



Ames High School Alumni Newsletter

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Ames, Iowa

April, 2018



Ames High School was recently named the best public high school in the state for the sixth time. In the past five years, Ames High has been ranked the No. 1 public high school by Niche, a Pittsburg-based team that uses data and reviews to create school and residential rankings. But the school has now also been newly awarded with a top-spot ranking by 24/76 Wall St.—a Delaware corporation that runs a financial news and opinion

AHS ranked No. 1 High School in state. . .

company that delivers internet content—as part of a report on the best public high school in every state.

To determine the best public high schools across the country, 24/7 Wall St. reviewed the rankings for all public schools from Niche. Data on rank, number of students, student-teacher ratio, average graduation rate, average SAT score and AP enrollment was also obtained from Niche. Ames High, with a student population of 1,271, a student-teacher ratio of 16:1 and an average SAT score of 1420, was named the best in the state among more than 300 other Iowa high schools. The Niche data used in the report highlighted Ames High for its culture and safety, clubs and programs, and academic proficiency.

“These awards are a continuing source of pride for the school district and community, and also a source of motivation to continue to do good things for our kids,” said Superintendent Tim Taylor. “It’s a reflection that education is valued in this community. We also have amazing, high quality teachers and staff who care about kids.” Taylor said that he believes earning the distinction of the best high school in the state acts as an attraction for families looking to enroll their children, and credited the award to the programming and opportunities offered at Ames High School.

(Courtesy of: Caitlin Ware, Ames Tribune Staff Writer)

AHS grads reunite at reception . . .

Ames High School graduates of all ages gathered for a walk down memory lane at an all-class alumni reception held Friday night, December 29th, at the Ames History Center. Despite frigid temperatures and steady snow coming down throughout the day, several dozen graduates ranging from the classes of 1955 and 1992 all the way to the most recent 2017 graduating class came out to mingle and reminisce against a backdrop on display called “Ames Hi Aiming High Through the Years.”

The reception, which welcomed over 50 people was an addition to an Ames High School alumni tradition, an All-Classes Annual Holiday Gathering at Olde Main Brewery, which began at 7:00 p.m. “I’m excited; we didn’t know what to expect when we planned it,” said Sharon Wirth, co-president of the board of directors for the Ames Historical Society, of the

reception’s debut. “We’re delighted with the crowd, and it’s wonderful to see people connecting with each other after all these years.”

Throughout the evening, reception guests had a chance to explore the exhibit dedicated to the place they spent most of their teenage years, which features a mix of Ames High School memorabilia showcased in wall displays and informational décor, with some items donated or on loan from the public. Display items include a pair of majorette boots worn by Sharon Smith (Krieger) from 1950-54, a former traveling football trophy shared previously between Ames and Boone, and photos, stories and facts about the history of the four high schools that have existed in Ames.

One of the biggest features of the display is a wall featuring the names of

26,738 Ames High graduates, dating back to the first graduating class of 1878. During the reception, attendees—many of whom came sporting orange and black gear—had the opportunity to find their names on the wall and those of immediate family members, and highlight them. “It’s just beautiful, just a flood of memories,” said Dennis Wendell, a 1959 Ames High graduate and former curator of the history center, of the exhibit.”

Volunteer with the Ames Historical Society and 1974 Ames High graduate Tracey Stoll said that she was impressed with the range of ages that turned out for the event, and that hopefully, the all-class reception can become an annual tradition. *(Courtesy of: Caitlin Ware, Ames Tribune Staff Writer)*

AHS ‘Thru the Years Reception’



Ames High School “Thru the Years Reception” was hosted by the Ames Historical Society on Friday, December 19, 2017. Seventy plus Ames High Alumni attended including these three 1977 AHS classmates. Behind the very professionally done AHS exhibit are: (l-r) Anne Hawthorne, Lisa Buck Marino and Sarah Townsend Stevenson. (Photo courtesy of: Ed Hendrickson, Jr., '74)



Ames Historical Society Reception, December 29, 2017. Picture (l-r): Rich Ketcham, Nancy McMillan Dunmire, Tracey Stoll, Steve Buck, Greg Wierson and Ed Hendrickson, Jr.—all 1974 AHS graduates. (Photo courtesy of: Ed Hendrickson, Jr.)

“A Caroling we went!”

After an evening of caroling in and about the neighborhood in early December, 2017, these happy and robust singers ended up at the festively decorated home of Jim and Beth Billings where the gracious hosts treated them to a counter of food that appeared to have been prepared for the arrival of the Queen. But, alas, she did not appear so the singers chimed in knowing the food would either go to waste if they didn't or to the waist if they did. “Ames Hi, Aims High”



Picture: Standing l-r); Jane Ripp; Bob Best, '65; Kathryn Burnett Andre, '65; George Montgomery, '66 ; Dave Elbert, '65; Dick Baker, '65; Mary Thompson Ingvoldstad, '66; Joe Ingvoldstad, '66; Brian Ward, '69; Beth Ward Fleming Billings, '66; Jim Billings, '65; Seated (l-r): Mark Ritland, '65; George Montgomery, '66; Bill Ripp, '54 Honorary; Steve Ward, '69; Kathy Brunia Best, '66.

AHSAA Thanks You for your Financial Support

Thank You!

The Ames High School Alumni Association has received contributions and/or memorials from the following supporters during the 2017 calendar year. Thank you to all alumni and friends who have generously sent contributions to the AHSAA. All contributions are greatly appreciated and provide support for our various projects. Memorial contributions go entirely into the "Second-Generation Scholarship Program." (* = memorial contribution) (** = in honor of) (Our apologies for any omissions or errors!)

