

## WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD

An Internet Publication Especially for the Classes of the 1950's Decade.

Your Photos & Stories Are Both Requested & Encouraged. Please Send to Jack Phillips: [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com)

### '57 Marlys Ahrendt Hohman

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Class of '57

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*How I came to do the All-School Reunion* – I was

working on the political campaign for Hemming Oien. Bob Caselli, former principal, was also on the committee. Bob made the comment at one of our meetings that someone should do an all-school reunion since WHS would be closing its doors soon. I mulled

it around for a couple of days and decided to run with it. A notice

### Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57 - Thank You

*for the 1st four All-School Reunions! In appreciation, this pre 2010 All-School Reunion edition of the O&B is dedicated to you.*

Marlys, a tremendous debt is owed by all of us to you for your genius in conceiving the idea 19 years ago of a Washington High School All-School Reunion. You not only organized and made that first one in 1992 the huge success it was, you then gave us 3 more All-School Reunions in 1995, 2000 and 2005. Most of us have no idea how much time, energy and problem solving talent was required to make each one of those reunions so successful, plus the enormous amount of frustration you had to deal with along the way. We do thank you and hope you enjoy your first All-School Reunion as a relaxed Alumni. May there be many, many more all in your memory as the founder.

At the O&B's urging Marlys submitted her story below.



**Marlys at the 1st All-School Reunion in 1992**



**Marlys at the last All-School Reunion in 2005**

was printed in the Argus inviting anyone interested in having an all-school reunion in

1992 to attend an informational meeting at Home Federal. There were about 30 - 40 people at that first meeting. The final committee ended up with approximately 10 people – the “die hards” who also helped with the next three all-school reunions. I would lie awake at night and think to myself, “What have I done!” One of the most difficult items was “how much do we charge to attend?” We didn’t know how many would come, what our total costs would be, etc. The reunion was a big success and fortunately we made some money. With that money, we were able to save the

Marlys cont. page 2.

trophy cases, start a scholarship fund for a WHS graduate and have some seed money for the next reunion. The committee was also responsible for obtaining space for a classroom in the Pavilion using items from old WHS – student desks, teacher’s desk, clock, blackboard, maps, etc. The committee had made the decision that there would be a reunion every 5 years. There were all-school reunions in 1995, 2000, 2005 and now the one coming up in 2010.



**Marlys and Paul Hohman.**

Paul Hohman and I married in June of 2006. We met on a trip to Greece. Paul tells everyone we were supposed to be following the steps of St. Paul and I followed the wrong Paul – not even close to being the truth!!!! We both had 5 children (my oldest is deceased). Between us we have 9 children, 19 grandchildren and I have 3 great-grandchildren. I love the grandchildren and it’s fun to watch them grow up . . . and they go home!!!! Both Paul and I are cancer survivors so we live

our lives to the fullest. We spend our winters on Dauphin Island (barrier island south of Mobile). Don’t know what next year will bring because of the oil spill - maybe there won’t be any seafood. We love traveling – just got back from Germany – the highlight of the trip was the Passion Play at Oberammergau.

I retired from my position with Lawrence and Schiller in 1994 and spent my winters in AZ and summers in SD until 2003. In 2003, I built a strip mall in Brandon, SD. I also have townhouses that I lease plus storage units in Beresford, SD. These rental properties keep my mind and me very busy active. Mah Jongg and Bridge also try to keep my mind active. Volunteering is one of my main goals – so I rock babies in

the NICU at Sanford Hospital. Canton Lutheran Church and PEO also gets some of my time.

Because of the all-school reunions, I have made many, many friends. It was an enjoyable “ride” – but now it’s time for me to step aside and hopefully someone will run with the reunion in 2015. End

## **WHS YEARBOOKS**

Thanks to Kenny Carlson '54 and Mike Rich, '57, I now have a 1950 and 1957 yearbook. I still need a '56, '58 and '59. If you have a yearbook from one of these years that you could part with, I would sincerely appreciate it for use in putting the O&B together each month. Jack

## **WHS CRUISE**



Sail With Other WHS Alumni To A Warm Weather Destination In the Winter of 2011 / 2012. If you would be interested in joining us, please let me know and send your destination preferences and questions to [jackmp@me.com](mailto:jackmp@me.com).

