

Over 160 enjoy 5-class reunion Saturday and Sunday

by Justine Weatherford

Over one-hundred sixty guests, including two former teachers, Juanita (Leathers) Carmichael and Madge (Coppock) Thomson, had a wonderful time at the reunion activities arranged by members of the five classes who attended Heppner High School from 1934 through 1939. Kay (Furlong) Anderson and LaVerne Van Marter chaired the large local committee which implemented the successful affair.

The reunion's official events began with much joyful visiting at the Elks Club on Saturday evening. Many guests from Hawaii, California, Washington and Oregon signed the guest book. Bill Baratt served as master of ceremonies and Marjorie (Parker) Hill delighted everyone with her lively piano music.

Four lucky guests were presented Morrow County Courthouse plates as door prizes. The before-dinner

invocation was spoken by graduate Rev. Joe Stephens. The prime rib meal was declared delicious. M.C. Barratt carried on an interesting and very informal program based on some preparations made by Irene (Beamer) Anhorn. Some of the ideal girls and ideal boys who were listed in old Hebisches who were present were introduced and an attempt was made to see if they still possessed the qualities which marked them for popularity in their school days.

Many pictures were taken during the evening. Those present thoughtfully signed a "best wishes" card which was taken to their early teacher Edna (Carmichael) Turner who is now a resident of the Hospital Nursing Home here and who was unable to attend. Ed Dick read a listing of deceased members of the five classes. At the close of the dinner period Rev. Stephens gave the benediction.

Everyone greatly enjoyed the nostalgic display of letters from those classmates who could not attend and old pictures and news clippings which were arranged by Lorena (Wilson) and Floyd Jones.

Visiting continued into the evening while many enjoyed dancing or just listening to live music of the 1930's and 1940's delightfully played for them by Ione's Gene Rietmann and his musical group.

The Sunday morning brunch brought most of the same enthusiastic crowd together, plus Margaret Sprinkles, at the Elks Club for a wonderful meal presented to them by the children of the graduates who live in this area. Sheridan (Wyman) Tarnasky led the committee of second-generation members who made all the arrangements for the brunch and who introduced themselves and identified their proud parents.

During the morning M.C. Barratt asked how many present had been delivered by Dr. Archie McMurdo, and about half the crowd raised their hands. When asked how many had been pupils of Juanita Carmichael about as many lifted hands. A few less indicated they had been in the business classes at the high school which were taught by Madge Thomson.

Marjorie Hill played piano while former school vocal teacher, Juanita Carmichael, led group singing of "Memories." An old high school yell led by cheer leaders, Frances Rugg Brown, Margaret Sprinkles and Ed Dick. Before the morning ended Scott McMurdo rose to propose that the same group reunion here again in 1985.

Mrs. Carmichael and Mrs. Hill led the singing of "God Bless America" to bring the curtain down on the two-day, very successful, five-class reunion of August 2 and 3.



photo by Forrie Burkenbine

Guests enjoy prime rib banquet Saturday night.

A dance was held following the dinner

Old high school pic identified

July 24, the Gazette-Times carried a front page picture of Heppner High students of the 1930's. Many people have asked for help with the identification of those pictured.

Lorena Wilson Jones and Madge Coppock Thomson have now provided a listing of the student's names row by row, and the picture with the lists of names will be on view at the Turner, Van Marter and Bryant Insurance office on Main Street.

The ladies were not able to give the married names of all the girl students so in some cases only maiden names are listed.

Hubel, Pendleton; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sinclair, Gresham; Nonie (McLaughlin) Pointer, Pendleton; Louis and Jean Gilliam, Condon; Arthur and Margaret (Browning) Wright, Pendleton; Owen and Katherine Bleakmann, Baker; Paul and Helen Pettyjohn, Ione; Louise (McFerrin) and Bryce Keene, Ione; Margaret (Farley and Frank Monohan, Condon; James and Betty Shoun, Pendleton; Mary Daly Doherty, Lexington; Norma (Blahm) Peterson, Portland; Pat and Helen Wolfe, Salem; Mr. and Mrs. Matt Kenny, Milwaukie; Jim and Lola (Coxen) Candland, Hermiston and Frances (Rugg) and Marcus Brown, Hermiston.