GOLD CLUB

(\$ 1,000.00+)

- ** AHS Class of 1972
- * Larry E. Honsinger, '52

SILVER CLUB

(\$ 500.00 - \$999.99)

- ** AHS Class of 1952
- * Gary J. Fernandes, '61
- * Mrs. Cheron L. Stenson, Spouse
- * Bruce D. Woods, '61

BRONZE CLUB

(\$ 100.00 - \$499.99)

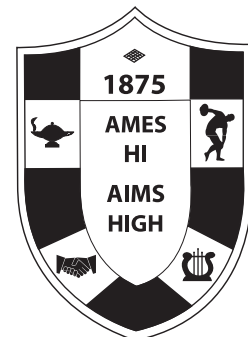
- * AHS Class of 1955
- * AHS Class of 1957
- * Peter A. Anderson, '72
- * Gloria Hatasaki Bachmann, '63
- * Arthur S. Bates, '62
- * James A. Bates, '61
- Thomas J. Brindley, '67
- * Robert L. Byrus, '50
- * Gary W. Clem, '61
- * James Dresser, '58
- Kamyar Fattahi, '72
- Frank E. Ferguson, '45
- * Diana Rex Gammell, '56
- * Kenneth L. Hartt, '47
- Carita Zenor Hoffman, '54
- Ilo E. Lippik, '60
- Donald G. Peterson, '55
- * Howard, '66, & Myra Randles
- * Al, '71, & Norma Sandvick, '71
- * Sheila Porter Schreiber, '60
- Mark, '67 & Betty Jo Burnett Smith, '68

ORANGE AND BLACK CLUB

(up through \$99.99)

- * AHS Class of 1958
- E. Jane Amme, '54
- * Anonymous
- * Beverly Arrasmith, '49
- Richard B. Arthur, '59
- * Richard Bappe, '65
- * Larry O. Beach, '58
- Patricia Moldenhauer Bortnem, '69

- Kathryn A. Bough, '58
- William A. Brindley, '56
- * Dick & Jean Bachman Bruner, '58
- * J. Ben, '53 & Sarah Buck
- Robert C. Bundy, '58
- * Barbara Kurtz Bunning, '57
- Linda M. Busker, '64
- Robert B. Campbell, '55
- * Donna Green Clink, '58
- * J. Paul Clark, '61
- Robert J. Clark, '41
- Terry M. Cook, '63
- Marcia Heidel Courson, '61
- Randall L. Crom, '74
- James W. Cue, '38
- * Marjorie Walsh Curtis, '60
- * Alechia Daniels, '58
- * Roger A. Deal, '51
- * William R. Donels, '59
- Charles R. "Chuck" Elder, '57
- * Larry E. Erickson
- Thomas A. Fleener, '85
- Laura David Flynn, '94
- * Tess Galati, '60
- * William B. Gaessler, '48
- Evelyn Dilts Gore, '53
- * Nancy Jellinger Graeve, '72
- Lisa Anderson Grieve, '80
- * Karen K. Haines, '58
- Rodney S. Harl, '89
- * Ted W. Hiedeman, '77
- * Janet A. Hoff, '48
- Sally Kooser Horn, '56
- Kevin Horner, '83
- Fred L. "Fritz" Jackson, '56
- Frank H. Jolly, Staff
- John R. Kennedy, '64
- Kathleen L. Knutson, '75
- * Virginia Wright Lewis, '57
- * Lorna Wilhelm Livingston, '44
- Mary L. Lackore, '51
- * Lois Knutson Lynch, '61
- * Veronica L. Lim Lynch, '62
- James, '62, & Linda Fleming Marken, '63
- Karen Skarshaug McGregor, '61
- * Timothy J. McKinley, '66
- Mary Beth Beaudry McKinney, '77
- Carol Black Meindl, '60
- Sharon Gore Moya, '52
- * Mary E. Walsh Neitge, '58
- Kimberly K. Panton, '79
- * Ronald J. Pederson, '70
- * Sharon L. Petersma, '48
- Nancy Homer Pilney, '75
- Jolene Thompson Pitkin, '83
- * Karen Popelka
- * Sandra Bunce Popelka, '73
- * Susan Soultz Raymond, '62
- * Michael R. Reese, '59
- Vicki A. Richie, '67
- James E "Jim" Ricketts, '62
- Diana Oppedal Russell, '63
- * Dallas Wall Rust, '60
- Jeffrey W. Sales, '63
- * Phyllis Eschbach Schulz, '47
- Harriett A. Simmons, '75
- * Jerrold Soesbe, '56
- Tamara Sondrol Stein, '72
- * Timothy M. Stine, '59
- * Carole Sue Triplett, Spouse
- * Linda Fiscus Vogtlin, '66
- * Anita Ohlsen Wald-Tuttle, '45
- * Mark E. Watson, '61
- Juliana Wernimont, '79
- Brian F. Ward, '66
- * Joyce Ingram White, '67
- Dale B. Woodward, '70
- * Kent, '56, & Linda Woodworth, '58



We Get Letters...

In mid-October of 2017 a forest fire moved quickly toward Santa Rosa, California. Bill Nordskog (class of '64) and his wife, Linda, live in the hills above Santa Rosa. I got concerned and called Bill later that same morning. Bill told me they were ordered to evacuate about 1 a.m. They were able to get out with the clothes on their back, 2 beagles and two cars. They found shelter with a friend in a safe neighborhood. Bill was out walking the dogs when I talked to him. He was, as usual, calm and collected. He said they would get back up into the neighborhood at a later time. When we next talked last week, he told me that they had been back up to the neighborhood and the house had been destroyed by the fire. They lost all their possessions. Last week he was up to the site and the demolition crews were there and were removing "the debris". All their possessions are now referred to as debris. I suggested they get out of California with its earthquakes, wildfires and droughts and return to Iowa. Bill reminded me of winter in Iowa. They will remain in California.

John M. Burns, '64

Dear Class of 1945,
Now, at age 91, I am learning what so discouraged my mother who lived to 99—her dear friends were departing in droves. I have now adopted a firm policy of living forever—it's the implementation that I see not working. These AHS newsletters are a gift—thank you, those who keep it coming.

My life in Ames, for the first 8 years on Ridgewood where Lee Street intersects, and then until 1945 at 1527 Grand was in some respects unremarkable, and in others regrettable—I'm thinking of the two weeks I spent in the county jail for vandalism.

