurtrey
Carolyn Warfield Justice
James White
Kenneth White
Laurie Wittich Taft

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Do you know where any of the following alumni are?

If so, please email Janice Quick Ashborn at okayjan@hotmail.com or call her at 619-466-7949 and be sure to include addresses, emails and phone numbers. Thank you for any assistance!

Carmen	Agnew			Bob	Klassen	
Delores	Alonzo			Dorothy	Lake	
Anne	Alvarez			Robert	Lee	
Larry	Bailey			Patricia	Lenschmidt	
Charlette	Barnes			Elvira	Lopez	
Larry	Brown			Paul	Malenfant	
Diane	Burns			Olivia	Mardis	
Harriet	Bush			George	Marquez	
James	Butcher			Josephine	Martinez	
Gary	Campbell			Jack	Mertz	
Susan	Chambers			Elizabeth	Nicholson	
Lucy	Chavira			David	Nunez	
Marie	Chavira			Melody	O'Brien	
Ray	Chavira			Janet	Parker	
Kenneth	Clement			Judith	Peterson	
Herbert	Cross			John	Powell	
Richard	Davolos			Gary	Pritchard	
Joann	Duke			James	Railey	
Sheila	Dunlap			Herbert	Reynolds	
Ruth	Eckes			Albert	Rocha	
James	Engel			Elizabeth	Romero	
Roberta	Fike			Craig	Shepard	
Patricia	Fox			Judith	Smith	
Eloise	Garcia			Delores	Soto	
Barby Dee	Gibson	Flannery		Sharon	Stroika	
John	Gilbert			Gail	Stuart	
Pauline	Glaviano			Hedwig	Szatmari	
Rita	Gonzalez			Phyllis	Tom	
Judith	Guerro			Susie	Torrence	
Mary	Guzman			Virginia	Vukovich	
John	Haile			Donae	Ware	Fuchs
Peggy G.	Harold			Linda	Webb	
Robert	Hooper			Sandra	Webb	
Joann	Harrell			Bob	Weijeland	
Peggy Lynn	Hendrickson			Charlotte	Wilson	
Jerry	Jarett			Pamela	Wise	Williams
Kathlene	Jarett			Elizabeth	Woods	
Carol	Kirsch	Roach		Carolyn	Worthey	

Thanks to all of you for supporting our newsletter by sending in your personal stories, bios, completed questionnaires, information about class of '61 events and news of your retirement, vacations, activities, health, etc. If it weren't for you, there would be no newsletter, so thanks again and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Cheryl Dillard (Burlingame)

You can view all of our newsletters at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/newsletters.html>