

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SD
Serving The Classes of the Great '50's Decade. Photos & Stories Welcome!
Published by Jack M. Phillips, Class of '54: jack@jackmphilips.com

More Photos From 2015 ASR



Class of '52 Luncheon Held During the 2015 ASR

Back row: (Left to Right) Mike McNerney, Gene Tornow, Robert North, Dono Doescher, Jerry Moen, Reed Sydow, Bill Frank, Al Klautt,

Middle row: Sherrill Greenlee King, Betty Holmoe Pheifle, Donna Bishop Landsman, Luella Buckley Baumgartner, Paul Weber, Bob Portice, Wally Klawiter, Bev Ostrander Semmens

Front Row: John Peckham, Joan Gustafson Brown, Kate Briggs Naylor, Patty Vick Houck, Judy Jacobson Hamilton, Marlene Spindler Connally, Bonnie Fisher Irvine, Virginia Imker Stadum, Marlene Anderson Marqueson, Helen Smith Olsen, Irene Morrill, Claudette Stucker Norstrom.

Thanks to Donna Bishop Landsman and her computer friend, Scott Wessels, for this great photo.

The Two Photos Below Are Courtesy of Donna Bishop Landsman, and Show '52 Class Members Planning Their Luncheon That Was Held During The 2015 ASR.



I to r: Lolita Johnson Larson, Bob Portice, Wally Klawiter, Judy Jacobson Hamilton, Marlene Anderson Marquesen, Bev Ostrander Semmens, Betty Holmoe Pfeifle, Luella Buckley Baumgartner, Bonnie Fisher Irvine, Gene Tornow, Tom Lemonds.



Wally Klawiter, Donna Bishop Landsman, Gene Tornow, Betty Holmoe Pfeifle, Bonnie Fisher Irvine, Lolita Johnson Larsen

**Class of '52, 2015 ASR Luncheon
Here through Page 4.
Courtesy of Donna Bishop Landsman '52**

**Right Photo
Reed Sydow, Leah Sydow, Sharon
Frank, Bill Frank, Wanda Razey,
Dono Doescher, Tom Lemonds.**





Left Photo, l to r:
Harry Neeley, Paul Weber, Judy
Jacobson Hamilton, Clau"ette"
Stucker, Don Norstrom



Left Photo, l to r:
Gene Tornow, Bonnie Fisher Irvine,
Nancy Veglahn, Marlene Anderson
Marquesen, Joan Gustafson
Brown, Luella Buckley
Baumgartner, Betty Holmoe Pfeifle



Left Photo l to r:
Betty Holmoe Pfeifle, Suzanne
North, Robert North, Irene
Morrill, Sherrill Greenlee King,
Donna Bishop Landsman, Kate
Briggs Naylor.

Right Photo l to r:
Bob Portice, Patty Vick Houck,
Harry Neeley, Al Klaudt, Jerry
Moen, Mary Kay Moen, Tom
Lemons, Meg Klawiter.





Left Photo l to r:
Suzanne North, Robert North,
Irene Morrill, Sherrill Greenlee
King, Kate Briggs Naylor.



Left Photo l to r:
Will Olsen, Helen Smith
Olsen, Beverly Ostrander
Semmens, John Peckham,
Wally Klawiter, Jan

Below Photo l to r:
Donna Bishop Landsman, Dono
Doescher, Irene Morrill, Harry
Neelev. Kate Briggs Naylor.



Thanks again to Donna Bishop Landsman for submitting all of the above photos to the O&B, and for identifying all of the faces.

Donna asked that it be acknowledged that **Mike McNerney, Marlene Spindler Connally, Judy Portice, Virginia Imker Stadum and Marv Stadum** were also in attendance.



Above Photo l to r:
Donna Bishop Landsman, Patty Vick Houck, Paul
“Andy” Weber, Kate Briggs Naylor, Irene Morrill.



Editor's 2015 All School Reunion Report:

All reports I heard on the 2015 All School Reunion ranged from "very good" to "the best ASR ever". One more time I congratulate and thank chairwoman, Marlys Ahrendt Hohman '57, and her outstanding and very devoted committee for organizing such a great weekend.

The many official ASR reunion activities were complimented with a large number of individual class get togethers scheduled throughout the long weekend and collective they all made for a fun, wonderful weekend of treasured time with old friends and lots of reminiscing. The incomparable WHS spirit was indeed alive and well again for all those in attendance.