**CARIBBEAN? HAWAII? PANAMA CANAL? OTHER?**  
Also, what is your preference for the length of cruise; 7, 10, 14 nights?





## '54 GAYLE HOOVER

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## Class of '54

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### IT'S BEEN A GREAT RIDE!

After graduating from WHS in the spring of 1954, I went to work at Morrell's.

This move was to be for three months after which I was going to join the Air Force; however, my world and life changed one Sunday in August when I got a call from cousin Ike. He had been talking with Coach Tinsworth at Sioux Falls College. Tinsworth was very interested in the two of us attending the college where we would play basketball for the school. After visiting with the coach and the business manager and being offered an incentive to attend there, I turned in my two weeks' notice at Morrell's and became a college student. While at SFC, I was able to set many records as a player and after 53 years, the record of most points scored in four years of play still stands - 2,169. In 1958, I received a bachelor's degree in biology and physical education and in 1970 received a Master's degree from the University of South Dakota.

After graduating from Sioux Falls College, I taught and coached for one year in Winnebago, Minnesota before returning to teach and coach at Parker, South Dakota. My wife and I found that we missed Sioux Falls, the friends and parents there so we decided to return to South Dakota. My wife was an English teacher and librarian so she was able to get a job too. Together we spent over forty years in the same school.

While at Parker, I coached basketball for thirty-four years. We were fortunate to earn eight trips to the State "B," won twelve conference championships, eight regional championships, and numerous district titles. I retired from coaching basketball in 1993 with a South Dakota state record in boys' basketball of 577 wins and 217 losses, an overall 72% winning record of all games coached.

While coaching boys' basketball was my love, I also coached football for nine years - two years as an assistant and seven years as the head coach. The 1962 football team won the Big "8" Conference championship for the first time.

In addition to teaching and coaching, I served as athletic director for thirty-five years. Because of a few

1975 South Dakota Coach of the Year

1975 National Coach of the Year Candidate

1983 A. O. Larsen Distinguished Alumni - SFC

1984 SDIC Hall of Fame

1985 ASA Softball Hall of Fame

1985 SDHS Coaches Assoc. - 25 year coaching award

1986 SD Basketball Coaches Assoc. Hall of Shrine

1987 SDHS Coaches Hall of Fame

1993 Sioux Falls College Hall of Fame

1994 SDHSAA Distinguished Service Award

2006 National High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame

2009 Athletic Directors Hall of Fame

One of my most treasured plaques



**Daughter Nancy, wife Clarke, Gayle Hoover '54, daughters Kathy & Robin.**

medical problems in 1993, I decided to retire from coaching with a boys basketball state record of 577 wins and 217 losses - over a 72% winning record of all games coached. I taught until 1999 after forty years in the classroom. I thought it was time for a recess.

### HONORS RECEIVED

1968 Distinguished Alumni - Sioux Falls College

1975 Boys Basketball Coach of the Year - Dist. 7

is in the form of an executive proclamation from the late Gov. George Mickelson. The plaque reads: "This is to recognize Gayle for his lessons of sportsmanship and for the pride and hard work he instilled into his athletes and students over the years. Gayle is a prototype of what a coach and educator should be."

My life has not just been basketball for I also played softball in which I was part of nine state champions. Once I got too old to play, my cousin Ike and I decided

Gayle continued page 3.

that we would be in charge of the concession stands at the softball complex. We did that for 30 years.

My wife and I have had a very blessed life together. I married Clarke Hutchison from Burke, South Dakota, in 1956. I always tell people that she was the best thing I got from college. We have three lovely daughters, three super sons-in-laws, and six wonderful grandchildren who shower us with love. We are currently living in Sioux Falls because our acreage got to be too much work, so we are enjoying



**Clarke & Gayle Hoover, 2009**

taking it easy. Our grandchildren are athletic or gifted in speaking and singing so we are busy attending all kinds of activities.

