



Ames High School Alumni Newsletter

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Heidi S. Shierholz, 2021 AHSAA Distinguished Alumna



Heidi S. Shierholz

Heidi Shierholz, '90 was about as busy as a high school student could be with her academic and school activities schedules. Her involvement in music was extensive: Concert Chorale, Small Group Vocal, Chamber and Madrigal Singers and All-State vocal and piano contests. She was also on the cheer squad, a Terpsichore Choreographer, on the Homecoming Court and a member of the Ames High Volunteers. In the spring she played on AHS Girls' tennis team all four years and was a letter winner each year.

After high school, Heidi enrolled in Grinnell College where she completed a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics in 1994. In 1996, she completed a Master of Science Degree in Statistics at Iowa State University. She then went on to the University of Michigan

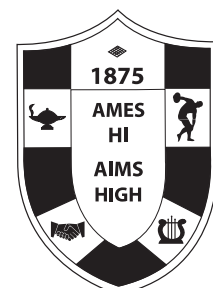
where she completed a Master of Arts Degree in Economics in 2001 and a Ph.D. in Economics in 2005. Following the completion of her M.S. at Iowa State, Heidi served as a Statistician at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, D.C. (1996-1997), a Lecturer in Statistics at Grinnell College (1998) and a Lecturer in Mathematics at St. Olaf College (1998-1999).

Following the completion of her advanced degrees at the University of Michigan, Heidi was an Assistant Professor in Economics at the University of Toronto, Ontario. In 2007, she moved to Washington, D.C. where she became an Economist with the Economic Policy Institute. In 2014, Heidi became the Chief Economist with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). In this capacity: (1) she advised the Secretary of Labor on matters relating to the labor market and the broader economy, including the economic impacts of administration policy initiatives and economic developments. (2) She worked with the political appointees at the Department of Labor and the White House to develop, refine and enact administration policy. (3) She developed, reviewed and approved economic impact analysis for DOL regulations, and she negotiated with and secured sign-off from the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the White House. (4) She authored blog posts and gave presentations and interviews on the economy and DOL policy initiatives.

In January of 2017, Heidi became the Senior Economist and the Director of Policy for the Economic

Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. Throughout her career, Shierholz has provided policymakers and economic commentators with research and analysis on labor market dynamics, labor and employment policy, unemployment insurance, wage stagnation and inequality, racial and gender disparities in the labor market, employer and worker power, the effects of automation on the labor market, the impact of COVID-19 on the economy, and other topics which have been cited in many broadcast, radio, print and online news outlets, including ABC, CBS, NBC CNN, PBS, NPR, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The Wall Street Journal*.

Heidi recently was named President of the Economic Policy Institute in addition to her role as director. She and her husband, Alan Pickett, and Lila, their undoubtedly pampered dog, live in Silver Spring, Maryland. Heidi's parents, John and Suzan, great supporters of Ames High School, continue to live in Ames during their retirement years. Her sisters, Cari, '88 lives in Arlington Heights, Illinois and Jennifer, '93 lives in Ames. Congratulations, Heidi. "Ames Hi" continues to "Aim High"!



2020-2021 Athletic Hall of Fame & Distinguished Alums

Hope Amos Becton, '94,

as described by Ames High Hall of Fame Coach Jim Duea, was "without question, one of the most talented runners that I had the opportunity to coach. She was a wonderful relay runner and seemed even faster with a baton in her hand and an opponent to pass as she headed to the finish line." At Conference and District Track Meets, Hope did not place less than third in any of the three events in which she competed each of the four years she ran for Ames High. Her relay teams were State Champions in the Distance Medley Relay (1994) and repeat State Champions in the 4x200 Relay (1992 and 1993). Hope's other top three finishes at the State Meet include second in the 4x100 (1992), 4x400 (1992) and Shuttle Medley Relay (1991 and third place in the 4x200 (1991). The relays for which Hope ran helped propel the Ames High team to State Meet finishes of third place (1991), a State Championship (1992), fifth place (1993) and Runner-up (1994). Hope also competed in Cross Country, winning a varsity letter and contributing to a team that finished third at the State Meet.

Although a very decorated student-athlete, Hope may be most remembered for her fight for equal opportunities for female track athletes. Her critique of the Drake Relays, whose showcase of athletes was grossly skewed toward boys, caught the attention of the media, event organizers and the Ames High Student body. Her courage was certainly a contributing agent of change in the on-going struggle to increase opportunities for female athletes in the state of Iowa.

Hope was recruited by legendary Baylor Track Coach Clyde Hart. Hopes 4x800 relay team still appears on the all-time best lists in Baylor's storied track history. Presently, Hope enjoys family life in Florissant, Missouri with her husband, Larry, and their three children. She owns and operates Espe



Scott Lynn, '06; Kirk Schmaltz, HOF Coach; Tom Shakeshaft, '85, 2020 AHSAA Distinguished Alumnus; Katie Purcell Rogers, '10; Hope Amos Becton, '94. Not pictured: Dustin Rhoads, '10

Beauty.

Scott Lynn, '06, was a three-time letter winner in track for Coach John Sletten. His career is highlighted by back-to-back 4A State Titles in the 110 Hurdles in 2005 and 2006. He dominated Conference and District Meets during that same period and twice earned All-State and Elite All-State honors. In 2005, Scott placed 8th at State in the 400 hurdles. While at Ames High, Scott also participated in football, baseball and golf.

Collegiately, Scott earned letters at Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa. At Iowa State, Scott's Shuttle Hurdle Relay won the 2007 Drake Relays. While running for the University of Northern Iowa, Scott was twice a Missouri Valley Conference finalist in the 60m Hurdles, and he finished 3rd in 2009 and earned All-Conference honors. His Shuttle Hurdle Relay team at UNI qualified for the finals at the Drake Relays on three occasions.

Scott currently lives and works in Orlando, Florida. His father, Steve Lynn, now deceased, was the former Iowa State University Track and Field Head Coach, and his sister, Erica Lynn Douglas, is the founder of **She Plays**, a non-profit organization providing mentoring to young female athletes. Scott's mother, K'Lynn Lynn, is associated with RE/MAX Real Estate Center and is Past President for the Central Iowa Board of REALTORS.

