



# Patriot Hometown Happenings



A Newsletter Designed Especially for Valley Forge High School Alumni

Winter 2005

Vol. 9, No. 1

## From The President

Greeting Patriots! Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with many memories of enjoyable family times as well as renewing friendships. I always take this season to connect with friends I haven't talked to for a while. Whether it's through lunch dates, phone calls or simply emails, I hope everyone had a chance to discover some old times while creating new ones.



For 2005, your alumni association has decided on some new goals. Of course, we will always continue to expand our database of 6100 names and addresses. This expansion also brings the need to raise funds. Each time the newsletter is mailed out, it cost approximately \$1500. Because of this expense, the VF AA will only be mailing a newsletter once a year in the fall. There will still be three other issues created, but they will be posted on our website ([www.vfalumni.org](http://www.vfalumni.org)). Hopefully, by our next fall issue, members will be able to purchase subscriptions if they desire.

## Notice

Nominations for officers will be taken at the January 18th meeting and elections held at the April 19th meeting.

Also, fundraising opportunities will be taking place throughout the year in various places around the community. Tax deductible donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated any time of the year. Businesses of graduates can also purchase advertising space this year in our newsletter. There are many local businesses of all types owned by VF graduates, so why not patronize fellow alumnae.

It saddens me to say this, but I will not be accepting any nominations to remain as President. My life demands are pulling me in different directions to concentrate on family, career, and spiritual growth. I do plan to stay involved in the VF AA, but on a smaller scale. The Valley Forge alumni association has just begin to blossom, now it is time for someone else to water and nurture it. Nominations for officers will take place in January and elections will be in April. Perhaps this is a perfect opportunity for someone reading this.

Our next meeting is January 18, 2005 at Valley Fore in room 106 beginning at 7pm. I hope to see some new faces!

Patriotically yours,

Halle (Magpoc) Dawson '89

## 2004-5 Officers

### President

Halle (Magpoc) Dawson - '89

### Vice President

Russ Fischer - '70

### Secretary

Linda (Reik) Brown - '65

### Treasurer

Cathy (Anelli) Solomon - '73

## Treasurer's Report

Cathy Anielli Solomon

Money On Hand:	\$1661.10
Expenses:	
October Newsletter	\$1560.00
Money In Trust for Class Reunions:	\$9,431.19

Please remember we are a non-profit organization and we exist only by donations. As you plan your reunions, call me or Halle for our tax ID number.

## 2004 Donors List

Kitty Lazar  
Patricia Hageman  
Cathy Solomon  
Halle Dawson  
Suanne Crawford

Thank You!





## Class Notes

Send us your information and let us know how you or your family is doing. Need to share a special accomplishment or event? This is the place!

### 1971

**David Chrien** checked in from Shaker Hts. He is still ice skating and took 3rd place last April in the US Adult National Championship in Lake Placid in Gold Dance Division. Daughter Lauren started at Miami University. She is involved in ice dancing also (gold medalist).  
davidc@sseqco.com

### 1986

**Todd White** lives in Euclid and works as a Senior Programmer/Analyst with Progressive Insurance. He plays Baritone Saxophone with 2 Big Bands: The Joe Mayer Orchestra of Euclid, and the Townsmen Orchestra of Cleveland. He has a collection of 12 saxophones that range from the tiny Eb Soprano to the huge Bb Bass. He also does some studio work. He is married to Elizabeth German-White. Contact him at tawhite@sbcglobal.net.

**Brett White** (Todd's twin brother) also works at Progressive Insurance as a Senior Programmer/Analyst. He is married to Teresa White and has 2 sons (Brett II and Evan).

## How Can You Help ?

- **Buy advertising:** For \$25/yr, we will place your business card in our newsletters and all pamphlets we hand out at the class reunions, VF events and community events.
- **Donate Funds for Scholarships:** We awarded \$500 scholarships in the past. We hope to do this again this spring with an eye towards increasing the amount or the number of scholarships awarded in the future.
- **Fundraising:** Suggest fundraising strategies and/or be ready to jump in and help implement one.
- **Attend Meetings:** Help us make decisions that will shape the future of the Association as well as socialize with other alumni.

## Looking for Baseball Alumni

Jon Komar, a teacher, head baseball coach and football coach currently at VF is trying to start a grass roots effort for any Baseball Alumni or any alumni interested in learning more about what is going on in VF Baseball. His email, the best way to contact him, is jonk@wowway.com. You may also leave a message at 440-885-2366. Any information or help would be greatly appreciated.

## Reflections

### Highlighting Senior Citations from years gone by!

Send me a copy of your Senior Citations from your Senior year *Battlecry*. Linda Brown, 3418 West 127 St, Cleve. OH 44111. We can also include other memories here as well but we need you to supply the information! We would love to include your class! This newsletter we are stepping back in time as we review the premier issue of "**Battlecry**" from May 1962. The association will be preserving this for posterity! It is in excellent condition!

Here are some highlights:

April 27 - The first play, Me, Myself and I, played to a near capacity audience under the direction of Mr. Potokar. Mr. Specht chaired art direction of the sets & technical direction.

May 3 - THE ARCHIVE was elected as the name for the yearbook. THE HERITAGE was the runner-up. The editorial staff was led by Miss Korba and the business staff had Mrs. Szmagala as its advisor.

May 4 - The first assembly was held in the auditorium. Students excitedly sang the new Alma Mater (written by Lydia Grafinger, Class of '64) with the band.

