

NEWSLETTER



Aztec Calendar

AZUSA HIGH SCHOOL AZTECS
Kiowa Class of 1961

March/April/May 2009

General Information

Welcome to issue #13 of our newsletter. Again, thanks to everyone who provided alumni information and updates so that we would have something to write about. Keep those stories and information coming so we can continue to send out the newsletter on a timely basis. Be sure to email photos too..

If you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please email the info to me at rainymail@yahoo.com or mail to Cheryl Dillard, PO Box 2413, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. You may also phone me at 503-781-2658 or fax the info to 503-214-6316. You can view newsletters, bios, event information and photos at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com>

If you have changed your 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@cox.net and her mailing address is 8670 Robles Dr., San Diego, CA 92119.

Kiowa Spotlight

Sue Weatherwax Maxwell is featured this month.

Happenings

Chuck Hardin and **Nita Mathews** Hardin are hosting the next golf tournament to be held in October. Watch for details...

From Azusa High

Azusa High has a new drum thanks to alumni who attended the all-class '60s Reunion in Ontario last October. Part of the proceeds from the reunion were donated to Azusa High to cover the cost of new skins for the Aztec drum.



Greg Madrigal with new Aztec drum

Greg Madrigal designed the artwork (front and back) for the new drum and is a 2006 Azusa High graduate. Greg is now attending UCSF majoring in Industrial Arts.

To view photos of the October All Class Reunion, click on the following link: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/azusahighreunion2008/sets/>

For info on Azusa High School events and activities visit: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/events.html>

Changes

If you change your address, phone number, email or even your name, please contact Janice Ashborn at okayjan@cox.net. She will let me know and I shall put the changes here.

Here are new email addresses for the following alumni:

Irene Helgrud Wallters: iwallters@gmail.com
Richard (Jimmy) Rozance: jimmyrozance@yahoo.com
Frank & Jessie Balandran Moreno: bmasphalt@verizon.net
Josie Acero McConnell: pawloma@cox.net
Ken Gradoville: ken.debby@hotmail.com
Chris Englund: cetenglund@live.com

Thanks again to Patti Lovvorn, class of 1966, and to **Corky Warfield** Justice who have been using their detective skills to locate our missing alumni. Our missing alumni" list has been reduced to one page thanks to their hard work.

News Updates

Richard Montes and **Richard Rubio** hosted the semi-annual Azusa High Class of 1961 Golf Tournament on Sunday May 24 at the award-winning Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert, CA. A *Golf Digest Best Places to Play* winner, Desert Willow is environmentally sensitive and a challenge for players of all levels. The day before the tournament we all enjoyed chef Rubio's grilled burgers and hot dogs at the BBQ and Rose Montes' and Joy Rubio's great lunch following the tournament on Sunday. The highlight of the day was when **Sonny Rau** forgot to remove his wallet before jumping into the swimming pool and didn't discover it until two hours later..During the tournament six teams played for the coveted trophy donated by **Butch Lightfoot**. The winning team of **Joe Martinez**, **Tom Roberts** and **Louis Mason** ended up with a cash prize (and the trophy) and a respectable score of 72 . The 2nd place team finished close at 74. **Nita Matthews** Hardin won the prize for closest ball, female and **Jim Jernigan** received the award for closest ball, male. **Roger Whiteley** had the longest drive, male and Sally Mason had the longest drive, female. To see photos of the tournament Click here: http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/photos_and_video.html then click on golf tournament link



1st Place Team: Joe Martinez, Tom Roberts and Louis Mason – Winning score 72



2nd Place Team: Hank Garcia, Richard Rubio, Butch Lightfoot and Cheryl Burlingame Dillard

Sandy Evans Smith took a 24-day cruise that started in Venice May 6 and ended in Barcelona May 30.

Troy Kinsey has decided to retire from his commercial plumbing business and has been busy sprucing up his house to put on the market to sell. He has lived in the Huntington Beach house since 1972 and is ready to downsize.

Bob Klassen and his wife, Mari, moved to Alberta, Canada in 1970 and they live on a Berry farm. The closest farm is a mile away and they LOVE it there. He retired 2years ago after working for the City of Calgary for 36 years. Mari retired after working for 28 years in Calgary He's very happy that he doesn't have to drive 100 miles (round trip) anymore.