We had some amazing teachers: Two-Gun Gus Edna Wilcox, Frank Brandt, and many others. I'm now largely retired from Curriculum Associates where I spent 40 years as a co-founder and president. The company now has over 500 employees and a deep mission of creating educational materials for grades K-8 nationwide.

In 2010 my wife, Mitzi—we met and married at Iowa State—and I moved into The Commons in Lincoln, MA, a rather nice warehouse for old folks. Best wishes!

Frank Ferguson, '45

"I'd recognize you anywhere if you turn around and bend over," is the way Bob Buck greeted me when we met at my 50th Ames High class reunion. As a senior, I played center for the Little Cyclone football team, and Bob, a junior, was our T-formation quarterback. He spent a good deal of practice and game time looking at my backside.

One thing missing from the excellent story about Bob and Anne Buck (Dec., 2017) was his role as an Ames High athlete. He was a two-year starter in both football and basketball, leading those teams in competitiveness and sportsmanship. Bob Buck and I have been

friends since we played basketball at Welch in 1945-46. Anne and my wife, Bea, took dance lessons together even before that. I cannot think of any persons more deserving of recognition as outstanding Ames High alumni than Bob and Anne Buck. Thanks for a great story about two truly nice people.

Larry D. Thorpe, '49

I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed this last edition of the alumni newsletter. I loved all the articles about the alums and the picture quality with the upgraded glossy paper is great. Another fine job! I always look forward to reading it.

By the way, John Hug lived across the street from my family when I was a very young boy and when he was flying B-29's during WWII, he would send bomb clips and other B-29 paraphernalia to my family. Then, about ten years ago, I received an e-mail from him. He had looked up my e-mail address on the alumni directory and he has sent many articles to me over a period of about eight years. I haven't heard from him for a while, so I have wondered if he's still living. Thanks again for the work you do on the newsletter.

Robert C. "Bob" Callahan, '57

I really enjoyed the December, 2017 edition. It had so many 1957 grads in it. I've wondered what happened to some of the "60 Years Ago...Cheer Squad 1957". I have completely missed hearing about the men on the squad. I was sorry to miss the 60th class reunion and perused the photo of those present with interest.

Also, in this issue, I realized Bob Buck probably helped construct the house my family commissioned and moved into about 1956 on Ross Road. I was saddened to see that Shirley Kooser Regalia had died, along with the memorial from her twin Sally Kooser Horn. They lived in the house across the street when my family arrived in Ames in 1946, and I spent many happy hours playing with them. Enclosed is a donation in memory of all AHS students I knew and of faculty I appreciated.

Theil Baumann Ramsbey, '57

Please find enclosed my renewal for the newsletter. I look forward to catching up on AHS activities and friends. Our class of 1955 meets every five years in Ames for a great get together! Our class members living in Ames do a superb job of planning our activities and time together. When we were 50 years old, we started having a birthday party. So, two years after the regular reunion we meet someplace in the U.S. and enjoy another gathering. In April of 2017 we hosted the class here in Arizona for four days and then added a special train trip to the Grand Canyon—two nights in the Flagstaff area and an amazing day at the Canyon. Our enthusiasm for our reunions never wavers, as we look forward to each one.

Terry Broadwell Benson, '55

Greetings!

As a member of the Class of '60, I've long been aware how lucky we were to develop our individuality(ies) in an environment committed to advanced learning with a cosmopolitan perspective. We had to learn about diversity in society after we left Ames; but that fit with our individual perspectives and unique experiences.

What I wish I'd learned about the 1960s was the cultural diversity that shaped Iowa! The local Norwegian influence was obvious; the Amanas, the Mesquakie Reservation, and Dvorak's earlier presence in Northeast Iowa were all well-known. But did you know about the 19th French century Icarians in the Southwest corner, the Luxembourgiens in the Northwest, and the French settlements from the shot tower in Dubuque on south along the banks of the Mississippi River and into today's Missouri and Illinois and upper Arkansas. Some French settlers in those early 1700s were quite sophisticated, and traveled between the colony and France. That location was much healthier and better fed than was New Orleans.

That 18th century French Colonial experience is now world-renowned and is the central passion of my existence! The full-time research I do on the textiles the colonists used (all purchased) is yielding information and perspectives never before known, despite the thousand of archives available since the 1700s. Much 18th century architecture still exists (see the book by Jack Luer and Jesse Bishop); and impressive Fort de Chartres hosts frequent reenactments. If the Federal Government ever remembers how to function, the Ste. Genevieve area is scheduled to join the National Parks system. Even without technology there is always something previously unknown to learn about. Hopefully, you've found your own quest to enjoy; and come visit mine soon.

Janet L. Miller, '60

Thanks to all who are responsible for creating and distributing the AHSAA newsletter. I look forward to receiving every issue and it reminds me of how proud I am to be an alum of Ames High School.

Katharine Wright Garland, '54

To the Class of 1952:

I want to thank the class of 1952 who dedicated your 65th class reunion to my brother, David Taft, for his heroism in Viet Nam as a Navy surgeon with the First Marine Division where he was awarded the Navy Cross. Sheila with their two sons, Rob and Mike, and my wife, Anne, and I attended his burial service at Arlington where he was honored with a wonderful full ceremony. After he retired from Virginia Mason in Seattle as a surgeon, David rejoined the Navy and served in Iraq in the Gulf War, on several aircraft carriers and in Somalia. He loved the Navy and the Marine Corps. David so enjoyed his high school days at Ames High and would have been honored to have your class dedicate your reunion to him!!!! **Thank you!!!!**

Michael E. Taft, '59

Other news about our graduates...

Dan Sherick '64 graduated from Iowa State in 1968 with a double major (physics and math). After teaching and working toward a doctorate in physics at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, his course in life took an abrupt turn. He dedicated his life to helping people spiritually. In 1979 Dan went to Romania and obtained a PhD in math and computer science in 1984. Those were the days of communism. His real purpose in being there was to privately speak to people about the Bible, which brought some good results and a lot of satisfaction. He still has many, many good friends there. After a year in the

States he spent 5 years in Yugoslavia, doing much the same thing, but studying German instead, in order to receive visas to stay in the country. That was a socialist country. He was back in the States in the summer of 1991, when the war broke out between the Serbs and the Croats, so he didn't return to Yugoslavia. Since the fall of 1992 he has been based in Western Ukraine. There he has been teaching math and computer science at a national university. Once again, he has met many people with whom he could share the wonderful, life-changing truths found in the Bible. This past year, he retired from

his university teaching and is a "professor emeritus."