Dustin Rhoads, '10, qualified for the State Swim Meet in four events in each of his four years at Ames High School. Dustin was a three-time 2010 State Champion, standing at the top of the podium in the 100 Backstroke, 100 Butterfly and the Medley Relay (Rhoads, Kutchen, Hagen and Wiedemeier.) Over the course of his high school swim career, Dustin earned 10 district championship titles, logged times into Ames High All-Time record books and led teams that had a great amount of success. In his sophomore, junior and senior campaigns, Dustin

2020-2021 Athletic Hall of Fame & Distinguished Alums *cont.*

was named District Swimmer of the Year and to First-Team All-State. In 2010, he became Iowa's Gatorade Swimmer of the year. Many of his performances rank in the top 10 in Iowa High School Swimming history.

On the tennis courts, Rhoads was a four-time State Qualifier. He captained the 2010 Runner-Up State Championship team. Overall, his career included three top four finishes at State.

Rhoads enjoyed a spectacular swimming career at the University of Iowa, where he holds five records. His accolades include qualifying for the NCAA Championships in the 100 and 200 Backstroke, as well as All-Big Ten Conference, Academic All-Big Ten and Academic All-American honors. Rhoads qualified for the U. S. Olympic Trials in 2012 and 2016. After graduating from Iowa, Rhoads returned to Ames High where he successfully led the Boys and Girls tennis programs until being named Assistant Coach at Luther College in 2020

Katie Purcell Rogers, '10, entering her freshman year was Iowa PGA's Youth Player of the Year and helped the Ames High girls place 3rd in the 2007 State 4A Team Championship, and Katie was, once again, named Iowa PGA's Youth Player of the year. As a sophomore, she became Runner-Up at the Iowa Golf Association's Junior Championships. The stage was set for the unfolding of the most decorated career and most successful stretch in Ames High Girls Golf History.

In 2009, Ames High ended a 20-year drought behind Katie's dominance during her junior year, when she secured the individual 4A State Title and the team became only the second squad in Ames High history to win the Iowa State Team Championship. Both Katie and her teammates repeated the feat in 2010. Katie remains Ames High's only individual State Champion in Girls' golf. Katie's summers were

marked by success in national amateur competitions where she garnered top five finishes at Callaway Junior Series, Future Collegians World Tour and American Junior Golf Association events.

Katie ended her high school career as a Turk Bowman Award winner and as the Iowa High School Golf Coaches' Association Player of the Year in 2010. She went on to compete two seasons at South Dakota State University, where she wrote herself into the Jackrabbits record book. Katie's Runner-Up finish at the Creighton Classic led South Dakota State to their first Division I tournament victory. Katie completed her academic career at the University of Houston. In 2016, she was inducted into the Iowa High School Golf Coaches' Association Hall of Fame. Currently, Katie and her husband, Jordan, live in Bennington, Nebraska where Katie is employed by NECA (National Exchange Carrier Association) as a Sr. Member Service Manager.

Coach Kirk Schmaltz, HOF Coach, headed the Ames High Girls Cross Country program from 1983 through 2017. During that time, he also served as the girls track and field assistant coach (17 years), girls track and field head coach (15 years), wrestling assistant coach (10 years) and as the 8th-grade softball coach (3 years). In those nearly 40 years of coaching, the number of student-athletes and Ames High coaches whose lives were influenced or transformed by Coach Schmaltz is unquantifiable and the value of that impact is immeasurable. Throughout his career, he tirelessly embodied, nurtured and pursued the essence of athletics and academics in our community—"Ames Hi, Aims High"!

In his 35 years as the Girls Cross Country Head Coach, Ames High qualified for the State Meet 32 times, finished in the top ten 21 times, and placed third or runner-up three times

each. He coached Ames High's first Girls Cross Country Champion, Alienor Gilchrist, in 1993. He was twice honored as Iowa's Coach-of-the-Year, named Central Iowa Conference's Coach-of-the-Year seven times and Regional Coach-of-the-year 17 times. Upon his retirement in 2018, Ames High Athletics named the Ames Cross Country Invitational to the Kirk Schmaltz Invitation in his honor, and in 2020, the Ames Community Schools named it newly constructed cross country training course after Coach Schmaltz.

Schmaltz also had a remarkable run as the head coach of the Ames High Track and Field Team. The Little Cyclones qualified for the State Meet each of the 15 years he headed the program and were crowned District Champions five times. He was honored as the Regional Girls Track Coach-of-the-Year 11 times, the Iowa Central Coach-of-the-Year 3 times and was the National Federation of High School Girls Track and Field Regional and State Coach-of-the-Year in 2011. He continues his busy life-style in retirement. His wife, Rhonda, is a retired Ames High Business Education Teacher and a dedicated supporter of Ames High athletics. Their daughters, Stephanie, '00 and Katie, '02, participated in cross country, basketball, cheerleading, track and field, and softball during their years at Ames High.

Thomas Shakeshaft, '85, was the 2020 AHSAA Distinguished Alumnus, but was denied his due recognition because of the COVID-19 Pandemic cancellation a year ago. (Please refer to the December, 2000 AHSAA Newsletter for the great article by Tom Emmerson, '55.) Although Tom is being honored for his great legal contribution to society, his successful high school career was a busy one. He was on the honor roll every semester and earned six varsity letters—two each in football, basketball and baseball. During his senior year

2020-2021 Athletic Hall of Fame & Distinguished Alums *cont.*

he was captain of the varsity football and baseball teams. He was named to the Des Moines Register first-team All-Metro as quarterback in 1984 and received Honorable Mention All-State as an infielder in baseball in 1985.

Shakeshaft went to College at Dartmouth where he was a two-year letterman at quarterback and a third baseman in baseball. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1989 cum laude with a degree in History/Government. He then enrolled in the University of Iowa College of Law where he graduated with "High Distinction" in 1993. Tom began his professional career as a Law Clerk in the U. S. Court of Appeals in the Eighth Circuit in St. Paul, MN. In 2004, Tom became an Assistant Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office Northern District of Illinois in Chicago, a position he held until February, 2015.