Corky Warfield Justice and her husband, Bob Justice '60, visited San Diego in April. Read about their trip here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/CorkyBobJustice-SanDiego2009.pdf>

In April **Bill Reeves** retired from a seven-year career with Rancho Santa Fe Security Patrol. His law enforcement career began in 1969 after graduating from the L.A. County Sheriff's Academy. He was hired immediately by the City of Glendora where he worked as a police officer and detective for the next 12 years. Bill continued to work in various facets of the security profession and private investigation. Now he spends his time playing golf and reconnecting with classmates.

Fellow classmate and talented artist, **Carol Ladewig**, showed her most recent work Sunday, May 31 at a gallery in Oakland, California. To see some of her art visit her website at <http://carolladewig.com/home.html>.

In March **Dennis Smith** and his wife, Barbara, hiked the Inca Trail in Peru with a group of friends. To read about his adventure go to: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/DennisSmith-IncaTrail.pdf>



Dennis & Barbara Smith – Machu Picchu, Peru



Dennis Smith – Inca Trail, Peru

Tom Roberts and **Carol Justice** Roberts recently visited **Rachel Pille** Roth and her new husband, Terry Roth in Arizona where they rode ATVs to Elephant Butte. While Tom and Terry played golf Carol and Rachel shopped at the Mesa Marketplace, a huge flea market. To see photos of **Rachel Pille** Roth's wedding day and visit from Tom & Carol Roberts click here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/RachelPilleRoth-weddingPhotos.pdf>



Rachel Pille Roth with Carol & Tom Roberts



18th Annual Tour dei Simola

In April **Cheryl Burlingame** Dillard participated in the annual **Tour dei Simola** bike ride through Paso Robles wine country. Brothers Bob Simola '62 and Jim Simola '60 hosted the event. For more photos and story click here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/Dillard-TourDeiSimola.pdf>

Illnesses, etc...

Mike Rawlings and his wife, Pat, were on a camping trip a couple of weeks ago when Mike became ill and developed an infection accompanied by a high fever. He's currently in the hospital on antibiotics and a liquid-only diet while his body fights the infection and doctors try to pinpoint the origin. Let's pray for a speedy recovery. Mike's not up to having visitors yet, but you may send cards to 1047 N. Starcrest Drive, Covina, CA 91722. His email address is rawlclan@earthlink.net

Sue Weatherwax Maxwell's cowboy husband, Tom Maxwell '59 fell a little while ago (not from a horse) and cracked a few ribs, so Sue has stall duty for the next few weeks while he mends.

Richard (Jimmy) Rozance is finally home from the skilled nursing facility after being hospitalized for over four months due to complications following open heart surgery in December. He still needs a lot of physical therapy to get back to normal, so keep sending prayers his way. Mail get-well cards to Jimmy at PO Box 1481, Carlsbad, CA 92008-1481. Jimmy's new email address is jimmyrozance@yahoo.com

If someone knows of an alumnus who is very ill, please let me know.

In Memoriam

April and May were very sad months for us as we lost three of our former classmates in a short period of time.

Neal Sparks lost his long brave fight with lung cancer on April 26 at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital. He is survived by his loving wife and soul mate of 48 years, Joan, three children and five grandchildren. You may send condolences to Neal's wife, Joan Sparks, at 3912 Harriman, Los Angeles, CA 90032

Paulette Waltz McMurtrey passed away on May 1 following a courageous battle with cancer..She leaves behind her loving husband Mac, three daughters, two stepchildren, several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Cards can be sent to The McMurtrey Family, c/o Sally Lopez, 2108 E. Caroline Dr., Ontario, CA 91764.

Doug Morris passed away May 10 and is survived by his wife, Connie, and seven children. Cards and letters can be sent to Connie Morris, 1032 E. Lemon Ave, Glendora, CA 91741.

You, dear readers, have to be the ones to let me know about anyone who passes.