Both the Friday and Saturday night events were held in the excellent facilities of the Sioux Falls Convention Center with the more than 300 registered attendees. I particularly enjoyed Friday night. There was no program and it was, as planned by our wise committee, so conducive to a perfect night of visiting and socializing. Heavy appetizers were served AND my favorite, along with lots of other's in attendance, was the ice cream social. Bottomless buckets of many delicious ice cream flavors with all the perfect toppings made it a super popular part of the evening. But without a doubt the best part of the Friday evening was the wonderful unlimited time to just mingle and visit with so many, many old friends. It was a truly well planned and enjoyable evening.

As always the Saturday evening banquet was the main event of the weekend. For the second time it was my honor and privilege to serve as emcee for the evening. The class decades in attendance Saturday night ranged from the '30's through the '80's. Mr. Claude Hone, age 95, from the class of 1938 was the oldest Alumni in attendance and he was appropriately acknowledged. The decades with the largest number of Alumni in attendance were, as usual, the 1950's and the 1960's.

During and after dinner I circulated throughout the room asking trivia questions from the 40's, 50's and 60's and gave away custom made music CDs with music from those same decades. Over 100 music CD's were given away over the weekend.

Ending the evening we were all entertained by "Cavern Beat", a Beatles tribute band.

I, like many others, felt the 2015 ASR was the best ASR reunion we have ever had. In support of that opinion I would like to share with you the following paragraph from a wonderful email I received from my cherished friend, Ron Veenker '54. Please notice that I have highlighted in red Ron's one sentence I especially wish to emphasis.

"The 2015 All School was simply outstanding. It was so good to see so many from other classes both ahead of us and behind. We had the extra night on Thursday which was a great experience. I know you get many emails thanking you for all you do, but none is more sincere than this one. This year's reunion was the best one of my life. Many things happened that got my attention and made me think about my life and all our lives. I think our years in Sioux Falls, from around 1942-1954, were great years for our community's growth and development. We were very, very fortunate to end up then and there together. The class of '54 has so many outstanding people in it. Our glorious four years of winning on the gridiron lives in all of our hearts to this day. It was great to run into Bob Berguin this year and remember his leadership in the fall of '53. I can't help but feel that we had something no one else had growing up. Anywhere, anytime.

Thanks for helping keep us together and to be thankful for our dear friends and great memories. And thanks for making a difference in my life.

All the best, always,"

Ron



Bob Berguin '53
WHS Senior Photo



Ron Veenker '54
WHS Senior Photo

With that said, I now wish to point out that even though this was such an outstanding reunion to those who attended, it sadly had the smallest attendance of any

of our six All School Reunions. Unfortunately, each of our six ASR's have had a smaller number of registrations than the one before. And in anticipation and fear of that trend repeating itself for the 2015 ASR I repeatedly pointed out, and warned that if the 2015 attendance didn't increase it might very well be the last ASR. Well, now only time will tell if there will be a 2020 ASR, but I unfortunately sincerely doubt that there will be.

If there is not another ASR I feel it will be due to three main factors. In my opinion the most important of those three main factors is simply that we will no longer have Marlys Ahrendt Hohman to organize it. I am sadly convinced that Marlys will not ever chair an ASR again. She started the ASR in 1992 and served as chairwoman for 5 of the 6 ASR's we have had. Marlys retired after chairing the 4th ASR in 2005 and we were fortunate to obtain The Pavilion to sponsor the 2010 ASR. But unfortunately, The Pavilion lost money and choose not to sponsor the 2015 ASR.

Since no one new stepped forward to chair the tremendous undertaking for 2015 I started begging and pleading for Marlys to come out of her retirement and chair one more ASR in 2015. She finally agreed and certainly not to anyone's surprise she organized one of the best ASR's ever. I feel we all owe Marlys a huge vote of thanks, but now, if we are to ever have another ASR, we need to find a new and devoted chairperson.

I said that I saw three main factors why I fear the ASR may now just be a wonderful memory from the past. The second main reason is just simply too many of you who could have, and should have, supported the event chose not to. I heard many, many excuses from so many of you as to why you were not planning on attending. Some of them were certainly good understandable reasons, but in my opinion, by far many more were not. When many of you told me your excuse, I choose to bite my tongue say nothing because I didn't feel I had any right to question you or try and change your mind. It was, of course your right to not attend if it wasn't important to you and the only conclusion I could come to was just that, it wasn't important enough to you. And maybe it not being important to more and more people each year is our answer. Maybe as time passes the All School Reunion is important to just too few of us and it should not continue?