The biggest challenge Tom Shakeshaft has faced in his professional career

can be summed up in two words: "El Chapo" (aka "Shorty"). Also known formally as Joaquin Eric Guzman. El Chapo (at 5' 6") was for 20 years the biggest name in the world of illicit drug manufacture and distribution. What Shakeshaft managed for starters was to "flip" two of Guzman's major cartel members based in Chicago, where Tom was an investigator and prosecutor for the U. S. Attorney's Northern District of Illinois. During that time Tom worked on a wide range of federal crimes, including racketeering, narcotics offenses, money laundering, public corruption, bank robbery as well as corporate investment and federal benefits fraud.

All that was kind of prep school for the biggest case of them all: The arrest and conviction in the USA of Guzman, 62, whose Sinaloa Cartel was described by the U. S. Intelligence Community as "The biggest, most powerful and most dangerous criminal organization of all time." Over the course of six years,

Shakeshaft investigated, indicted and prosecuted 62 members of El Chapo's cartel. (Of those, 58 were convicted in American custody. The other four are either fugitives or have been killed in Mexico.) Tom's dogged determination and legal skills culminated in El Chapo Guzman being found guilty in 2019 on all 10 charges and sentenced to "life, plus 30 additional years" in the nation's most maximum-security prison in rural Colorado. He was also ordered to pay a staggering \$ 12.6 billion in forfeiture.

Today, at age 53, Shakeshaft is operating a one-person law office in the Chicago suburbs while he contemplates his professional and personal future. He represents individual and company clients in white collar proceedings involving alleged wire and tax fraud and health care fraud; bank robbery; and complex civil matters in federal court.

Class of 1961 -- 60th Reunion

by Judy Warren Ellis, '61

The class of 1961, with fifty classmates from coast to coast attending, held their 60th class reunion on October 15-17. The weekend began with a joint get together with the class of 1960 at the ISU Scheman Building. Saturday's events began with a comprehensive bus tour of Ames including a close up view of the new high school. The tour was also shared by the two classes. That evening the class gathered at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center for a buffet dinner. The reunion concluded on Sunday with a lunch hosted by Gary and Sue Clem at their home – the perfect ending to a beautiful, colorful fall weekend.

As Bruce Woods ('61) said in an email, "It was good to have conversation time on Friday and Saturday because the first night included a lot of staring at name tags and recalling old memories. What it reminded me of were those times as a youngster you got to listen to grandparents tell stories about past family events. It was fun to trade stories with these special friends. There was a lot of emphasis on the "good stuff", and there were few complaints about medical issues, untimely deaths and other tragedies. Our class is not a bunch of whiners and complainers. They are made of sterner stuff and have overcome a lot in life,

accomplished a lot and lived well. I know if the class of 61's parents were observing, they'd still be proud of their kids!"

The reunion committee overcame many setbacks during the planning so a big thank you to the following people: Shirley Busch Tice, Gary Clem, Jim Bates, Darrell Spear, Dave Childs, Karen Vold Childs, Doug Samson, Paul Clark, Kent Cooper, Bill McGowan, and Judy Warren Ellis.

News about our Graduates



Rev. John Greve, '76,

Rector, Grace Episcopal Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa was featured on national news on September 6, 2021 for stepping in to help unpaid

workers from Texas who pitched in after the Derecho. You can find the whole story by googling "John Greve NBC Nightly News". (John's email is: John@cgraceepiscopal.org) The following email is from John regarding the story reported on NBC Nightly News:

Thanks to all of you for your response to the story on NBC last night. There are a couple of things I would like to add here. Wage theft is truly a pandemic among workers who are in "lower echelon" jobs or are from populations that some feel they can take advantage of, thinking they won't stand up for themselves for one reason or another. I was very happy that my little church could welcome those six workers with a warm, clean place to stay and a kitchen to keep them fed. This all happened last November (2020), so heat was an issue. The Carpenter's Union brought food, which I supplemented from a local pantry that I had been working with for several years, finding foods that they preferred. I cooked a meal for them, **Arroz con Pollo**, to extend our hospitality and try to help them feel at home as much as I could. They only had to stay for a week before the situation was resolved. (Note that they were paid ONLY after signing a non-disclosure agreement.) Only two spoke any English, but we all bonded and I have been in contact with them a couple of times since.

The part my church and I played was just one piece of a wide community response. These workers came to Iowa with promises of good wages, but they also came a thousand miles away to help Cedar Rapids recover from a terrible disaster. It made no sense that those who were here to help put our town back together were treated so poorly in return. Kudos to the Eastern Iowa Center or Worker Justice, the Carpenter's local, State Rep. Art Staed, Coralville Community Food Pantry, the Cedar

Rapids Gazette, and many concerned citizens that joined voices and resources to make sure that these workers were given their proper wages and expenses to return home!

Also, this story could have turned out very differently if those workers had not stood up for themselves, despite the language barriers and the distance from home. They are an inspiration! It was a "no-brainer" to help these guys out as much as I could and it seems a shame that it becomes national news when we simply do the right thing.



Sandra Q. Albertson Larson, '71

graduated from Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in biology in 1975 and then received a second degree in

civil engineering in 1988. Larson began her career in the area of bridge design structures. She has had a 29-year career of continuous advancement at the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), beginning in the bridge designing office. She worked her way up to the executive position, providing leadership to over 400 employees, a multimillion-dollar budget, a construction program, highway and bridge design and winter operations.

She has stayed involved with Iowa State University, serving on the Civil and Environmental Engineering External Advisory Council for 20 years. Larson initiated, supported and expanded the cooperative research relationship between Iowa State and the Iowa DOT. She is responsible for developing the Iowa DOT's loop intern program and opened the door for many Iowa State students to get real-life experience and post-graduate employment.