Heinricks, Ilene (Kilkenny) Laughlin, Lorena (Wilson) and Floyd Jones, Howard and Ruth Cleveland, Ed Dick, Raymond "Bud" and Harriet Batty, Merlyn (Kirk) Robinson, Maude (Bailey) Hughes, Juanita (Leathers) Carmichael, Irene (Beamer) Anhorn, Kathryn (Parker) and Fred Hoskins, Edna (Crump) and Harold K. Peck, Francis Healy, Madge (Coppock) and Jim Thomson, Louise (Anderson) and Jim Farley, Beth (Vance) and Howard Bryant, Cal (Daly) Healy, Maury Groves, Jack and Gwen Healy, Jerry (Casteel) Doherty, Dee (Ulrich) Sather, Bill Ulrich, Riley and Bebe Munkers, Dick and Ginger Wilkinson and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Brown.

Others attended one or both gatherings but did not sign the guest book.

The Heppner folks who attended and served as hosts included: LaVerne Van Marter, Bethal (Blake) and Paul

AROUND ABOUT

With Justine Weatherford

Well here we are already a week into August, the month that the calendar-reforming Romans named after their Emperor Augustus.

This is the month when celestial fireworks, a meteor shower, comes on the 10th, 11th and 12th. This shower of night lights is slated to spray outward like the spokes of an umbrella. After midnight they are expected to be directly over head "at the zenith of the heavens." I'm planning on setting my alarm for 2 a.m. and trying to take in the blazing show from outer space.

Last weekend's big, five-class, Heppner High reunion certainly brought lots of pleasure to those who gathered together Saturday night and Sunday forenoon at the Elks Club. Some got in some extra conviviality on Friday night. "Wonderful", "the greatest", "Most delightful" people are saying. The organizing committee worked beautifully; Bill Barratt, a super master of ceremonies, had everyone in a great mood which was enhanced by the delightful, "Liberace-like" piano music by Marjorie Parker Hill.

Many citizens will be interested to know that Bill came here directly from a very special gathering at Soap Lake, Washington. Family and friends of his father, former county judge Garnett Barratt, were gathered to celebrate on the occasion of Garnett's 80th birthday.

Only two, now retired, teachers attended the reunion—Juanita Leathers Carmichael and Madge Coppock Thomson. A most interesting display of letters received from classmates unable to attend, of pictures and news clippings, was arranged by classmate Lorea Wilson Jones, a recently-retired Heppner teacher.

Just a day before the big reunion a nice letter arrived from Daly City, California G-T reader William "Ole" Mitchell, regarding a suggestion made in this column on July 17 when the article about Rachel Harnett appeared. We asked that persons interested in reading stories about some of the county's remarkable citizens let us hear their nominations. Mr. Mitchell, who was an early pupil of Juanita Leathers at the small Pleasant Point School on Little Butter Creek states that she was an outstanding teacher whose story needs telling.

Mitchell's letter reminds us what important persons teachers are. We think of quite a few 1920-1930's teachers here Juanita whose stories would be interesting reading. Many lives were greatly influenced by Edna Turner, Della Scrivner, Lena Kelly, Marguerite Glavey, Velva Becholdt, Ila Alberts, Madge Thomson and others who are fortunately still within our reach.

Isn't it good to see construction activity taking place on Heppner's thoroughfares. The Skows' future recreational vehicle space across from their motel is being leveled, and some preliminary work is being done toward widening of the bridge leading to the courthouse.