Of course, if insufficient interest is wide spread enough, and the ASR supporters like myself, Marlys and the 300 who attended this past reunion are in the minority then perhaps the ASR is just not meant to survive.

However, I would still like to tell you of my third factor because I feel that my third factor has played a role in promoting the second factor's indifference and lack of interest. This third factor is totally inconceivable and incomprehensible to me, but it does exist. It is the number of people that condemn and talk negatively about the ASR. They continue to criticize and discourage others from attending. Most of the nay sayers are just individual Alumni, but a few are class leaders that are in control of their individual class mailing lists and newsletters. They have been known to not only refrain from trying to positively encourage their classmates on attending the ASR, they actually try to discourage attendance.

Whether we have a 2020 ASR is up to all of us. First we need to find a strong and dedicated chairperson and secondly, if there is a 2020 ASR organized we ALL need to support it. That truly and literally means ALL of us! It has always been a mystery to me that if those of us who live some distance away are willing to make sure we reserve the date and then spend in excess of \$1,000.00 to attend, why those that live in Sioux Falls or close proximity don't care enough to attend? I truly hope that enough of us still care enough and that we will have a 2020 ASR. I assure you that if I'm able, I will be there.

Jack Phillips
O&B Editor



Marlys Ahrendt '57
WHS Senior Photo



More Photos From 2015 ASR



Part of The Hard Working ASR Registration Committee.



Claude Hone '38 & Jack Phillips ASR MC



ASR Attendees From The Class of 1940



Youngest Attendees From the '80s

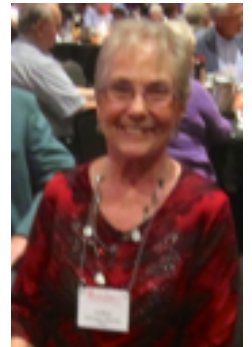
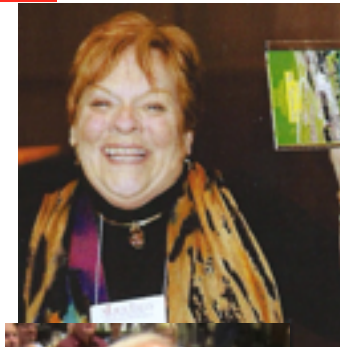
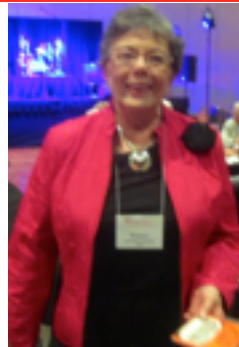
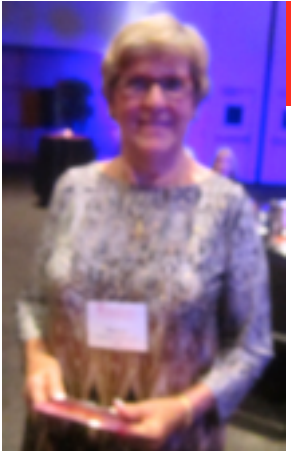


Reed Johnson '86



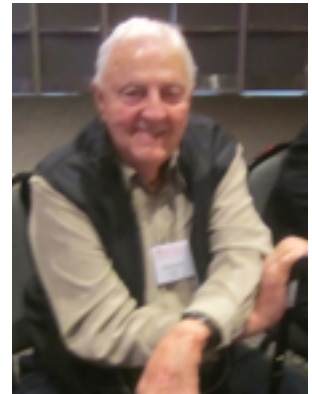
Many Thanks to Georgia Hodge Creglow '49 & Betty Bishop Hodge '49 For Assisting With Handing Out The Music CDs and Taking Photos.

**A Few Of The Attendees Receiving CDs
Sorry, But Names Are Not Available.**





**Photo Right:
Keith Hodge '54,
Wayne
Gustafson '54 &
Warner Brown
'54 delivery the
3 piece set of
luggage
presented to
Marlys for all of
her hard work.**



**Dick Wold '53 at Friday
Night Party.**

End of CD Winners.



This photo of Marlys still working long after the Saturday night party is over certainly brings to mind the lyrics from the great [Frank Sinatra](#) song, "One For My Baby" - "It's quarter to three, There's no one in the place 'cept you and me. So set 'em' up joe I got a little story I think you oughtta know."

So, one more time, Thanks Marlys! You will be missed!