Larson has chaired and served on over 25 diverse national transportation research boards and was named the 2011 National Associate of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine. She has spent her entire professional engineering career finding ways to make transportation

safer and better. (Article courtesy of the Iowa State University Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering.) (Editor's note: Sandra was also the 1999 Ames High School Alumni Association Distinguished Alumna.)



Joel A. Cerwick's, '62

40-year career at Burns and McDonnell as an innovative and visionary leader started with a bachelor's degree in civil

engineering from Iowa State University in 1966. He went on to earn his master's in civil engineering from Iowa State in 1968. Early on, Cerwick established a reputation for developing creative engineering solutions to complex problems.

Cerwick is an expert on water and sewage projects and works with community and industry leaders to provide essential services to communities around the world. His most notable projects include designing a novel secondary wastewater treatment process call "Burns and McDonnell Treatment System." The National Society of Professional Engineers selected his design as one of the best engineering achievements of that year. His system was applied in Monterrey, Mexico, and was recognized with an Engineering Excellence Award by ACEC for its positive impact on public health. In addition, Cerwick was a key player in expanding Burns and McDonnell outside of Kansas City where he led the first office in expansion and continued to push. They now have over 55 offices worldwide. He was instrumental in forming the firm's first environmental division.

After retiring, Cerwick remains active in his commitment to help communities and citizens with basic needs like food, water and care. He is an active alumnus of Iowa State. Cerwick received the Anson Marston Medal for his professional achievement in engineering in 2016. (Article courtesy of the Iowa State University Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering.)

AHS leaves CIML league for more comparable competition

The 19-member Central Iowa Metropolitan (sports) League (CIML) is getting a major – albeit friendly -- divorce after a 31-year relationship. Effective in 2022, Ames and nine other CIML members are splitting off to create a new – as yet unnamed – conference. Besides the Little Cyclones, the new league includes Mason City, Fort Dodge, Marshalltown, Ottumwa and the five Des Moines public schools --East, North, Lincoln, Hoover and Roosevelt. They are being joined by Waterloo East, formerly of the Mississippi Valley Conference.

Nine, more-or-less, suburban teams remain in the CIML: Valley and Dowling Catholic both in west Des Moines along with Johnston, Urbandale, and Southeast Polk—along with two schools each in Ankeny & Ankeny Centennial and Waukee & newly opened Waukee North.

Why the split? Two over-arching reasons along with success: Size & Resources. That translates into ability to compete with certain schools whose communities have more athletes and more financial resources that people are willing to spend on sports activities almost for the entire K-12 age bracket. Basically, it's a matter of the “don't have as much” schools who feel they cannot compete successfully against those that “have more – or even much more.” This also explains why Waterloo East opted in as the Trojans have consistently ranked near or at the bottom of the Mississippi Valley Conference all-sports rankings.

For the other nine break-away schools, it was an easier decision than that facing Ames, which has been doing OK or better in the CIML. For Judge Johnston, who was athletic director at that time, along with AHS coaches and administrators, it was an agonizing situation. Some people close to the athletic program thought the Little Cyclones should stay in and play against “the big boys.” As one former coach put it, the split “stinks.” Others pointed out that Ames athletes had punched above their weight consistently in the CIML in boys' basketball, cross country, and, especially track. The AHS girls have dominated in swimming, track and cheer squad competitions and were better than solid in tennis. But there were

gaps in several areas and, as Johnston saw it, Ames was also getting beat up on the score board by the suburban schools. This was emphasized by Marshalltown's School Superintendent in a letter citing performances of the others against “suburban” schools over 5- years in seven sports (Including basketball and baseball). It showed that non-suburban schools had won only 16.5 percent of these contests (376 to 1,899).

Johnston also cited enrollment disparities as a factor in sports. In 2002 Ames had the 13th largest high school enrollment. Today – 19 years later – it's the 31st largest (with 1054). In the current CIML, Ames ranks 14th in size out of the 19 schools. Size of the talent pool depends even more on resources available to parents and supporters. Former longtime (34 years) Marshalltown baseball coach Steve Hanson has “very mixed emotions” about the split. He agrees that financial resources are a big advantage, but numbers are bigger. “I really disagree with the notion that going to an easier league will encourage more kids to participate,” he said, “because so many other influences pull at kids that are well out of their control.” For example, with Bobcat baseball, “If we lost a kid who wanted to get ready for basketball or football or get a job, we were likely unable to fill the void.” Suburban schools, on the other hand, “are two and three deep – so it's simply ‘next person in’.” *Many CIML schools, he added, “simply don't have a ‘next person’.” And that doesn't even count the financial costs a family incurs if their son or daughter wants to compete outside of school in AAU, select and competitive traveling club sports beginning as early as third grade.*

Bottom line: Judge Johnston says leaving was not an easy decision, but he feels the Little Cyclones had resources more akin to the Des Moines metro and the other outlying schools.

Johnston retired as AHS Director of Athletics this spring and is now development director for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Story County. His replacement is Lyle Fedders, whose new title is Activities Director, which encompasses, in addition to sports,

overseeing fine arts as well as 36 clubs and organizations. Fedders's responsibilities include managing budgets, coordinating activities, scheduling athletics, ensuring programs are operating within state and district policies and acting as a liaison between the district and the booster club, according to the Superintendent's office. (Tom Emmerson, '55)

What's in a New Name? Maybe not a Number

As for the name of the new conference, nothing has been determined. Initially, the favorite seemed to be the Big 10. But with the addition of Waterloo East, the search continues. (Note: The collegiate Big 12 currently has 10 members while the Big 10 has 16. So much for numerical names.) Maybe Central Iowa Conference (CIC) would work. For Ames High, it would complete a sports circle begun in 1927 with Boone, Grinnell, Marshalltown, Newton and Oskaloosa.

New Conference will be Ames's fifth in almost a century

Ames High first joined an athletic conference in 1925 – 96 years ago. That was the Central Iowa Conference (CIC), along with Boone, Grinnell, Marshalltown, Newton and Oskaloosa.