One nice thing about all these awards I've received is that my picture is on the Walls of Fame at SDSU Frost Arena, the USD Dome, and the Sioux Falls Arena. Yes, I have many exciting memories and am grateful for all the athletes who made them possible.

End



**Remember the chic gym uniforms you ladies loved so much? Courtesy of Wauthena Nelson Brooks '54.**



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**CLASS OF '53**

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**"Flip" Fjellanger '53**, kindly sent me two very interesting & well done web sites on two his friends from the class of '53. The first one is on **Don Brown '53**, whose story just appeared in Issue #4-10 & was mailed to you on 5-6-10. Don devoted his story primarily to his humorous and fond WHS memories and it was delightful. But due to his shyness Don failed to mention that he is an Anthropologist and "the leading authority" on "human universals". He also failed to mention his really great web site. Check it out.

<http://www.pangeaday.org/filmDetail.php?id=18>



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**Flip**, also sent me the web site of his friend and wonderful "*artist in oils*", **Gary Hartenhoff '53**. I had enjoyed checking out Gary's great web site before and have always planned on posting it in the O&B for you to enjoy,

but due to space restrictions, I have not done so until now. As many of you will

recall, Gary was a very talented artist while attending WHS and we all enjoyed his work. Gary's beautiful oil canvas landscapes are on display in many fine art galleries around the country as well as in his own studio at 420 E. 8th Street in Sioux Falls. That is just a short 4 block walk East, over the Sioux River from the Holiday Inn City Center where many of you are staying during reunion weekend. Or please take a few minutes to see Gary's beautiful work at [garyhartenhoff.com](http://garyhartenhoff.com)

## ***My Journey, ( So Far )***

My name is **Gary Hartenhoff**. I was born in Sioux Falls, S.D. in 1935. Surrounded by horizon-touching fields and endless blue sky, I developed the desire to re-create what I saw around me. In high school, I took every art class offered and started painting designs on cars and store windows, which lead to sign painting at a very early age.

Continued page 5







*"This Land Was My Land", by Gary Hartenhoff, WHS '53 Oil on Canvas 20 x 60 x 2.5*

Hartenhoff '53 continued: In 1962, while in my 20's, tamed by marriage and a young family, I settled into a successful career as founder of Hart Signs and Graphics. But my passion for fine art never dimmed. In 1976, with my business well under way, I started three years of intensive work in stained glass.

By 1981 I was, once again enrolling in painting and drawing workshops offered by Augustana College in Sioux Falls, the University of Minnesota and, most recently, the Scottsdale School of Art in Arizona.

In 1989, with my children grown and my marriage in the past, I closed Hart Signs and headed west to pursue my dream. My travels took me to the Pacific Coast, and southern California where I studied fine art oil painting for the next 18 years.

In the spring of 2007 I returned to my home land of South Dakota to paint the prairie land of the Midwest I so much enjoyed as a young man. I now plein air paint and work in my studio at 420 East 8th Street in Sioux Falls producing wonderful professional oil canvas landscapes.

End



*Class of 1957's 50th Reunion in 2007. Photo courtesy Mike Rich '57.*

**Please look up Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57 while you are attending the All-School Reunion and tell her THANK YOU! Without her there would be no All-School Reunions.**



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Rich**  
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**Class OF '57**

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I met my wife, Queta, on a blind date for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball on November 10, 1965, while I was stationed at Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Arizona. We got married upon my return from Vietnam in August 1968, moved to San Francisco and I started law school. We have two sons, both of whom live in California and who own a sports bar franchise in Corona, California.

Having spent my first 20 years in the Marine Corps either on the West Coast or Far East, Queta and I came back to Washington in 1981, with the "promise" that it would only be for two years. However, except for one year unaccompanied tours in Japan and Newport, Rhode Island, I spent the next 10 years at Headquarters Marine Corps.