By now most of us have examined the 1980 Fair and Rodeo premium book and have noted several errors. To mention a few from page 36, Dept. VII, Flower Show—Norma, not Norman, Rea is one of the superintendents. Under premiums—no plant will be donated by Barb's Plant Seller which discontinued business here last spring when Barbara James moved to Milton-Freewater. Also the championship trophy for this year will be given by the Ione Garden Club; the Heppner Club gave the top prize last year—the two garden clubs alternate in giving this prize.

It is good to see Paul Hisler and Floyd Jones Honored on the book's front page because of their many years of dedicated service. Some of us wish a little more might have been written about these two retiring gentlemen.

It is good to see the bright, street-crossing banners reminding folks that the Fair and Rodeo are really coming—very soon. We note that for some years the north county had its own fair. How good it is to have all the county united in the event here each August. With representatives from each community and the many rural areas serving on the various boards and committees, the annual fair is such a unifying county event.

The weekend of July 26 and 27, I made my first trip to Caldwell, Idaho, accompanied by cheerful fellow-traveler Ida Farra. What a great highway big 84 is. It is hard to stay near the 55 mph limit. The Ontario-Payette-Caldwell area looked prosperous and very busy just now.

A stop at St. Anthony's Hospital on our route home on hot, Monday afternoon, July 27, showed us that Ella Smith was recovering from her recent surgery. (She came back to Heppner, Sunday afternoon, August 3, to stay in the home of dear friend Della McCurdy for further recovery.) Jack Loyd told us he was being moved to the Hiersche's Nursing Home where he is now gaining more strength and learning to use his rebuilt hip. He is eager to return to his Gilmore Street home. Dee Crist had a brief stay at St. Anthony's also, last week, where she had some eye surgery. She is now back home and being cared for by husband Winn.

Our traveling was interesting but we missed the good Saturday Sidewalk Sale and got home too tired to attend the Monday Night circus which my very, young neighbors Kimberly and Jody Johnston tell me was great.

It seems like right after the Fair and Rodeo, school activities will begin. Teachers will be getting settled, and high school football practice will get underway. How quickly summer ends.

Many sign guest book

Those who signed the guest book at last weekend's reunion included Doris and Chet Christensen from Kailua, Hawaii, and the following from California: Dean Goodman, San Francisco; Ersey and Hubert Hudson, Arcata; LeMoine and Kathy Cox, San Diego; Gloria and Bernard McMurdo, Danville; Don and Shirley Drake, Stockton and Ilene Richards, McKinleyville.

From Washington State came Mr. and Mrs. Bill Furlong, Bremerton; Nina (Cox) Denton, Bremerton; Dorothy and Steve Wehmeyer, Puyallup; Rev. Joe and Alice Stephens, Pullman; Ethyl (Hughes) and Jim Furlong, Port Orchard; Elsie (Crump) and Fred Langis, Walla Walla; Jean (Adkins) and Wells Labberton, Seattle; Bill and Bonnie Barratt, Spokane, and Emery and Marian Coxen, Spokane.

From various Oregon Communities, excepting Heppner, were: Richard and Adele Hayes, Hillsboro; Ken and Betty Farset, Springfield; Charles and Jennie (Swendig) Houston, Redmond; Evelyn (Kirk) Broun, Hermiston; Scott and June McMurdo, Corvallis; Marvin and Ruth Ann Casebeer, Prairie City; Vernon Knowles, Hermiston; Emmett Kenny, Pendleton; Harriet (Hager) and Clayton Shaw, Corvallis; Dora (Bailey) and Jack Parsons, King City; Francis "Dick" Bailey and Dorothy, Tigard; John S. Crawford, Portland; Bob Scrivner, Portland; Ruth (Green) and Omer McCaleb, Portland; Joe B. and Nancy Green, Pendleton; Alice (McRoberts) Wagner, Hermiston; Roseanna (Farley) Applegate, Hood River; Katherine (Healy) Burchell, Corvallis; Marjorie (Parker) Hill, Portland; Hazel and Bill

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