Some 41 years later – in 1968 – the Little Cyclones upgraded to the Big Eight Conference, which then also included Cedar Falls, Fort Dodge, Marshalltown, Mason City, Newton and Waterloo East and West.

The third stop – from 1983 to 1991 – was the 8-team Des Moines Metropolitan Conference (Ames replaced DM Tech) .

Eight years later (in 1991-92) the DMML disbanded and Ames joined a revised and expanded conference: the Central Iowa Metro League (CIML). Its membership was recently expanded from 17 to 19 schools operating in three divisions.

Reunion during a pandemic

by David Elbert, '65

The September reunion of our Ames High School Class of 1965 felt different. And it wasn't because it was an odd year – really, who has 56-year reunions – or because we are now as likely to meet old friends at the Ames Cemetery as at a tavern on Main Street. According to Jerry Litzel, our class obituary keeper, more than half as many of us died in the last six years as did during the first 50 years after graduation. For our class of 343, Jerry said 44 had died before our 50th reunion in 2015 and another 25 have passed since then.

One of my favorite memories from this reunion was overhearing Council Bluffs lawyer John Burns, who is actually from the class of 1964 but married to Barb Kalton of '65, and Grant Greene, a retired mechanical engineer from the Denver area, talk on Friday about how they had recognized each other earlier in the day while visiting family graves in the Ames Municipal Cemetery.

The following day, we gathered at Brian Anderson's farm east of Ames, where I confessed to Brian that I locate my parents' graves by lining up their headstones with the first house on Glendale Avenue, directly across from the cemetery. Glendale, Brian noted, is the street where he lived during high school.

Our class has gotten together at least once every 10 years since 1965. Our 50th reunion went so well we were planning a 55th for September 2020. But the pandemic intervened. Beginning in March of 2020, sporting events were cancelled and public entertainments ended. Weddings and funerals were postponed and most churches closed their doors. Businesses and schools searched desperately for online models to remain open.

The Bartender's Handshake, a watering hole near my home in Des Moines, switched to carry-out cocktails; friends who were afraid to meet face-to-face got creative and held Zoom cocktail parties.

During that frightful spring, our reunion committee decided to postpone our September reunion, a wise move because by fall Iowa was a top-10 COVID state. At the beginning, there were shortages of masks, testing

equipment and medical supplies, not to mention toilet paper and other near-necessities. The little political leadership that existed was horribly inconsistent and produced a lack of willingness to do what was needed.

Mask wearing and social distancing were proven strategies that had helped during the 1918 influenza pandemic and other health emergencies around the world. But somehow that didn't matter here. Somehow, face coverings became a political statement, and many refused to wear them. By now, more than 440,000 Iowans have gotten sick with COVID and more than 6,500 have died.



As 2020 ended, we became hopeful that a vaccine would soon be available and put the pandemic behind us. The vaccine rollout began in January, and my 73- and 74-year-old classmates were among the first to get it. We were the first generation to receive mandatory polio shots in the 1950s, and for most of us COVID vaccine was not an issue.

Our 10-person reunion committee was led by Jim Billings, Kathy (Burnet) Andre, Bob Best and Beth (Ward) Billings. We got shots in January and February and began thinking about re-scheduling our gathering for May or June. By then, we figured, Iowans would have quickly lined up and gotten shots, and things would be getting back to normal. But it didn't work out that way. By May, only 36 percent of all Iowans were fully vaccinated. The total increased to 49 percent by the end of June, and then slowly crept up to the mid-50 percent level, where it plateaued,

well below the desired level of 80-90 percent. Not even the arrival of the more dangerous Delta variant of COVID did much to move the needle. Our reunion committee punted on a June gathering, and we set Sept. 17-19 as the dates for our event.

Nothing got better during the summer. RAGBRAI, outdoor concerts and the Iowa State Fair fueled the spread of COVID, although it was difficult to know by how much because by then reporting and tracing standards had been lowered. What we did know by August was that most of the COVID spread was among the unvaccinated, who were still getting sick and dying in increasing numbers. But that wasn't us. We were vaccinated.

We went ahead with the reunion and discouraged attendance by unvaccinated classmates, although we did not require proof of vaccination. Also, we planned events that were held out of doors or in well ventilated spaces. We ended up attracting about 50 people, roughly half the number who had originally planned to come a year earlier. Most out-of-state classmates who had indicated earlier that they wanted to come, understandably, did not make the trip. But a handful did, including Grant Greene from Colorado, Brad Moses, a veterinarian from near Boston, Dean Small, also a veterinarian in the Kansas City area, and John and Linda (Hand) Dunleavy from South Dakota.

On Friday evening, John and Linda helped christen the party room at the new Homewood Golf Course clubhouse with a welcoming address that brought the Ames High Class of 1965 up to date on construction of the new high school that will open in 2022.

As I write this, a month after our reunion, I have not heard of any COVID issues associated with our gathering. Given the precautions we took, I'm hopeful there will be none. Classmates who attended covered the political spectrum, but there was very little talk of politics. As Jim Billings, our "Organizer-in-Chief" said: "They were great and really seemed to be having a good time."

(A version of this article appeared in Dave Elbert's "Elbert Files" column in the Oct. 8 issue of the Des Moines Business Record.)

Class of 1965 56th Reunion Sept. 17-19, 2021



Earnie Foshe
Jennifer Jo Carmean



Linda Hand Dunleavy
John Dunleavy



Kathryn Burnett Andre
Brad Moses



Steve Risdal
Steve Coe

Class of 1965 56th Reunion Sept. 17-19, 2021



**Dave Dickson, Dean Small
Nyle Nims, Bob Freidrich**



**Lana Greene, Beth Ward Billings,
Dave Elbert, Grant Greene, Amy Elbert**



**Pat Hussey Pendry
Sheryl Lenning Corwin**



**Barb Kalton Burns, Sheryl Lenning
Corwin, Mary Lange, Maggie Mulhall,
Jennifer Jo Carmean, Deanna Weiss
Kris Yeaman, Peggy Linder**



**Amy & Dave Elbert
Bob & Terri Friedrich
Barb & Jon Burns, Nyle Nims**



Ames High Class of 1970 Reunion



The Ames High School Class of 1970 celebrated their 50th class reunion the weekend of October 8-10, one year late for obvious reasons, with an informal get together at Sweet Caroline's, a tour of Ames High School and a dinner at Jethro's BBQ. It seems fitting, or perhaps prophetic, that there were seventy (70) members attending the weekend events.