Presently Dan is in the States. But since he is a permanent resident of Ukraine now (but still a U.S. citizen), he does plan to return to Ukraine soon. His life there has brought him a lot of satisfaction, once again feeling very strongly that it has not been in vain. He thinks it is better to gain eternal friends than to heap up wealth that you will only one day leave behind forever.

Ames' Kirk Schmaltz named

"CHARACTER COUNTS!" Coach of the Year

The CHARACTER COUNTS! Coach of the Year Award honors a worthy recipient who embodies the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. Rather than spotlight winning records and isolated acts of heroism or generosity, the award was conceived to recognize individuals whose coaching lives and achievements demonstrate an enduring commitment to any or all of the qualities associated with good character.

The 2018 recipient of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coach of the Year is Kirk Schmaltz of Ames High School. In recognition of this honor, a \$ 1,000.00 cash award is made to the Ames athletic department to further enhance character development initiatives. He was honored on Friday night at the Iowa Girls' State Basketball Tournament.

Schmaltz has been coaching for 40 years and last 35 at Ames High School. He has been the girls' cross-country coach since 1983 and has guided the Little Cyclone track and field team for 16 years. Four of his athletes captured track and cross-country state championship titles under his leadership. He has won conference coach of the year seven times and regional cross-country coach of the year 17 times. In 2011, the NFHS named Kirk the Regional and State Track and Field Coach of the year. Schmaltz has been very active in the Iowa Association of Track Coaches. He is a past-president in the organization and has served on numerous committees. He currently serves on the IGHSAU/IHSAA joint cross country advisory committee. Schmaltz and his wife, Rhonda, have two daughters: Stephanie and Katie.

The O'Neil Brothers

by Rosella O'Neil Sayers, '46

I am so very proud of my three brothers and their service to our country. Let me tell you a little about them

My oldest brother, Chuck, had finished his 3rd year of college in 1940 when he and several of his fraternity brothers decided the United States was heading into a war. They chose to enlist in the Army Air Corps. He finished his training at Kelly Field in San Antonio and was assigned to the Philippines at Clark Field, flying a B25 Bomber. The Japanese bombed the airfield destroying all the planes. So, the airmen were all handed guns and joined the fight and surrender of Bataan. Next came the infamous Bataan Death March, which Chuck survived and then 2 years of being a prisoner of war at various Japanese camps in the Philippines.

In the meantime, my next oldest brother, Jim, has finished his 3rd year of college and can't wait to get into the fight with the hope that he'd be with the Americans when they freed the prisoners in the Philippines. Jim also chose the Army Air Corps and completed his training at Moore Field near Mission, Texas. His assignment was mostly in New Guinea and Australia flying P40 and P38 fighter planes. Jim always liked living in the fast lane so it was no surprise when he was awarded various medals and the title ACE for downing 3 Japanese planes. His quest for seeing his brother, Chuck, was not to be. In 1944, after 2 years as a prisoner in the Philippines, Chuck and hundreds of other prisoners were loaded onto a Japanese freighter ship and headed for Japan. The freighter was not marked with a Red Cross—as it should have been, and it was torpedoed and sunk by an American submarine. There were several of these. . . . friendly fire!

Now my youngest brother, Gene, would follow his older brothers' footsteps and join the Air Corps. No question about choosing to be a pilot! He was known to be the youngest person in Iowa to complete his first solo flight at age 16. Gene was assigned to Photo Reconnaissance, flying with the Burma/China theatre.

Brother Jim in the meantime is back in the U.S. and now is an instructor pilot in California showing the new pilots how to do combat flying. Again, no surprise for Jim. Tragedy was soon to happen when he bailed out of his crippled P38 and was hit by part of the plane. His parachute never opened. The P38 plane was known for being a bad design for bailouts. With two dead in our family, the 3rd son is automatically discharged from duty, so Gene was back home with his wife and new baby named Chuck. In writing this story of my brothers, I am well aware of the many who served their country and have very moving stories to tell that would make us proud and grateful. To them I give my sincerest thanks.

Other News Here and There . . .

by Loof Lirpa, Hon. Alum

REAL OR FAKE -- YOU HEARD IT HERE FIRST

TO HYPHEN OR NOT TO HYPHEN – THAT IS HARRY’S QUESTION

** Meghan Markle is insisting that her married name will be hyphenated as Markle-Wales. Buckingham Palace is said to be taking the matter under advisement. One possible solution would be for her to use that name while Prince Harry remains Henry Charles Albert David Wales. Another would be for him to employ the hyphen or for all social purposes, but not for business or official visits in the name of the Crown.

AMES STUDYING TAKE-OVER OF ALL SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

** The City of Ames is doing a feasibility study with respect to a proposal to take over snow and ice removal from all front sidewalks within the city limits. The proposal follows the model used at Iowa State where all campus walks are quickly cleared after snow and ice storms. Property owners would be taxed \$10 a year to help cover cost of the service. That contrasts to a fine of \$90-\$150 if snow on walks is not cleared within 24 hours.

Council member Stan Shunpike said a positive decision would be “manna from Heaven” for pedestrians, bicyclists, skateboarders and roller-derby wanna-bes, not to mention people walking dogs and cats. “Ames could become known as the Snow White-Out City,” he said.

AMES HIGH CLASS EXPECTS TO CLEAN UP WITH NEW ‘COIN’

** AHS students in Gilderoy Lockhart’s finance class have launched their own on-line rival to the Bitcoin. But not before the class project brought them up against some knotty legal and corporate issues. For example, Lockhart said students wanted to call their rival the Ponzicon. But the suggestion that the bit coin was somehow similar to Charles Ponzi’s 1920s investment chimera prompted a re-think, Lockhart said. They then added an “I” and a dot to make it the Ponzi.coin. But this was still judged to be too close to the knuckle. So now the class entry into the block chain world of finance is called the Bitchcoin. Class spokesperson Billiesol Estimate said her calculations suggest that one Bitchcoin – in 12 months -- will be worth “brazillions” and that “it will make all rivals seem “bitty” by comparison.”