May 10 - Twenty-four Juniors were inducted into the Nat'l Honor Society as charter members of the VF Chapter.

May 24 - A faculty committee selected the 62-63 varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders.

May 25 - Elections were held for officers of the first Student Council for the 62-63 school year.

"The Anvil", student literary magazine, made its debut with sixty pages written entirely by students from the freshman and sophomore classes.

1962 was the beginning of organizing the clubs at VF. Key Club, Latin Club, Y-Teens, Hi-Y, Booster Club, Future Nurses and Future Teachers of America were the first. The JV Football season ended with a six won, one lost record. JV Basketball season brought it's first trophy "home" with a fifteen win, three loss record for the 61-62 season.

## Sixties Anyone?

Looking for your opinions. One idea of a fundraiser could be a dinner/dance/reunion for a whole decade of classes. How about a Sixties Bash for the classes of 1962 through 1969? Or a Disco Party for the 70's? Other associations successfully have these annually. Please call me at 216.889.9179 or email me at ldbrown@core.com if you're interested or have an opinion or a suggestion. There is no seed money available for deposits and up-front costs. We need to really be creative here! I am ready to take on the Sixties if someone wants to join me!

Linda Reik Brown , Class of '65





# Reunions, Reunions, Reunions!



**The Class of 1965's** 40th Reunion will be held on July 1, 2, 3, 2005. They encourage members of the class of '64 and '66 to join them! Contact Linda Reik Brown at [ldbrown@core.com](mailto:ldbrown@core.com) or 216-889-9179 or Joe Dagata at [obardist@core.com](mailto:obardist@core.com) or 440-526-9140.

**The Class of 1966** has been invited to attend the Class of '65s event this year...with plans being made for a full joint reunion in 2010 as we pull both classes databases of addresses together. Contact Cheryl Adair Freeman at [corporate@bergeroninc.com](mailto:corporate@bergeroninc.com) or 954-434-6419 home or Barb Jacobi Dagata at [obardist@core.com](mailto:obardist@core.com) or 440-526-9140.

**The Class of 1975** is planning their 30th Reunion this year. Contact Mary Dobeck-Kiczek at [valley-forgemary@yahoo.com](mailto:valley-forgemary@yahoo.com). They are also building a website at [www.freewebs.com/valleyforge](http://www.freewebs.com/valleyforge).

**The Class of 1980** is gathering volunteers to work on a 25th reunion this year. If interested, email Dolores Henning-Martin at [dolomart@aol.com](mailto:dolomart@aol.com).

Please send us any information about your reunion, missing persons, etc. Also, if you just had a reunion, please send us your database so we can add/update everyone so they receive this newsletter.

Email Halle Dawson, [halled@hotmail.com](mailto:halled@hotmail.com). If you are planning on moving, please keep the alumni association up to date.

### How about these classes? We haven't heard from you!

1970—25th Reunion  
1990—15th Reunion  
2000—5th Reunion

1985—20th Reunion  
1995—10th Reunion

## What's Your Excuse?

If you are not going to your reunion, you need a good excuse and a note from your Mom. The following reasons have been tried and are unacceptable.

**Excuse #1:** I'm overweight.

**Rebuttal:** You're not alone. We ALL are!

**Excuse #2:** I'm a different person than I was in high school

**Rebuttal:** Lucky for you, we ALL are. Let's face it: we could only have improved.

**Excuse #3:** I don't look as good as I'd like. I (choose one or more) am bald, have wrinkles, saddlebags, grey hair and no one will recognize me.

**Rebuttal:** Guess what! You won't recognize anyone else, either. Using the reunion committee as a representative sample, our whole class looks like a "before" photo in a plastic surgery ad.

**Excuse #4 :** I'm not successful. I'm not (choose one or more) a lawyer, a doctor or rich.

**Rebuttal:** You'll be pleasantly surprised to find how much everyone has matured. We may be plump and wrinkled (see Excuse #3) but we're not stupid. Money is not success.

**Excuse #5 :** I was not in a popular clique in school

**Rebuttal:** Now that we're old and smart, those cliques have dissolved just like the superficialities they were based on. The only cliques you'll notice at the reunion will be the sound of your joints as you walk around.



## 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! Mail Responses to: Halle Dawson, 9500 Madison Lane, North Royalton, OH 44133 or email to [halled@hotmail.com](mailto:halled@hotmail.com).

## Check Out Our Website!

[www.vfalumni.org](http://www.vfalumni.org)

If you haven't visited the website for a while, now is the time. We have made a lot of updates and changes. The email directory continues to stump us! For the time being we have set up a group at yahoo for email purposes.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vfalumni>

People are emailing me wondering why there isn't anything there for their class. We need YOU to supply the information. The class of '65 is there because that's MY class and I had the information.

So start searching your attics and closets for that old scrapbook or box of memories and share with all of us! Email me today so we can include your email address in the Email Directory!

Linda (Reik) Brown, Class of 1965  
Email: [ldbrown@core.com](mailto:ldbrown@core.com)  
Secretary and Webmaster

## Found!

### Class Ring from 1986

If you'd like more information, please contact Cathy Solomon at 440-779-5049 or 440-283-6690.



## T-Shirts

VF Alumni T-Shirts are still available in XXL only.

Only \$15!

Call 440-582-3409 or email [halled@hotmail.com](mailto:halled@hotmail.com) for more information!



*Election Meeting*  
Tuesday  
April 19, 2005  
7 pm At Valley Forge

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
PERMIT #2190  
CLEVELAND OH

Valley Forge High School Alumni Association  
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