AHS Class of 1973 Mini-Reunion



These 1973 Ames High graduates get together every two years in a different place "just to catch up"! Their August, 2021 gathering was in Bayfield, Wisconsin. **Picture:** Row 1: Jeff McCullough, Carolyn Hakes, Mark Berthelson; Row 2: King Block, Dave Hakes, Dick Carter; Row 3: Pete Voss, Bob Catus, Randy Wildman; Standing: Bryan Stucky and Barry Best. (Missing: David Warner)

Photo Caption Contest!



Official Contest Rules: (1) Only "Snail Mail"--postcard or letter--entries will be considered. Mail to: Picture Caption Contest, AHS Alumni Association, 1921 Ames High Drive, Ames, Iowa 50010. (2) All entries become the property of the selection committee. (3) Selection will be based on originality, morality and printability. Three prizes will be given: (1st) Choice of a three-year AHSAA membership or a 2020 AHSAA Directory. (2nd) A two-year AHSAA membership, and (3rd) A one-year AHSAA membership. The winners will be printed, and possibly pictured, in the April, 2022 Newsletter. (Identification of those pictured above is not required, but it may result in an additional bonus prize if correctly done? Members of the editorial staff and their kin are not eligible!)

Class of 1971 Class Reunion



A M E S H I G H S C H O O L
CLASS OF 1971 - 50 YEAR REUNION



The AHS Class of 1971 held their 50th reunion the weekend of September 17-18, 2021. Throughout the weekend over 100 classmates, plus several spouses, attended at least one of the events. Friday morning several classmates golfed at Veenker while others walked at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. That night we gathered at Brookside Park for a BYOB event.

On Saturday morning, we toured the high school one last time before it is torn down next spring. Bill Ripp led us on the tour providing much information and fun facts. For lunch we had a picnic at Moore Memorial Park catered by Hickory Park. Saturday night we had dinner at the Farmer's Daughters Event Center (owned and operated by Dean, '63 and Nancy Nims, '67 Hagen.) We took the class picture featured above and enjoyed a very delicious meal. Bill and Jane Ripp were our special guests. On Sunday morning we met at Inis Grove Park for a brunch catered by Hy-Vee. Several

classmates spent the beautiful afternoon at Alluvial enjoying a beer or two.

It was wonderful reconnecting with so many classmates. Everyone agreed our next reunion should be in 5 years rather than the customary ten. Many submitted their bios for a memory book that included addresses, email and Facebook contact. Printed copies were distributed to those in attendance, and email or printed copies were sent to others. We want to express our thanks to reunion committee members: Gloria Jones Erickson (chair), Peter Buck (treasurer), Pam Skarshaug Miller, Norma Hamilton Sandvick, Dorene Johnson Boyd, Cindy Wierson Howe and Gary McConnell.

Memories of growing up in Ames

I spent my pennies, nickels, dimes, and occasionally a quarter, at a small general store (don't remember the name) just east of Paul Townsend's house on old Highway 30 while attending Lincoln Elementary School. I started buying baseball cards in 1952. Bowman cards came one in a pack for a penny, and Topps had five cards, plus the Bazooka bubble gum which cost a nickel. I still have cards from back in the early 50s to this day. I've been liquidating as prices have appreciated in the last year. Hell of an investment!

(Dean J. Lange, '62)

Class of 1976 Class Reunion

by *Connie Martin Vaclav*

The Ames High School Class of 1976 met for a 45th class reunion on Friday, August 27th and Saturday, August 28th. Friday's venue was Torrent Brewing Company in downtown Ames and Saturday's gathering was at the Iowa Stater at Gateway Center. Both evenings were informal with ordering off the menus and just catching up with everyone's happenings. Smiles were big while talking of retirement and grandchildren, but not so big when talking about the past year's COVID experiences.

A big THANK YOU goes to Jyoti (Bal) Sargent for choosing the "When and Where" for the reunion and for sending out the word to all. Thank You also to Jami Simon for compiling the email list of classmates. And, Thank You to Marsha (Read) Olinghouse for bringing the wonderful poster boards of pictures from past reunions.

The members of the class of 1976, like all classes, have spread out across the world over the years. The approximately 40 people who attended were from near and far. Several classmates living in Ames only drove a few miles to attend. The longest trip from home was undertaken by Chuck Harmison who came from Australia. He had to apply for permission to leave Australia and agree to stay in the United States for 3 months and to quarantine before returning. Friday night everyone enjoyed talking with former Central Junior High teacher Jack Troeger. Great memories of geology and astronomy were enjoyed by Mr. Troeger and all. Fun to note, only 5 classmates have attended all the reunions that have been held over the years. For several people, this was the first one that they have missed. However, texts and photos were being instantly sent to many who could not attend so they too could try to put names to the faces that have changed a bit since graduation.

The next reunion for the class of 1976 will be the 50th. Memories of the state basketball champions, drama with Hank Hansen, and those red, white and blue graduation tassels and so many more will again be recalled and treasured by all!



Kirk Heer has fun "rabbit earing" Karen Allen Kerper, Jodi Tryon Stokke & Marilyn Schnormeier.



Frank Brady, Barb McVeigh Durby, Chuck Harmison and Jeff Owings.

From the Archives of the 1995 D.M. Register

“A very live poets society”, by Chuck Offenburger

Stacy Evans, a 9-year-old third-grader at Meeker Elementary School in Ames, is fascinated by dinosaurs and other early creatures. She also likes poetry. And, like any grade-school kid, she'd be thrilled at attention from a high school student. So, imagine little Stacy's excitement when she was paired with Becky Chacko, a 17-year-old Ames High School senior, in a wonderful poetry exchange program that English teacher Keith Carlson, 59, has taught each spring for six years.

