



ALUMNI NEWS

THE 1998 ALUMNI BANQUET

The 106th annual Alumni Banquet and Meeting of the Sandy Creek High and Central School will be held on Friday, June 26th, 1998 at the River Valley Inn. Appetizers will be available at 6:30. A roast beef and baked ham buffet will be served at 7 P.M. at a cost of \$13.00 per person (this includes meal, drink, gratuity and Alumni expenses). Prepaid reservations should be returned to the secretary no later than June 19, 1998.

We will be honoring the Classes of 1923, 1938, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973 as well as the present graduating class.

We will be looking forward to an evening of Alumni fellowship and reminiscences.

SANDY CREEK HIGH AND CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Honorary Co-Presidents-William and Alta Ridgeway Shirley, '48

President-Dan McDougal, '73

Vice-President-Cheryl Goodnough Yerdon, '74

Recording Secretary-Laura Weaver, '83

Corresponding Secretary-Mary Laveck Hicks, '68

Treasurer-Susan Crandall, '67

Executive Chairwoman-Sue Bitz, '70

Chairwoman A.Elmo Cole Memorial Fund-Peggy Potish Manchester, '70

Historian-Margaret Hollis Kastler, '51

Executive Secretary-Nancy Potish Ridgeway, '63



Official Address

Sandy Creek Central School District

P.O. Box 248, Salisbury Street

Sandy Creek, NY 13145

ATTN: ALUMNI

Bulk Rate U.S. Postage Paid Permit No.7
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Address Service Requested

Music Within The Halls Of SCCS



Mixed Chorus - from the 1931 "Ontarian"

Soon after the Union High School was organized in 1872, formal instruction in vocal music and elocution was stressed. In 1898, singing from charts and short calisthenics exercises were carried out in all grades.

In 1906 through the efforts of a competent instructor, the efficiency of the course in Music was constantly increasing. As a means of affording culture the course became especially valuable.

In 1926 the school orchestra was organized and in 1929, the Girls Glee Club was formed under the auspices of music teacher, Miss Knowlton. They sang a cantata for graduation entertainment. The Boys Glee Club also had its beginnings in 1929. By 1931, the orchestra had 23 members.

In 1945, under the direction of Miss Denham, the Glee Clubs, besides singing at assemblies throughout the year, also add much to the Spring Concert; Prize Speaking, Class Night and Baccalaureate. The band now led the Memorial Day Parades and played at home basketball games. There were 33 Glee Club members.

In 1948 there was a group of 8 girls that formed the A Capella. The group scored a two rating in sectional music competition at Rome. The Boys Chorus was new that year and there were 41 members in the Glee Club, the largest Glee Club to date. There were 53 members enrolled in the Mixed Chorus. There were 26 sopranos, 11 altos, 5 tenors and 11 basses. Miss Margaret Denham, head of the vocal department led the Mixed Chorus. The band was successful under the direction of Mr. Eugene Gantner. There were 59 members.

By 1950, there were 54 Glee Club Members, 60 in Mixed Chorus and 25 in Boys Chorus.

In 1973, the senior band was active in raising funds for much needed lightweight uniforms for the marching band. The first annual "pop" instrumental music recital was held in the spring.

In 1998 Cathy Tyo reports 35 members of the 5th grade band and 33 in the 6th grade band. This year 5 6th graders: Jill Ashby; Stephanie Houghton; Jamie Burdick; Jennifer Moody and Travis Ouderkirk were selected for Elementary All County Band.



School Orchestra - from the 1931 "Ontarian"

Both 5th and 6th grades have ensembles made up from sections of the bands for example, flutes, clarinets, saxophones and brasses. They performed pieces at the "Music in our Schools" concert March 10.

Laurie Hajdasz tells us there are 95 students in senior chorus; 95 in junior chorus; 45 in 6th grade chorus; and 25 in the Show Choir. Also in '98 there are 11 students in Jr. High All County; 5 in Senior High All County and 4 in Area All State. She also has 1 student in All County Vocal Jazz and 5 in Elementary All County.

Elaine Pierce contributes that SCCS has 50 students in the 5th Grade Chorus and they perform in 3 concerts a year. On March 10, the production of Music In Our School involved between two and three hundred students from grade 2 through high school. There are music classes given in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Tom Artini offered this information: 50 students in Jr. High Concert Band; 58 in Senior High Concert Band; a Clarinet Quartet; 9 in a Clarinet Ensemble; 8 in a Saxophone Ensemble; 10 in a Flute Ensemble; 12 members in a Jazz Combo; 15 in the new Salsa Band; 3 students in the Area All State Orchestra; 6 in the All County Jr./Sr. High Band; 10 in the Pep band and 105 in the Marching Band/Colorguard.