IF YOU WERE MARKED DOWN FOR MISSPELLING IT “RECEIVE,” REJOICE.

Ames High English teachers said they have been “absolutely gobsmacked” by an admission by lexiconiclads and other linguistic scholars that the word “receive” has been misspelled for nearly three centuries. Scholars of the utmost fame agreed (in January 2018) that the word ‘receive’ should actually be spelled: RECIEVE.

Director of the World Institute of Lexicography Herr Doktor Markus Kieth Thompson said the only rational explanation for this mistake can be blamed on the dominance of the slave-like rule: “I before E except after C” which he dismissed as “a misguided mnemonic rule of thumb.” *Dictionaries and web-sites are being corrected at this moment.

This news has not only rocked the world of lexicography, linguistics (and spelling bee organizers), but it has imposed on Ames High a determination to scour records to correct essays that might have been marked down for that particular misspelling. Meanwhile, AHS will be notifying all graduates and parents of current students to revise their spelling and “stick to facts rather than rhymes.” * Editor’s Note: Herr Doktor Thompson has just completed a “definitive” 597-page work on this question: titled: ‘I before E except after C’ -- A Conundrum Unraveled?

Scientists Unearth ‘Amazing Aspect’ of Eclipse.

“I can only describe it as a phenomenon,” said biomedical researcher Julien Mensonge of South Central Missouri State College at Black. He was referring to blindness among mice in those parts of the USA where the total eclipse in August was totally visible. Wildlife biologists are hard-pressed to explain why only mice would be affected or, indeed, why they would become blind at all. Researchers also report that the tails have disappeared completely on three of these mice. “We have never seen such a sight in our lives,” they chimed, “as these blind mice.”

Feline Military Fitness Program Headed for USA?

LONDON & WASHINGTON -- A nationwide Feline Military Fitness Program for cats – first established in the United Kingdom – may soon be coming to the U.S.A. The program –

established by the British Army – is aimed at combating “the mounting feline obesity crisis” caused by laziness and too rich a diet. It is estimated that between 39 and 52 percent of moggies (endearing British slang for cats) are overweight or obese. It’s even worse in the U.S.A. where (in 2016) an estimated 59 percent of cats are overweight or obese.

That is a major reason why the British Moggie Fitness Program has attracted Washington’s interest as a project for the National Guard, which has sent a team to London to determine the feasibility of adapting the program for America’s overweight and under-exercised cats. The British program offers hour-long fitness sessions at its 140 venues across the country, with bespoke exercises just for cats including swimming races, puss-ups, and meow-ntain climbs.

Heading up the program is Marine Corporal Fido Castrophe. He said it was important to focus on feline pets who have become too lazy to catch mice – or even play with them. In the Marine tradition, he said, “there will be no pussy-footing around.” “We want to put the “Tom” or “Alley” instinct back in and take at least some of the “Nap” out of cats.” “We expect a re-energized cat will set a good example for his or her owners,” Corporal Castrophe said. “Like that bunny.”

Former AHS staffer engineers swap with identical twin

Former Driver’s Ed teacher Cuthbert Gleep (AHS 1992-2000) and his identical twin (Sherman) pulled off a week-long identity swap last April. Cuthbert and Sherman first memorized each other’s work schedules. (Cuthbert is currently teaching advanced yoga and meditation, while Sherman is head of the department of linguistics at Plainfield (NJ) Teachers College.) Then they swapped identities for 7 days. Cuthbert (who conceived the scheme) said it worked perfectly. “Neither faculty nor students or even administrators at PTC caught on,” he said. His wife had no comment.

[Editor’s Note: Cuthbert Gleep is currently in the Arctic — in pursuit of his goal to be the first person ever to climb both the South and North Poles. Sherman is on a faculty improvement leave.]

Pluto’s resurrection as Ninth Planet is imminent in the USA

Just when you thought it’s safe to mention Pluto’s demotion to ‘dwarf’ planet, the fury has re-surfaced in spades. Opponents of

the 2006 decision to delete Pluto as the ninth planet in the solar system have re-exploded – inundating social media with claims ranging from “Soviet sabotage” to “bad science” to “fake news.” Even “un-American.”

The latter charge has gained a lot of traction ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE since the President has promised to “make America great again.” The reason: Pluto was the only planet in the solar system to have been discovered by an American in America (at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona).

Furthermore, it is insisted, the planet’s diminished status besmirches its American namesake -- a beloved Disney dog who, unlike other cartoon characters, does not speak or wear clothing. Apart from astronomical arguments, the so-called Plutonians say the demotion’s primary damage affects America’s reputation – especially that of its discoverer, Clyde William Tombaugh.

Described as a modern-day Horatio Alger, Tombaugh was the son of farm parents who taught himself astronomy in Burdett, Kansas, beginning at age 20 when he built several telescopes on the farm with lenses and mirrors by himself. To better test



Typical reaction to the “Make Pluto Great Again” success

his telescope mirrors, Tombaugh, with just a pick and shovel, dug a pit 24 feet long, 8 feet deep, and 7 feet wide. This provided a constant air temperature, free of air currents, and was also used by the family as a root cellar and emergency shelter. Tombaugh’s work earned him a position at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona, where he worked from 1929 to 1945. His discovery of Pluto occurred on Tuesday

18 February 1930. Pluto’s dismissal as a “classical planet” occurred in 2006 when the International Astronomical Union reclassified it as a “dwarf planet.”

This descriptor not only aroused the school children of America, but also linguists and others seeking to be politically correct. “Dwarf,” they argued, “is today a word with offensive connotations.” School children arguments generally were categorized as: (a) Leave Pluto alone! It’s our favorite planet! or (b) How dare you! What would *Snow White* be without “Grumpy” or “Dopey?” After accepting defeat for a decade, the U.S. Congress has now stepped into the fray with a bi-partisan proposal to restore Pluto’s full planetary standing in the classroom and in American text books.