Chacko wrote a series of short verses, just for the third-grader, called “Notes on a Future Paleontologist.” She not only wrote the poems for her young partner, she also laminated them, put them together in a handsome book, and then read them to her while the two sat together in a quiet school hallway here Thursday. Of course, Chacko had to explain a bit about the word “paleontologist” to start things out, but then she read her poems. One of the most fun:

*Where does the amoeba go,
With his single foot?
As long as it's away from me,
I don't give a hoot!*

The things the little folks write back to their special seniors are fun, too. “Sometimes those little third-graders write the darnedest thing,” said Carlson. Brandon Buzzell, 9, took the letters in the

last name of 18-year-old Ethan Olberding and used them to start nine lines of, uh, very free verse telling the senior's various interests:

*Outstanding party animal,
Lively Seinfeld fan,
Bodacious Boy Scout,
Eager eater of pizza and steak,
Radical computer operator,
Dynamic skier,
Inventive Lego builder'
Nifty APE to Meekerite BEAR,
Genius lawyer of the future.*

The “APE” stands for “Advanced Placement English,” the class the seniors are in, and since the big kids started calling themselves Apes, the Meeker third-graders declared themselves Bears. “The third-graders love it because they can't believe seniors would write poems just for them,” Carlson said. “The seniors love it because the third-graders are so cute.” The exchange fulfills a requirement that seniors write poems for a specific audience. Carlson waited to begin using it until he found an elementary teacher he thought would be as enthusiastic about it as he is.

“One fall we had a meeting of all English teachers in the school system to start off the year,” he said. Louise Larson made some presentation, and she did it not by just standing there in front of us but instead dancing all over and wearing a bunch of crazy hats. I knew right then

she was the one I wanted to work with. Larson, 48, teaches the Meeker third-graders. Because Carlson now has 40 advanced English students, the one-on-one exchange requires another third-grade class, too, so this spring it has been that of Kay Shever, 53.

The students all met for 20 minutes about a month ago, sat with the partners and quickly interviewed each other about their interests, hobbies and families. When they came back together last week to share their work, it was like a party, with crepe paper, cookies and lots of excited chatter. “They keep the books they prepare for each other, and sometimes we've had a senior get back together with his third-grader over the summer and write poetry together,” Carlson said.

Larson said her young students often come to school later with newspaper clippings of honors their special seniors receive. But the seniors may get the biggest kick out of it all, Carlson said. “Let's face it, there's a lot of kid left in teenagers, even in these busy, brilliant, and sophisticated 18-year-olds that I have,” he said. “They love to play around with the language, and some of these books they produce are so creative they ought to be published.” “Besides, it's neat if some third-grader thinks you're the greatest person in the whole world, even if you're not so sure about that yourself.”

Memories of growing up in Ames

I went to Roosevelt Elementary School. My home was on 13th Street which at that time was the edge of town. Our Neighbors were corn fields. When we were approaching the start of my kindergarten career, my mom devised a neat trick to teach me how to walk to school. She would give me 5 cents to buy a can of tomatoes from Chipman's Grocery on 9th Street. (Pause for a big sigh about how the price of food has gone up.) Well, her plan worked and I learned how to walk to school. I also learned that you could buy 5 pieces of

1 cent candy instead of a stupid can of tomatoes. Mom did not prepare me for the great shock of kindergarten. I thought I was the only little kid in the world, but once I left the cloakroom, I was startled to find there were other little kids in the world. We had roundtables to sit at for art time. I was at the “A” table....Arrasmith, Androy and Aides. The lesson I learned that day was that when another student asked you to do his drawing for him....I wasn't supposed to. That was just the first time I irritated Miss Highmark!

One of the kindergarten students was Bobby Carr. The first time I ever watched TV was at his house after school. His mom called my mom to make arrangements. I was thrilled! I got to see Captain Video and the Video Rangers. When I left for home, I thanked Bobby for inviting me. He shrugged and told me him mom called the wrong Sue. He wanted her to invite Sue Ethington, not me. That served as a life lesson for me.

(Mary Sue Arrasmith Brown, '62—
Requiescat in Pace!)

Memorials

In memory of: **Penny E. Sheeler, '65**
By: Pamela Young Kasperbauer, '65

In memory of: **Donna Fae Schepers, Staff**
By: Jerrold L. Swenson, Staff

In memory of: **William E. Draisey, '61**
By: J. Paul Clark, '61

In memory of: **1959 Deceased Classmates**
By: Richard N. Tarman, '59

In memory of: **1967 Deceased Classmates**
By: Kathryn Kropf Watts, '67

In memory of: **Stephan Paul Soesbe, '63**
By: Jerrold W. Soesbe, '56

In memory of: **John F. Sylvester, '57**
By: Robert "Bob" Callahan, '57

In memory of: **1958 Deceased Classmates**
By: Mary Lou Bryan, '58

In memory of: **Nancy Houge Hadaway, '68**
By: Karen K. Haines, '58

** In honor of: **AHS Class of 1960**
By: Judith Sawyer Davis, '60

In memory of: **Craig Thomas Potts, '65**
By: Carolyn J. Bliss, '65

In memory of: **1974 Deceased Classmates**
By: Nancy Sassaman Lott, '74

In memory of: **Stephan Paul Soesbe, '63**
By: Jack M. "Mike" McGuire, '63
Molly McGuire Warner, '61

In memory of: **Elaine Griffith Arney, '50**
By: Roberta Gillpatrick
McRoberts, '50

In memory of: **Arthur F. Schanke, '50**
By: John H. Brayton, '50

In memory of: **Robert L. Walkup, '55**
By: David Lee Rex, '55

In memory of: **E. Robert "Bob" Fitz, '46**
By: Diane Fitz Lozovoy, '70

In memory of: **John O. Sletten, Staff**
By: Keith O. Bailey, Staff

In memory of: **Gary Eugene Carr, '50**
By: Thomas W. Arthur, '61

In memory of: **Shirley Patricia Norton, '72**
Cynthia Dahl Barton, '72
By: Karen Burke Buriamek, '72