*Mike & Queta's beautiful backyard in Arlington, VA*

I retired from the Marine Corps on September 1, 1990,

and was appointed as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of



*Mike Rich at work as Assistant United States Attorney in Alexandria, VA*

Virginia, in Alexandria, Virginia, a couple of weeks later. I have been in the Alexandria office ever since. I prosecute mostly violent crimes, including murders, robberies, gun offenses and gangs, with an occasional drug or fraud case tossed in for variety. In fact, shortly after joining the office, another Assistant and I successfully prosecuted the first "no body" federal murder case, and the defendant is serving life without parole in federal prison. It was a very unusual case, and anyone who is interested can read all about it at <http://cases.justia.com/us-court-of-appeals/F2/971/1098/72087/>

Now into my 20<sup>th</sup> year, I believe that I'm the oldest Assistant United States Attorney in the 94 federal districts still trying cases. I have no plans to retire, and unless they are keeping something from me, I don't expect to be fired.

Queta also remains gainfully employed as a credit card processor, with a large stable of merchants and professionals to whom she provides credit card services.

We have lived in the same house in Arlington, Virginia, since coming east, which we're permitted to share with Duffy, possibly the most spoiled Boxer on Earth. It's one stop light from Georgetown and the District, a short walk to the Potomac and surrounded by azaleas,



*Brothers Tom '54 and Mike Rich '57 having Thanksgiving dinner, 2008*

flowers and trees, courtesy of Queta's expertise and my strong back and weak mind. We are within biking distance of the District, and on most Sundays in the summer, we make an early morning ride to the National Mall, the Capitol and the monuments returning home via the scenic C&O Canal tow path.

We still own a residence and other properties in Southern California, but until we get too old to maintain our home here, we expect to remain in Virginia.

End



# Class of 1959's 50th Reunion

Photos Courtesy of Donna Hecker Shearer '59



Front row; Vicki Brubaker, Sandy Smidt, Joan Thornburg,  
Back row; Shirley Kittelson, Donna Hecker, Donna Peck.

THEN  
&  
NOW



Vick Brubaker, Joan Thornburg, Shirley Kittelson,  
Donna Hecker, Deanna Anderson.



Vicki Brubaker, Connie  
Henline, Steve Veenker



Tom Line and Steve Eggar



Mary Jo Zitka, Sheryl Burney, Donna Hecker, John Hegg



Dick Friess and  
Dennis Moller.



Sheryl Burney Husby &  
Jeanne Friese Holms



Phil  
Hellan



Bucky  
Shrader



Julie Johnson Bee, Donna Hecker  
Shearer, Jody Madland Byre,  
Connie Henline Nelson.



Spencer & Shirley White  
Peterson



Patti (Trish) Widler Swanhorst  
Mary Lou Edie Savold



Majorettes: Becky Crevelt, Shirley  
Kittelson, Jody Madland.



# More Photos from the Class of '59's 50th Reunion.



***Ron Larsen, Doty Mundt,  
Mike Savold, Mary Lou Edie Savold***



***Mary Johnson Shultz, Shirley White, Larry Schultz.***



***Julie Johnson Bee, Haskell Bee,  
Patty Johnson Larson, Verlyn Larson.***



***Dennis Moller, Andy Austrems***



***Front row: Connie Henline Nelson ,Linda McCahren Graham, Mary Lou Edie Savold Mary Lou Jorgensen. Back row: Marlene Sandberg Hurney, June Hurd Dallaire, Patti Wilder Swanhorst, Julie Johnson Bee, Sue Muilenburg French, Mary Gail McDowell Rogers, Vicki Brubaker Grother, Becky Crevelt Nichols, Doty Mundt Hopkins.***





**'54 DONNA  
O'DEA**  
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**Class of '54**

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If you like ghost stories you might enjoy a new book Donna O'Dea has written and is currently being published called, **"Wake Up Now and Wake The Others"**.