(An earlier measure would have reincorporated Pluto by describing the solar system as “eight planets and one Pluto.” Another proposal to describe Pluto as a “planette” also went down in flames. The President is also expected imminently to elevate Pluto as a planet within the Government through an executive order.)

AHS Class of 1967



From the Archives... 1960

Although technically it was considered an activity, the dramatics organization was conducted as a regular class. Members attended meetings three times a week during one of the six daily periods. Within the department itself there were two sections. Beginning Dramatics for sophomores gives students the elementary training required of the members of the Advanced Dramatics, most of whom were juniors and seniors. In addition, those students who excelled in dramatics and who met certain requirements based on a point system

were eligible to become members of the honorary “Palm Club”. Officers of Palm Club were: John Carter, president; Lani Kuncl, vice-president; Marilyn Dunlap, secretary; and Yvonne Barton, treasurer.

HELP! Somewhere during the last nearly sixty years, the requirements for Palm Club membership were lost. Any enlightenment from the officers or other members of Palm Club will be greatly appreciated.

Bubba's Gun

by Jonathan Huntress, '62

My Grandfather's name was Frederick but we all called him Bubba. I remember him sitting quietly in the living room of their home on Bowers Street, second house to the end, smoking his pipe. My father took me and my sister, Deborah, to Maine in 1949. We drove there in a black 1939 Chevrolet sedan. It took five days to get there from Ames, Iowa. My mother stayed home with my new baby sister. I was five years old. My grandfather was a plumber but his real avocation was hunting and fishing. He trapped lobsters by stretching and tying a piece of netting across a steel wagon tire, the metal rim off a wooden spoked wagon wheel. He tied a dead fish and a brick to the middle of the net and carefully lowered it from his dory. He would have three or four of these, each with a rope attached to a wooden float. Then he would row back to the first float and slowly pull it up. There would usually be one or two lobsters on each wheel. This was around the turn of the last century when there were a lot more lobsters.

My father took his father and me and my sister to a nearby beach because we needed clams for lunch. The beach was a very muddy beach, and we would sink a few inches into the mud with every step. It was icky and I didn't like it. It was low tide, of course. You only dig for clams at low tide. Remember the expression, "Happy as a clam"? A few words got dropped from the whole expression which is, "Happy as a clam at high tide" when they are safe from the diggers like us. My sister had no problem with the mud and waded out ten or twenty yards into the ocean. She was up to her knees and called, "Look daddy!" and held up a horseshoe crab by its long tail. She put it back in the water and was congratulated. My father and Bubba dug for clams and ended up with buckets full. It looked to me like hundreds. We took them home and then my father and I had to go to the store for something. When we got back I walked into the dining room and there was Bubba at the head of the table with a large pile of clam shells in front of him. "Ate all the clams!" he said, and I believed him. But when I went into the kitchen I saw Aynie, my grandmother, with a much larger pile of clams that had just been steamed on the wood-burning

stove. In 1949 she still had a wood stove that she had to fire up every morning. I remember I was five years old and had learned how to make my own cocoa. I took a teaspoon of Hershey's powdered cocoa and two teaspoons of sugar and boiled it in a quarter cup of water then added $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of milk. I asked Aynie for a measuring cup and she gave me a regular cup. It turned out she didn't have a measuring cup or measuring spoons. I thought it was so strange and I had to guess in the amounts, but it turned out alright, which was a big surprise to me. Back then I thought you had to do everything just the way they said or it would be a disaster. I don't remember eating many of those clams. I don't think I liked clams then.

My father said that his father remembered every duck he ever shot. Bubba had a really big gun that would have made that statement hard to believe. It was a special duck gun. They showed it to me but I have almost no memory of it except that the hole in the barrel was big. I was told you could drop a quarter down the bore. The gun was propped against the wall down in the basement but it was too tall for me to touch and it was very heavy. My father said it was actually a small canon that just looked like a big musket. This was a punt gun. Most of them had a rod mounted mid-stock that would go into a hole in the gunnel (sidewall) of the boat or punt. My father said the gun was a matchlock but I am pretty sure he was wrong about this. The matchlock was the first attempt to fire a musket reliably. It involved a "match" which was actually a rope soaked in potassium nitrate and sulfur that turned it into a long slow burning fuse. The match would be tied to the bottom stock of the gun and looped up over the shoulder of the gunner and then would be attached to the hammer of the gun itself, continuously sputtering and smoking. The guns were loaded through the muzzle and then some fine powder would be poured into the pan. When the trigger was pulled the pan cover would rise and the match would descend into the pan setting off the gun. You always knew where your enemy was in those days because of the huge clouds of smoke from the burning matches would always give away their positions.

The flintlock, using flint and steel, turned out to be much better and replaced the matches fairly early and were themselves replaced by percussion caps by the time of the Civil War. Almost all the old muskets still in use were retrofitted to caps. I am fairly sure that Bubba's gun was fired with a percussion cap. The punt gun was a very large shotgun. Some of these guns were over ten feet long and had a two inch bore. They took over a pound of black powder and fired a full pound of shot. Bubba's gun was five or six feet long, but it was still a substantial firearm. It could take out thirty or forty ducks with a single shot. Punt guns were used at night. The hunter would silently paddle as close as he could get to a flock and then pull the trigger. As the sound of the explosion the flock would fly off leaving behind the dead and wounded birds. Even though he loved the sport, Bubba always hunted for food. He took my father hunting only once. They were in a duck blind before dawn and it was very cold. My father told me he was absolutely miserable. He said it was the only time he ever told his father to shut up. Bubba forgave him. My father was a mama's boy, the last son born. He was a replacement child for his much loved older sister, Agrandiece, who died when she was just a year old, the year before my father was born.

