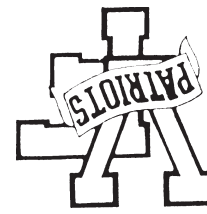




Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

Tuesday, October 15th at Valley Forge.

The next Alumni Association meeting will be



Game starts at 7:30. The Alumni Association will be selling Alumni T-shirts!

on Friday, September 27th against Shaw High School.

Homecoming Football Game

Show your pride and join us for the

Valley Forge Alumni Association
Halle Dawson, Communications
9500 Madison Lane
North Royalton, OH 44133



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Patriot Hometown Happenings

A newsletter designed for Valley Forge High School Alumni
Fall 2002

Volume 6, Number 2



At the last meeting... by Halle (Magpoc) Dawson '89

July's meeting took place at the Ground Round in Parma. We had the biggest turnout ever! Those present were: Lydia (Grafinger) Bozeman '64, Linda (Weiler) Thompson '64, Carol Crowe '65, Russ Fisher '70, Catherine (Anelli) Solomon '73, Alan Rudolph '88, Halle (Magpoc) Dawson '89, Brenna (Smith) Grimm '89, Missy Schabel '89, Scott Stitt '91, Thomas Hanchuk '92, Jessica Henry '92, Janet (McGee) Messinger '92, and Christy (Sattler) Chapple '92. We were very excited to meet the author of VF's alma mater, Lydia Bozeman. Once again, we discussed many new ways to get the alumni association more noticed. Decisions were made about the Hall of Fame Committee, new ideas for the newsletter and a T-shirt fundraiser. We also discussed benefits for being a member of the alumni association. We also decided to enlist help from Frank Petersen '88 about getting a website together. We will try to work on this over the next year. After the meeting, a few of us stuck around to help the Class of '92 plan their upcoming reunion.

Alumnus in the Spotlight:

Lydia (Grafinger) Bozeman '64

by Halle (Magpoc) Dawson '89

Picture this - It's 1961 and you are a sophomore at a brand new state-of-art high school. What would you be doing? Hanging out with friends? Riding your bike around the neighborhood? Not Lydia Grafinger. She accepted her favorite English teacher, Mr. Dunford's challenge and entered a contest to write the Alma Mater. What did she win? Absolutely nothing - except the recognition of over 36,000 graduates of Valley Forge.

Lydia never dreamed that her words would ever be chosen. She remembers that one day, Mr. Dunford walked into the room and played the song, "How Can I Leave Thee" and told the class to write the words. She spend about two weeks coming up the exact words. She wrote it, revised it, shared it with her parents, revised it again and then finally it was finished. Lydia can't remember the exact moment when she got called out of class and was told her words won, but she does recall the feeling of excitement and joy.

On behalf of all the Valley Forge graduates, I want to thank you, Lydia, for your creative words that will always live at Valley Forge.

NEXT MEETING

The next Alumni Association meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 15th** at **7:00 pm** at **Valley Forge** usually Room 106.

We had a great turnout last time. Let's keep it going!



Class Notes



1967

Ron High was promoted to director of photography on the TV Show, "7th Heaven" for the W.B. Network.

David G. Sellman moved to Jamestown, NC and was recently hired as Facilities/Building Operations Manager for Jefferson Pilot Financial. He was married 30 years on August 26 and celebrated with a 7 day cruise to the Eastern Carribean. His two sons were married this year: Gregory, age 27, Computer Engineer/Scientist with IBM in Raleigh, NC-married April 20th and Christopher, age 24, Accountant with Smith, Kesler in Raleigh, NC-married August 10th.

1968

Cathy Gradine left the hotel/food & beverage industry after 20 years in June 1998. She is now an administrative assistant at Service Master FL/GA Regional office in Fort Lauderdale. She left Chicago in 1984 (after moving there in Sept. 1968) and spent 11 years in North and South Carolina. Her sister Rosemary (Gradine) Lewis (1966) retired after 30 years in the Michigan school system to Orlando with her husband.

1977

Joyce (Lehnhardt) Weaver is working in health and nutrition again (after a 6 year hiatus being a stay-at-home mom) as a Juice Plus+ distributor, www.juiceplus.com /tjw46287. Her husband, Royce makes wood bowls, lamps, clocks, etc. They are just getting his website going; www.royceweaver.com. Their daughter, Elli, is going into 3rd grade. Royce's daughter,

Wendy and husband, Tom have two daughters, Kyleight (4) and Emma (1).

1979

Joseph Keller was promoted to Commander in the U.S. Marine Reserve in March 2002. When he is not "drilling" as a Commanding Officer in Indianapolis, he is selling real estate with Realty One's North Royalton office.