We hope these numbers have not bored you. We simply want to show the progress of music in our school.



Glee Club - from 1948 SCCS "Memory Lane"

MINUTES OF THE 1997 ALUMNI MEETING

The 105th annual Banquet of the Sandy Creek High and Central School Alumni Association was held at the River Valley Inn in Mannsville, NY on Friday June 27, 1997. Chef/owner David Haynes ('83) served a roast beef and baked ham buffet to 181 members and guests, following the invocation by David Balcom ('72).

During dinner, Sandy Creek Central students Anita and Melinda Kurowski provided soothing music for everyone's enjoyment.

The business meeting was opened by President Roxanne Janacek Ferguson ('72). Laura Weaver ('83) read an abbreviated form of the minutes of the previous banquet. A hearty round of applause followed.

The treasurer's report was given by Susan Crandall ('67). As of June 27, 1997 the balance on hand was \$5748.49 with this year's banquet expenses and transfers to the Cole Fund yet to be settled.

Peggy Potish Manchester ('70) reported for the A.Elmo Cole Memorial Fund. She thanked Margaret Hollis Kastler ('51) and Nancy Potish Ridgeway ('63) for their research on Prof. Cole. A letter from Art Ellis ('32) was read. A donation of \$600 from Anna Adsit and the Sprague family, whose parents Lee Adsit and Wendell Sprague worked with Mr. Cole. Peggy reported \$800 in the Fund with two loans uncollectable and four we are receiving from.

Roxanne Janacek Ferguson ('72) provided some trivia about Sue Bitz ('70) who then conducted the election of officers. The secretary cast an unanimous ballot for the following slate: Honorary Co-Presidents William and Alta Ridgeway Shirley ('48); President Dan McDougal ('73); Vice-President Cheryl Goodnough Yerdon ('74); Recording Secretary Laura Weaver ('83); Corresponding Secretary May Laveck Hicks ('68); Treasurer Susan Crandall ('67); Executive Chairwoman Sue Bitz ('70); Historian Margaret Hollis Kastler ('51); Chair of the A.Elmo Cole Memorial Fund Peggy Potish Manchester ('70) and Executive Secretary Nancy Potish Ridgeway ('63).

Chris Ouderkirk ('72) introduced Jon Van Eyk, SCCS Superintendent. In his remarks, Mr. Van Eyk spoke about the sports accomplishments of the football team and girls basketball and the girls softball team's State title. The school now has a school based Health Center with over 700 students enrolled. He also spoke of the new tougher graduation requirements and the elementary state test results. Many new programs are in place at the school.

Mary Laveck Hicks ('68) conducted the roll of the classes. The earliest class represented was that of 1921, Josephine Hedger. This was greeted with a standing ovation.

There were seventeen members from the class of 1947; twenty two members from the class of 1972 and two members from the graduating class of 1997. Mabel Carnrite was present from the 75 year class and seven members from the 60 year class.

Keitha Lortie Harvey ('47) welcomed her Class on behalf of Helen Lashomb Clark ('47) who was ill and could

not attend. Helen, her daughter Barb Clark Pratt ('72) and grandson Adam Pratt ('97) made up three generations of Sandy Creek graduates.

Hilda Ormasen Clemons ('47) reminisced on behalf of the 50 year class. She spoke of the many teachers she had and the positive influence they had on her life. She thanked Helen LaShomb Clark ('47) for all her hard work in organizing their reunion.

The Historian's report was given by Margaret Hollis Kastler ('51) who began with a moment of silent prayer observed for the deceased alumni. Margaret spoke about the family feeling at SCCS. There are three and four generations graduating. She cited the McDougal family graduating thirteen and then generation after generation. The Clerkins were the second largest family graduating eleven.

Class of 1997's Vaedictorian Benjamin Rudd presented flowers to Josie Hedger, Class of 1921.

Margaret spoke on how Mabel Carnrite ('22) had attended 73 banquets. She has only missed two, once when she went to Washington for the Red Cross and the second when she broke her wrist. She is like the Eriegerizer Bunny...she keeps on going to the banquets.

Richard Rawlings ('47) spoke about his mother, the late Mable Rawlings ('16). He thanked everyone for all the cards and for letting Mable be Mable.

Charles Rudd ('72) welcomed his class, the 25 year class. He talked about how great it was to see everyone and wished everyone could be present. He also stated that Jim Blodgett looked the same as he did 25 years ago.