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

Loree Hodge	Gary Bielke	Ken Navarro
Theresa Asbury Bence	Kenneth MacDermott	Ray Nakama
Gary Pollard	Kenneth White	Geraldine Diaz Kinsey
Keith Hunt	Kenn Crafton	Harry Kimura
Mary Arbuckle	DonRay Logan	Les Frieberg
Billy Estrada	Joe Contreras	Joseph Mora Jr.
Henry Pedroza	Ronald Dunkle	Regina Johnson Nash
Mike Walters	Mary Ann Connor	Darwyn Freed
Laurie Wittich Taft	Oren Putnam	Dennis Prober
Christine Kekos	Melvina Andrieux	Carol Turner Seiverson
Neal Sparks	Paulette Waltz McMurtrey	Doug Morris

Many of you have taken fun vacations that our alumni would enjoy reading about. If you would like your travel story and photos to be included in our next newsletter, please email them to me at rainymail@yahoo.com ASAP.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you.

Cheryl Dillard (Burlingame)

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

Spotlight on Sue Weatherwax Maxwell

Sue Weatherwax Maxwell has led a very interesting and active life—riding motorcycles, scuba diving, playing tennis, water skiing and riding horses—not to mention being a great wife, mother and grandmother. In 1986 when Sue's health forced her to give up many of her favorite activities, it did not affect her enjoyment of being with family and combining that with her love of horses and horse-related activities. For the past 30 years horses have been a big part of Sue's life. From the time she and her husband, Tom, bought their first Appaloosa—to now experiencing the excitement of watching Tom and her son, Lance, compete in quarter horse events and activities, Sue's life has been richly rewarding and never dull.



Sue with sons Rob & Lance - 1969

Here in her own words is Sue's story of her life after Azusa High. I'm sure that you'll enjoy reading it as much as I did.



Sue & Tom Maxwell - 1971

Life before Horses

I married Tom Maxwell (AHS '59) in July 1971 and we bought a house in Huntington Beach soon after. Tom was racing motorcycles at the time we married and we spent most weekends in the desert, riding. I had a Suzuki 125cc and was fearless until it came to going downhill! We were able to travel a bit when he was sponsored by Yamaha (a free trip is always a good thing).

An injury sidelined the motorcycles and so we took up tennis and eventually bought a ski boat. Soon all of our vacations were spent camping and water skiing at Lake Havasu, Lake Mead and my favorite, the Colorado River. We have lots of wonderful memories of this time. The whole family still loves to go camping.

Life after Horses

In 1979 Tom took a job with Bechtel and we moved to Arizona. This move introduced us to horses and changed our lives. We became active with Appaloosa horses, eventually having too many. I rode with a women's Appaloosa drill team, mostly in parades. Tom did some competitive endurance riding and my younger son, Lance, showed horses. We were able to travel to several western states and to Illinois for one major horse show.



Sue on her Appaloosa mare - 1979



Tom & Sue at a horse show – 1984

In 1984 we moved to Templeton, California so my sons, Rob and Lance, could attend college there. Templeton has almost doubled in size since we've lived here; its current population is 3,000. We are in the central coast area, inland from Morro Bay and Hearst Castle, and near Paso Robles in wonderful wine country. Mmmm.

We brought our Appaloosa horses with us to Templeton and soon found that we were living in Quarter Horse country. We sold all of the Appaloosas (except my mare who died a couple years ago at 27) and bought Quarter Horses. Lance started showing our new horses, Tom competed in Team Penning and I just rode for pleasure around Templeton.

Work and Cutting Horses



Trainer Gary Gonsalves on Rosa – 2001

When we moved to Arizona I decided to try my hand at real estate. I did quite well, but did not like the 24/7 it required. After we came back to California I went back to the bookkeeping I had done for years.

Two of my clients were cutting horse trainers and we soon became friends. At their urging, we bought our first cutting horse, Rosa, a gorgeous black Quarter Horse mare. We kept her in training for a couple of years and enjoyed being "owners", watching her compete.

Cutting originated on ranches where a cow was separated (cut) from the herd to be doctored. Cowboys found ways to turn it into rivalry and cutting horse competition was born. These horses are amazing athletes and sooo fun to watch. Competition is 2 ½ minutes and the horse must perform without the rider using his hands as guidance to keep the cow away from his buddies in the herd.