My grandfather was a provider. During the Depression when nobody had any money and there was little work, he would hunt and fish for food and they had a garden behind the house. On cold windy winter mornings he would walk the few blocks to Willard Beach and as the sun came up, carefully scan the sand. The wind blew the sand across the surface of the beach and when it uncovered a lost summer coin it would blow the sand out from around, leaving each coin on a little pillar of sand easy to see. One day he collected almost five dollars, a fortune during those hard times. My father's older brother, Roderick, inherited the gun and gave it to his son, Roddy, who died in March of 2015. I managed to track down his daughter who told me that her mother still has the gun, packed away in a crate in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Memorials

- In memory of: **James Edward Hixon, '56**
By: Diana Rex Gammell, '56
- In memory of: **Michael Allen Nickey, '61**
Michael E. Cox, '61
By: James A. Bates, '61
- In memory of: **Paulette Hatasaki, '61**
By: Gloria J. Bachmann, '63
- In memory of: **Russell D. Keltner, '55**
By: AHS Class of 1955
- In memory of: **Nancy Wallace Burkhart, '55**
By: AHS Class of 1955
- In memory of: **My fallen 1961 Classmates**
By: Bruce D. Woods, '61
- In memory of: **1973 Deceased Classmates**
By: Sandra Bunce Popelka, '73
- In memory of: **Dean A. Kuhn, '72**
By: Peter A. Anderson, '72
- In memory of: **Mary K. Armstrong, '61**
By: Mark E. Watson, '61
- In memory of: **Barbara Moore Hoff, '54**
By: Connie Moore Betten, '51
- In memory of: **Michael J. Klein, '58**
By: Alvin B. "Bud" Erickson, '58
- In memory of: **1955 Deceased Classmates**
By: Donovan "Don" F. Diehl, '55
- In memory of: **Edward F. Wilson, '66**
Marshall Thomas, '66
By: Sara Beals Fugitt, '66
- In memory of: **All AHS Students I know**
All AHS Faculty I Appreciated
By: Theil Baumann Ramsbey, '57
- In memory of: **David L. Carter, '77**
By: Jeffrey A. Carter, '78
- In memory of: **James N. Taylor, '61**
Larry Skold, '67
By: Karen Skold Tow, '63
Jerry Tow, '61
- In memory of: **Joan Lee Ferguson, '68**
By: Diana K. Soper, '68
- In memory of: **Margaret Alice Andrew Lloyd, '29**
By: Richard A. "Rick" Lloyd, '63
- In memory of: **David R. Erickson, '70**
By: Diane Erickson Davison, '67
- In memory of: **1962 Deceased Classmates**
By: AHS Class of 1962
- In memory of: **William T. Paulson, '56**
Shirley Kooser Regalia, '56
By: Diana Rex Gammell, '56
- In memory of: **AHS Class of 1961**
By: Sandy Mickelson Farner, '61
- In memory of: **LaVonne Daniels Ekron, '58**
By: AHS Class of 1958
- In memory of: **Elisabeth A. Huber, '85**
By: Jason, '89 &
Jennifer Huber Teal, '88
- In memory of: **Michael E. Cox, '61**
By: Karen Runyan Peterson, '61
- In memory of: **Eileen Walsh Born, '63**
By: Mary E. Walsh Neitge, '58

Some Have Left US

The following alumni are known to have died in recent years. Those listed in previous newsletters are omitted here. Some information may be incomplete. If you have any more information or unreported deaths, please advise the AHSAA.

A complete listing of all known deceased alumni is available at www.ahsalum.org.

Class	Name	Date of Deth	City, State
1934	Dubridge, Leone Mae (Goodman)	D. 1-1-2017	Sunnyvale CA
1943	Corey, Annabelle (Vernon)	D. 11-29-2017	Seattle WA
1946	Beach, Patricia (Wheelock)	D. 9-22-2017	Yuma AZ
1946	Miller, Marian (Neff)	D. 12-19-2017	Marco Island FL
1946	Smith, Mary (Rasmussen)	D. 1-18-2018	Ames IA
1947	Daine, John Manton	D. 4-25-2014	Iowa City IA
1948	Firkins, Ramona Maxine (Vore)	D. 2-26-2017	Fairmount MN
1951	Connell, Louise Joanne (Pierre)	D. 12-3-2017	Monticello IL
1952	Templeton, Donald L.	D. 12-10-2017	Burnsville MN
1954	Knuths, Michael Scott	D. 12-13-2017	Dallas TX
1954	Moore, Jack Leland	D. 12-11-2017	Boone IA
1955	Burkhart, Nancy Ruth (Wallace)	D. 12-6-2017	Gaithersburg MD
1955	Keltner, Russell Dean	D. 12-7-2017	Iowa City IA
1955	Stanley, David Wilson	D. 2-18-2018	Eastport ME
1956	Van Meter, Jan Eugene	D. 11-10-2017	Iowa Falls IA
1958	Ekren, Lavonne Rose (Daniels)	D. 1-9-2018	Bellevue WA
1959	Fisher, Robert Lee	D. 2-4-2018	Zearing IA
1959	Minor, Linda Darlene (Burton)	D. 10-2-2015	Nevada IA
1960	Groat, Gary Lynn	D. 12-13-2017	Ames IA
1961	Trump, Maureen (McVicker)	D. 11-3-2017	Fort Collins CO
1963	Onaclear, Susan Rae (Crossley)	D. 12-11-2017	Eugene OR
1970	Englehart, Sandra (Orton)	D. 11-29-2017	Ames IA
1971	Beachler, Leanne Mary (Garland)	D. 1-6-2018	Story City IA
1977	Carter, David Lew	D. 11-23-2017	Frederiksted VI
1977	Fullmer, Linda Ann (Liming)	D. 10-15-2017	Ankeny IA
1977	Miller, Michael Dean	D. 11-21-2017	San Bernardino CA
1985	Meany, David Alan	D. 11-20-2017	Ames IA
1992	Larson, Michael James	D. 11-11-2017	Ames IA
1997	Tuttle, Christopher	D. 11-11-2017	Chicago IL
2007	Nelson, Benjamin Eric	D. 11-17-2018	Ames IA
Staff	Lybeck, Dagny Sigfrid Dorothea (Aadland)	D. 1-10-2018	Findlay OH





Vacation vs. Your WILL

It has long been said that people spend more time planning vacations, then they spend planning for the future or working on their WILL. Your WILL, whether you have one or not, is an important document!