James Blodgett ('72) responded for his class. He shared memories: school lunches were \$.20; stamps were \$.08; Budweisers were \$.99 and the Big M paid \$1.25 an hour. The bond issue was settled and the school bought temporary classrooms(which are still in use today). His class was the first to paint the front sidewalk. Jim thanked Gib Williams, Dave Morrow, Irene Killam and Mable Rawlings for all they did for his class. Jim ended with the quest to know what is Paul Sornborger's middle name?

Mary Clerkin Higgins ('72) thanked Paul Sornborger, Joyce and Denver Miles for not leaving the teaching profession after their class. She also thanked Harvey Hochburg for directing the class play, "You Can't Take It With You". 1972 was also special because it was the last year her father taught.

Roxanne Janacek Ferguson ('72) read notes from Shirley Smith, Margaret Chase and Isabel Bailou. Roxanne personally thanked both Mrs. Bailou and Miss Carnrite for instilling the love of learning and teaching.

Barbara Clark Pratt ('72) welcomed her son Adam's class, the Class of 1997 and on behalf of her mother, Helen Lashomb Clark, class of 1947. She wished the class all the best and success in the paths they choose.

Adam Pratt ('97) thanked his mother. He spoke that all 3 generations of his family had experienced the same dances, big games and even Regents week. He ended saying how special it had been to be part of the evening.

1997 Alumni Minutes continued...

Roxanne presented Keitha Lortie Harvey ('47) a rose in memory of her son and their classmate, Mark Chase ('72).

Denise Miles Yerdon ('72) welcomed the 40, 15, 10 and 5 year classes.

Executive Secretary Nancy Potish Ridgeway ('63) thanked everyone for coming. She mentioned that this years' Valedictorian Benjamin Rudd was the grandson of Floyd Rudd ('48) and this years' Salutatorian Suzanne Stagl was the daughter of Cheryl Cobb Stagl ('63) and the granddaughter of Walter Cobb ('35).

Following the benediction by David Balcom ('72), the meeting adjourned with the singing of all three verses of the Alma Mater.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura Weaver ('83)



1924 Imperial Quartette
Left to Right - Kent Birdslow, Howard Sargent,
Walter Whitfield, Richard Bond.

MARY LAVECK HICKS ('68)
240 MILLER ROAD
LACONA, NEW YORK 13083-3144

Attending the banquet:
Name(s) _____ Yr.(s) Graduated _____
Name(s) _____ Yr.(s) Graduated _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
(Non-Refundable) Dinner Reservations for _____
(x\$13.00) _____
Cole Memorial Fund Donation _____
History Fund Donation _____
Alumni Association Donation _____

**SANDY CREEK HIGH & CENTRAL SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT
JUNE 27, 1997 - MARCH 31, 1998**

RECEIPTS:

Balance on hand: \$6958.68
1997 Interest 64.55

Total Receipts: \$7023.23

EXPENSES:

Dinners, RVI \$2022.05
Newsletters- 415.00
Programs- 145.00
Name & Address Labels- 55.02
Postage- 500.00
Flowers- 19.21
Cole Memorial Transfer- 537.50

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3693.78

BALANCE ON HAND
MARCH 31, 1998 \$3329.45

DO YOU REMEMBER?....dancing in the gym during the noon hour...girls' basketball using half court...Kindergarten circus...Mr. Fahnestock driving bus # 37...strip poker in Mr. Miles' room...the empty beer bottles in the teacher's room...the old playground with monkey bars, merry go round and sand box...energy crisis when drapes were drawn and furnaces set low...bag lunches while cafeteria was being built...Margaret Lounsbury paddling kids hands...when the band wore capes...tying Mrs. Chase's classroom door to the lockers.

**A.ELMO COLE
MEMORIAL FUND**

The A.Elmo Cole Fund has had a good year. Several loans have been paid or at least brought up to date. Several donations were made this past year by Alumni members. This has all helped to increase our balance and make new loans possible.

A decision was made this year to now require payments of \$25 per month per loan. We feel this is still a very reasonable pay-back plan and yet will shorten the time of turn-over on our money.

We, also, would like to ask each of you to make a contribution. We will gladly accept memorial donations, honorary donations. How about making a donation in memory of or in honor of that favorite teacher or school employee?? Acknowledgment cards will be sent. Whatever your profession or field, why not make a donation so that some future SCCS alumni member may have the same opportunity to go and pursue a career??? Donations should be made out to: A.Elmo Cole Memorial Fund, c/o Peggy Manchester, PO Box 98, Lacona, NY 13083. Thanks in advance for your continued support.