Play

After Tom retired in 1997 we bought a cutting horse for him and he became the oldest beginner in a sport of young men. Our lives have not been the same since. Our horse trailer has a small living quarters (like an RV) and we now travel to cuttings all over the western USA. One of our favorite trips was spending ten days at the Polo Ranch in Big Horn, Wyoming. Since Tom does not compete every day during the events, we get to leave the horse in his stall and play tourist for the day. We go anywhere there is cattle to cut—equestrian centers, feed lots, fairgrounds and ranches. We've not taken a vacation without horses since this all started! For us, three days at a feed lot in Bakersfield is like Disneyland and a week at a ranch in Carbondale, Colorado is better than a trip to Maui.

During the past twelve years we have managed to get away for a few long weekends without horses, including annual trips to Gold Mine Country and to a feast in Columbia (near Sonora). We attend the feast on the Thursday before Christmas each year and see some of the same people year after year, many of whom have become close friends. At the feast everyone dresses in period costumes and it's our chance to relive the Old West that we love.



Tom & Sue in Columbia – 1999



Sue & Annie - May 2009

In 1986 I was diagnosed with relapsing-remitting Multiple Sclerosis. I'd have an occasional flare-up and then return to normal. Over the years my MS has changed and now I'm considered chronic-progressive. All this means is that I walk funny and have really bad balance. Heat and fatigue bother me, but hey, that's what air conditioning and afternoon naps are for. I'm still working as a bookkeeper. I job-share with my daughter-in-law and love my two six-hour days at work. I'm just not ready to retire. I love gardening and reading—oh, and those afternoon naps too. I no longer ride horses; the ground is a long way down! Both sons are married and live about ten minutes from us. We have one granddaughter and assorted "grand-dogs". Life is good!

You can read this bio and all previous alumni bios anytime at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/bios.html>

DO YOU KNOW WHERE ANY OF THESE ALUMNI ARE?

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDRESSES, EMAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS

THANK YOU FOR ANY ASSISTANCE. **THERE HAVE BEEN MORE ADDED SINCE LAST ISSUE!**

EMAIL TO okayjan@cox.net or rainymail@yahoo.com

MAIL to Cheryl Dillard, PO Box 2413, Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Cesaria	Accardo			Carol	Kirsch	
Josephine	Acero			Jane	Kunkle	
Julianna	Ardelean	Parker		Alice	Konopasek	
Roberta	Armstrong			Dorothy	Lake	
Kathy	Arnold	Houlthouser		Robert	Lee	
Larry	Bailey			Leslie	Long	
Linda	Beavers	Ponce		Elvira	Lopez	
Jeanne	Becker			Paul	Malenfant	
William	Behounek			Janice	Mann	
Carol	Brown			Olivia	Mardis	
Diane	Burns			George	Marquez	
Harriet	Bush			Dennis	Miller	
James	Butcher			Judith	Morski	
Gary	Campbell			Deanne	Noriega	
Tom	Campbell			Patricia	Paquette	
Joan	Carson			Janet	Parker	
Susan	Chambers			Jerome	Pollock	
Lucy	Chavira			Bert	Putsey	
Marie	Chavira			James	Ralley	
Herbert	Cross			Herbert	Reynolds	
Richard	Davolos			Phil	Rix	
Judy	Deanes			Albert	Rocha	
Lorraine	Defosses			Richard	Romero	
Eleanore	Dominguez			Norma	Rust	
Joann	Duke			Janet	Schnute	
Sheila	Dunlap			Mary	Sever	
Ruth	Eckes			Judith	Smith	
Carrie	Farrell			Eleanor	Sutherland	
Roberta	Fike			Hedwig	Szatmari	
Virginia	Flewell			Shirley	Thorgerson	
Joy	Gammill	Zelvitz		Phyllis	Tom	
Sheila	Garver			Susie	Torrence	
Donnarose	Gates			Sharon	Treat	
Barby	Gibson			Virginia	Vukovich	
Mary	Guzman			Johnny	Watley	
John	Haile			James	Weber	
Peggy	Hofold			Linda	Werner	
Robert	Hooper			Charlotte	Wilson	
Joann	Harrell			Pamela	Wise	
Jerry	Jarett			Elizabeth	Woods	
Barbara	Juniper	Phillips		Carolyn	Worthey	
Wayne	Keith			Robert	Wright	
Isabelle	Kelly					