This document is able to carry out your wishes and intentions for your estate after you have departed earth. Can you imagine the chaos if this important document, an important business COMMUNICATION, did not exist to represent you? Chaos could ensue.

If you do not have a WILL, I suggest you place a day on the calendar to work on your WILL. **Complete this goal like other to do list items.**

Your WILL should make appropriations for FAMILY FIRST. Would you then consider a gift for the Ames Education Foundation?

You may extend a gift to the Ames Education Foundation for a **fixed** amount, or a **percentage**. It is that easy. Please consider listing us as a beneficiary.

If your WILL is complete, could you let us know we are in your plans? If you have not established us as a beneficiary – it is simple. Dust off your WILL, and add us on. It is a codicil. Your attorney can help you with this add on. Then again, I ask you to appropriate for family first, and second, consider your gift for Ames Education Foundation as a fixed amount or a percentage.

Below is a sample wording:

- **Unrestricted Bequest:** I give to (Ames Education Foundation, Ames, Iowa), the sum of _____ Dollars (\$_____) (or _____% of my adjusted gross estate) for its general purposes. (Review with your attorney.)

Thank you for your consideration of this gift through your WILL, because it benefits the children of the community. It is that easy! Enjoy your business goal of making your WILL, dusting off your WILL, and whichever the case – include Ames Education Foundation as a beneficiary.

A couple more things....let us know, if you now include us in your WILL, and let us know if you have questions about listing Ames Education Foundation as a beneficiary. You may call anytime with your questions. Once your WILL is complete then go back to planning that vacation! I would be glad to share with you the vacation I had to Micronesia once, and when I visited the island of Rota. This is a vacation spot on the equator that few will ever see! I would be glad to share the story with you, and glad to hear you include us in your WILL and will be a member of a Legacy Circle for Ames Education Foundation! Your plans for the future are great!

Thank you,
Annie Arbuckle, Executive Director
Ames Education Foundation
1921 Ames High Dr., Ames, IA 50010 | 515.268.6630 | ann@ameseducationfoundation.org



----- Cut off and Mail In -----

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ I have already included the Ames Education Foundation in my WILL

_____ I will be including the Ames Education Foundation in my WILL

_____ Please contact me with more information about including Ames Education Foundation in my WILL

Listing us in your WILL allows us to place you on our Wall of Honor and include you in our Legacy Circle.

Mail to: Ames Education Foundation
PO Box 1125, Ames, IA 50014

Thank you!

Membership Blank Membership Blank Membership Blank Membership Blank

Mail to Ames High School Alumni Association, 1921 Ames High Drive, Ames, IA, 50010. Make checks payable to AHSAA.

Please circle membership dues enclosed: 1 year - \$8.00 2 years - \$15.00 3 years - \$20.00
Outside the USA: 1 year - \$16.00 2 years - \$30.00 3 years - \$40.00
 Additional Donation enclosed: \$ _____ Memorial enclosed: \$ _____
 In memory of: _____

Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Address: _____ Graduation Num: _____
 (first set of numbers on name label)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Birth Date: _____ If married, is your spouse an AHS grad? _____ If so, what year? _____

First and last name of spouse (maiden name of wife): _____

Your father's first and last name: _____

Your mother's first and maiden name: _____

Names and addresses of brothers and sisters who graduated from AHS: _____

Names of other relatives who graduated from AHS: _____

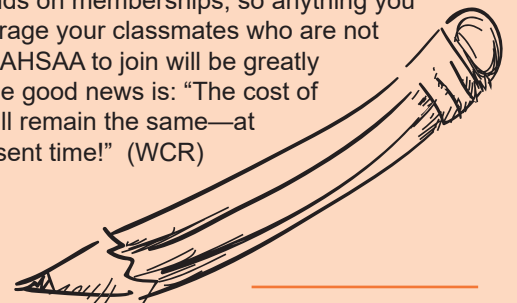
Name and address of someone who will always know your address: _____

Suggestions / comments for the AHA (special events, newsletter ideas, anything): _____

From the Desk of the Editor

The December, 2017 newsletter was our first attempt in twenty-eight years to do a sixteen-page edition. Not only was it longer, but because of the larger than usual number of pictures, we went to a glossy paper which did enhance the quality of the pictures. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Obviously, the cost of printing and postage increased. Our norm will be to continue with our twelve-page format, but expand to sixteen pages once a year to give adequate coverage to class reunions and other important events. Colored

pictures, which greatly increases the printing costs, may even be in our future? And, speaking of future, our existence depends on memberships, so anything you can do to encourage your classmates who are not members of the AHSAA to join will be greatly appreciated. The good news is: "The cost of memberships will remain the same—at least for the present time!" (WCR)



AHSAA Calendar

2018 AHSAA Monthly Meetings:

April 17th	AHSAA Monthly Meeting
May 15th	AHSAA Monthly Meeting
June 19th	AHSAA Monthly Meeting
July 17th	AHSAA Monthly Meeting

- 2018 - Reunions:

June 22-24	Class of 1993 25th Reunion
July 13-14	Class of 1998 20th Reunion
July 13-14	Class of 1983 35th Reunion
Aug. 9-12	Class of 1968 50th Reunion
Sept. 7-8	Class of 1958 60th Reunion
Sept. 28-29	Class of 1978 40th Reunion
Sept. 28-30	Class of 1954 64th Reunion

Other 2018 Events:

December 28th	2018 All-Classes Holiday Celebration
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The Ames High School Alumni Newsletter (ISSN 1055-5196) is published three times a year by the Ames High School Alumni Association (AHSAA).

Membership in the AHSAA is \$8 for 1 year, \$15 for two years, \$20 for three years (see member form for foreign pricing). Membership is open to everyone, not just Ames High School alumni.

The AHSAA meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month. Please email or call (515-232-0230) for the exact time and location of the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Ames High School Alumni Association can be contacted as follows:

By mail- see return address.

<http://www.ahsalum.org>

info@ahsalum.org



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