In memory of: **Frank E. Ferguson, '45**
Mary Jean Bond Tilden, '45
William David Ohlsen, '50
By: Anita Ohlsen Wald-Tuttle, '45

In memory of: **Norman "Satch" Eckard, '61**
By: Mark E. Watson, '61

In memory of: **David R. Erickson, '70**
** In honor of: **William C. Ripp, Staff**
By: Diane Erickson Davison, '67

In memory of: **John L. Timmons, '64**
By: Len A. Thiede, Staff

In memory of: **Lionel C. "Chick" Arnold, '50**
By: John H. Brayton, '50

In memory of: **Douglas Bruce Rogers, '59**
By: Malinda Hawkins Wiesner, '59

In memory of: **Marilyn Lewis Tjelmeland, '65**
By: Joan "Joni" Brown Irvin, '65

In honor/memory of: **The Archie Wierson Family**
By: Sheila Wierson Liston, '66

In memory of: **James Allen Adams, '60**
Dale Curtiss Rouze, '60
Blaine G. Zenor, '60
By: Richard D. Allen, '60



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 Death	City, State	Class	Name	Date of Death	City, State
1939	Morrison, Florence Jane (Mitchell)	d.9-5-2021	Cresco IA	1965	Smith, Michael George	d.8-3-2021	Urbandale IA
1945	Harris, Phyllis Irene (Thompson)	d.9-16-2020	Ames IA	1965	Baldner, Douglas Edward	d.3-9-2020	Springfield MO
1946	Hotchkiss, Donald K.	d.5-24-2021	Ames IA	1967	Owings, Dennis Eugene	d.8-21-2021	Kenosha WI
1946	Honsinger, Marilyn Anne (Mueller)	d.8-6-2021	Ames IA	1970	Grimes, Judith Ellen (Jeska)	d.4-3-2020	Suffolk VA
1950	Arnold, Lionel Charles	d.8-4-2021	Columbia SC	1970	Raveling, Mary Elizabeth (Littlehale)	d.8-9-2015	Cherokee IA
1950	Ohlsen, William David	d.8-9-2021	Salt Lake City UT	1972	Kruse, Terri Lynn (Irwin)	d.1-30-2021	Shenandoah IA
1950	Schanche, Arthur Farnham	d.8-8-2021	Los Angeles CA	1973	Rice, Katherine Faith (Rozeboom)	d.12-29-2018	Ames IA
1952	Gilbert, Charles	d.10-9-2021	Ames IA	1974	Huisman, Julie Ann (Landon)	d.7-23-2001	Ames IA
1954	Anderson, John Ernest	d.3-12-2020	Manhattan Beach CA	1969	Abbe, Toni Ellen (Cantonwine)	d.8-11-2020	Ames IA
1954	Farry, Mary Ellen 'Jill' (Anderson)	d.5-19-2021	Collegeville MN	1978	Wilson, Susan Marie (Junk)	d.9-23-2021	Greensboro NC
1954	Crawford, Barbara (Martin)	d.10-20-2021	Waterloo IA	1980	Gerstein, Mark Steven	d.2-27-2021	Ames IA
1956	Childs, Dean Bingham 'Bing'	d.10-7-2021	Sequim WA	1980	Ellis, Charles Duane	d.7-6-2021	Nevada IA
1956	McComb, John Andrew	d.9-28-2021	Arlington VA	1980	Ostermann, Susan Marie	d.2-12-2021	Houston TX
1956	Spear, Larry Dean	d.9-9-2021	Ames IA	1982	Clark, Brett Curtis	d.8-10-2021	Aventura FL
1957	Hansen, Edward C.	d.8-14-2021	Amherst MA	1981	Manatt, Joel Price	d.1-26-2021	Phoenix AZ
1958	Erickson, Barbara Jean	d.9-20-2021	Ames IA	1987	Rust, Eric Peter	d.7-30-2021	Ames IA
1959	Hurley, Patricia Ann (Trow)	d.9-12-2021	Des Moines IA	2006	Kincart, Emily Christine	d.10-15-2021	Ames IA
1960	Bargfield, Edward H. 1964	d.5-28-2021	Gatesville TX	2008	Bazylnski, Gram Patrick	d.9-27-2021	Ames IA
1961	Draisey, William Edward	d.7-28-2021	Carroll IA	2015	Glenn, Joseph Hade	d.8-25-2021	Salt Lake City UT
1962	Brown, Mary Sue (Arrasmith)	d.8-11-2021	Ames IA	Staff	Schepers, Donna Fae (Beck)	d.7-4-2021	Johnston IA
1964	Timmons, John Langdon	d.2-16-2021	Ames IA				

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 - \$10.00 2 years - \$18.00 3 years - \$25.00
Outside the USA: 1 year - \$20.00 2 years - \$36.00 3 years - \$50.00
 Additional Donation enclosed: \$ _____
 Memorial enclosed: \$ _____
 In memory of: _____
 In honor 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 AHAA (special events, newsletter ideas, anything): _____

AHSAA Christmas/Holiday Directory Special!



For the month of December, 2021 only, let the AHSAA help you with your holiday shopping. For **\$ 20.00**, a savings of \$ 5.00 since we will pick up the postage and handling charge, we will mail it for you to your designated recipient. Of course, you may buy it for yourself for the same special price. If it is a gift, we will enclose a gift card for you. This is a limited offer, so on January 1, 2022, the price returns to \$ 25.00.

Mail to: _____

Courtesy of: _____

AHSAA Calendar

2021-22 AHSAA Monthly Meetings:

December 21	January 18
February 15	March 15

2022 Class Reunions:

June 24-25	Class of 1981 – 41st Reunion
Sept. 23-24	Class of 1966 – 56th Reunion

2021 All-Classes December Social:

Looks doubtful, but consult our website for any definite plans or information.

Note: Please check the last number above your name! If it is 2021, your membership expires with this issue. Your early renewal will be greatly appreciated.

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 \$10.00 for 1 year, \$18.00 for two years, \$25.00 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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