Donna, works as "a psychic medium" and wrote me the

following; "I've developed my inborn a phychic-medium ability since my mothering duties are over, and I reinvented my life. Perhaps some of our classmates will be interested in this story of the life and death of George Sitts. Some may even remember his execution though we were all only around ten years old



at the time". "This is a copy-right story of a ghost bust I did on Phillips Ave, three doors South of Minerva's." Donna's book is, "about George Sitts, the last person to die in the electric chair in South Dakota." (1947) "Turns out, I did a ghost bust in Sioux Falls to find George was the ghost. He was in a historical bldg. three doors south of Minerva's on Phillips Ave."

You may contact Donna for more information on when her book will be available. End



Thanks to Linda Loomis Nelson by way of Peggy Teslow '57 for this great photo. It is circa 1949 and is either the Mark Twain Band or maybe the All-City Band. See how many classmates you can recognize. Thanks for sending it Peggy.



# OUR 2010 ALL- SCHOOL REUNION IS GOING TO BE A VERY SPECIAL REUNION! YOU REALLY SHOULD BE PART OF IT!

## Complete Reunion Weekend Schedule

\*OFFICIAL EVENTS (in red)    \*\*UNOFFICIAL EVENTS (in blue)

### THURSDAY, 6-24-10

\*\* 5 PM **Class of '54** Dinner, Westward Ho Country Club - \$25.00 Contact: Jeannie Kracht 605-336-3962

\*\* 5:30 PM **Class of '55** Party, Holiday Inn City Center - \$25.00 Contact: Mavis Carl 605-336-1918

### FRIDAY, 6-25-10

\*All School Golf Outing - Willow Run Golf Course

\*\*Don't Eat Breakfast Alone: **All Classes**, Holiday Inn City Center 9:30 AM - Buffet or Menu, No reservations required.

\*\***All Class Social Get Together**, 1:30 PM - Pub Terrace, Holiday Inn City Center - Free, No reservations.  
Early Sioux Falls Movie, "*Sioux Falls, 1935 to 1952*", Courtesy of Paul "Andy" Weber '52

### \*All School Reunion

\*4 PM Registration - \*5 PM Social Hour

\*6 PM Barbecue & Entertainment - \$30.00

### SATURDAY 6-26-10

\*\*Don't Eat Breakfast Alone: **All Classes**, Holiday Inn City Center 9:30 AM - Buffet or Menu, No reservations required.

\*Tennis Tournament - Free - Washington High School

\*\*11:30 AM **Class of '52** Luncheon - Wild Sage Grille, 300 Cherapa Pl. SF  
RSVP Wally Klawiter at [wally.klawiter@usioxfalls.edu](mailto:wally.klawiter@usioxfalls.edu) or Betty Holmoe Pfeifle at 605-334-8016.

\*\*12 Noon **Class of '50** Luncheon - Cherry Creek Grill, 3104 E. 26th St. Cost \$15.00 paid at the door.

\*\***All Class Social Get Together**, 1:30 PM - Pub Terrace, Holiday Inn City Center - Free, No reservations.  
Early Sioux Falls Movie, "*Sioux Falls, 1935 to 1952*", Courtesy of Paul "Andy" Weber '52

\*5 PM Social Hour and Dinner by the decades. - \$45.00

\*8 PM Frankie Avalon (Comedian, Scott Wood opening) - Great Hall  
Tickets: Level A, \$50.00 - Level B, \$40.00

### SUNDAY, 6-27-10

\*9 AM Non-denominational Service

\*8 AM to 12 PM Brunch. Seatings at 8:00, 9:00, 10:00 & 11:00 AM

\*\* 10 AM **Class of '55** - Catered Breakfast - Falls Park - \$10.00 Contact: Mavis Carl 605-336-1918

NOTE: There Is An **All School Weekend Package Deal of \$90.00**, (Does not include Frankie Avalon)  
For All School Reunion Info & Reservations call **The Pavilion, 1-877-927-4728**  
All of the All-School Reunion events take place at **The Pavilion** unless otherwise noted.