MarZaleen (Kerr) Fazekas and husband Joseph (Holy Name '75) are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Jamie Rose on July 15, 2002. Joseph was also recently appointed the Seven Hill Recreation Manager.

1989

Shannon (Day) Bak and family welcomed a new baby boy, Logan Shepherd on May 28, 2002 arriving at 3:43 pm weighing 7 1/2 pounds and 20 1/2 inches.



Melissa (Denn) Garrett has been an accounting manager for Cleveland Tankers, a company that owns and operates 2 tankers that sail on the Great Lakes for the past 3 1/2 years. Her husband of 1 1/2 years is a Chief Engineer on one of the vessels. They just purchased their first home together in Parma. They don't have any children together, but Melissa does have a stepson, Alex, that resides in Michigan with his mom. Alex comes and stays with them in Cleveland when his dad is home from his tour. Attending school in the winter and playing softball in the summer.

Curtis Johnson is the National Project Manager for a software implementation team for ADP (Automatic Data Processing - the paycheck people). He was married to Donnita Barrington, a native Alabamian in November 2001. They reside in Alpharetta, GA, a northern suburb of Atlanta.

Sharon (Kissel) Schnaterbeck has been married for 7 years and is a part-time coordinator for "Parfums Givenchy". They have 3 girls; Hannah, 6, Gabrielle, 4 and Madelyn 1 1/2.

Lisa (Minarchick) Solomon is currently a homemaker residing in Carmel, IN with her husband, David. They have been married for 6 years and have a 3 1/2 year old daughter, Rachel Ann, and an 18 month old son, David Jack. She welcomes emails at dsolomon14@msn.com.

Kristyn (Nagy) Strohmenger is working at Marymount Hospital as a Surgical Scrub Nurse. She was married to John, who is an electrical engineer for Rockwell Automation in 1995. They have two beautiful children, Taylor Marie (4) and Shane David (1) and reside in Strongsville, OH. You can email her at kstrohs@yahoo.com.

Thank you for all your submissions. Compiled by Halle Dawson. I apologize for any errors. To add your submission, email me at halled@hotmail.com or mail to: 9500 Madison Lane • North Royalton, OH 44133



Reunions, Reunions, Reunions!

To post your reunion information, please contact halled@hotmail.com or call 440-582-3409.



CLASS OF 1973

The Class of 1973 is planning their reunion for September 27, 2003. Please contact Cathy (Anelli) Solomon for more details. Home: (440) 779-5049 or Cell: (440) 336-0681.

CLASS OF 1992

The Class of 1992 will be having their 10 year reunion on Friday, November 29, 2002. Please contact Janet (McGee) Messinger at mess@en.com or (440) 427-9595 for more details.

VF Hall of Fame Induction - Postponed But Not Forgotten

by Brenna (Smith) Grimm '89

Many of you may remember flyers in previous newsletters asking for nominations of deserving VF Alumni to be inducted into the VF Hall of Fame. Some of you may have even sent in nominations. Over the last two years, several factors have prevented the VF Alumni Association from being able to fairly evaluate and choose the next inductees. We are finally ready to put the plans in place for the next VF Hall of Fame Induction which we have tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2003. In order to make the process as smooth and fair as possible, we will be creating a scoring system to evaluate the nominations and narrow down the candidates. The qualifications of the remaining candidates will be presented to the VF Alumni Association and a vote will determine which candidate(s) will take part in the next VF Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Letters will be sent to those who have previously made a nomination requesting information to be resubmitted in a standard format. New nominations will also be accepted. Look for nomination forms and more complete details in the next newsletter.

We want to hear from you!

Your classmates would like to know what is happening with you! It doesn't matter if you have a fancy job or a glamorous lifestyle. Any information about marriages, births, careers, etc. can be published in this newsletter. Also, you may write articles about past or future class reunions, an interesting alumnus, anything you wish that is related to Valley Forge High School. Feel free to include photos too!

Name _____ Maiden _____ Graduation Year _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Use this space provided to let us know what's happening: _____

Mail responses to: Halle Dawson, 9500 Madison Lane, North Royalton, OH 44133 or e-mail to halled@hotmail.com.

Parma Alumni Marching Band Wants You!

The Parma Alumni Marching band has been performing since December 1999 and is comprised of graduates of Valley Forge, Parma, and Normandy. Their next performance will be the annual Christmas Concert at the Parma Community Center in December. For anyone interested in participating, please contact Darryl Tinay at (440) 842-4738 or darryltinay@aol.com.



Photo was taken after the July 4th parade.