



# ALUMNI NEWS

## The 1995 Alumni Banquet

The 103rd annual Alumni Banquet and Meeting of the Sandy Creek High and Central School will be held on Friday, June 23, 1995 at the River Valley Inn. A roast pork and chicken buffet will be served at 7 P.M. at a cost of \$12.00 per person (this includes meal, drink, gratuity and Alumni expenses). Prepaid reservations should be returned to the secretary no later than June 16, 1995.

We will be honoring the Classes of 1920, 1935, 1945, 1970 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 President - Lawrence Grant, '45  
Co-President - Peggy Potish Manchester, '70  
Co-President - Sue Bitz, '70  
Vice-President - John Shelmidine, '71  
Recording Secretary - Brian Killam, '75  
Corresponding Secretary - Betty Bachar McDougall, '52  
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 St.  
Sandy Creek, NY 13145  
ATTN: ALUMNI

*Address Correction Requested*

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 7

# History of Our District Schools



Sandy Creek High School Training Class  
1902-1903

In our country, colonial teachers were recruited from indentured servants, common laborers, and literate dames - who combined household chores with lesson hearing. Teachers knew little of their subjects and less of the children they taught. Answers were printed after problems in arithmetic books - for the teachers benefit, not for the pupils. They looked on their pupils as unregenerated. Prior to the Civil War three systems of education were tried. For a time the monitorial system and academy training classes flourished but neither proved successful. The most promising development was the normal school. The normals took on a new life as the public school movements had created a growing demand for teachers.

As for teacher education in New York state, several dates possess significance. The first was the establishment in 1787 of a state university on the English model with the Regents of the State of New York charged with general supervision of college, academies and school in the state. Next was the organization in 1812 of a common school system for the state under the superintendent of the common schools. Third, came a law in 1827 to promote the education of teachers - first provision for the professional training of teachers in the United States. In 1844 the legislature authorized, for an experimental period of five years, a normal to be located at Albany, where it might be inspected by legislators from all over the state.

The sentiment in favor of professional training was rapidly growing. In 1895 Sandy Creek High School was designated by the State Department as a school where a Training Class would be organized. This was a one year training program and upon completion of the work a certificate good for three years was given. The Training Class graduates of the Sandy Creek High School desiring places to teach had no difficulty in obtaining them. The requirements for admission to Training Class were: (1) Must be at least seventeen years of age; (2) 14 academic counts, 4 of which shall be in English, 2 in American History and the remaining 8 from the following subjects: civil government, physiology, drawing, algebra, foreign history; (3) possess good moral character and (4) a standing of at least 70% in the following subjects: arithmetic, composition, geography, grammar, spelling, penmanship, physiology and hygiene, American history, civil government. The graduates received salaries ranging from \$320 to \$650. All tuition to members of this class was free. The last Training Class to graduate at the high school was in 1923. A total of 211 graduates came out of the Training Classes. Three of the graduates that are usually at our banquets are: Josephine Hedger, Mabel Carnrite and Mable Austen Rawlings.

## Yearbook Anniversary

Another tradition at Sandy Creek has been the yearbook published by the senior class starting in 1923. This was called the *Ontarian*. (The historian lacks this yearbook and would very much like to secure one.) The last *Ontarian* was published in 1931. During the Depression and World War II there were no publications. The Class of 1945 started the tradition again with the *High School Annual* of the Sandy Creek Central School. With several name changes: 1946 *The Emblem*; 1947 *Forget-Me-Not*; 1948 *Memorial Lane*; 1949 *The Emblem*; 1950 and 1951 *Krikrit*. In 1952 the name became the *Spade*. This year, 1995, celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of continuous publication. The yearbook has grown from black and white pictures, paper covered, \$2.50 cost, printed locally at the Corse Press, to a hard back in color, costing \$20.



Music has always been an important part in the education of Sandy Creek students. An early picture circa 1912 shows 7 members of the orchestra. Front row: Muriel Sprague, Lulu Sherman, Ruth Blount, Jeannette Wart at piano. Back row: Lloyd Sprague, Fay Welch and William Carpenter.

A 1925 picture shows the numbers to have grown to 12. In 1931, the orchestra included banjos and guitars. By the late 1930's the stringed instruments declined and the Band had become popular. After World War II band uniforms consisting of blue and white capes and caps were purchased. Musicians wore their own white shirts, skirts and trousers. The Sandy Creek High School Band was asked to march in the celebration of Memorial Day and has continued that tradition. In 1995, SCCS has four bands with 65 members in the high school band; 55 in the junior high; 30 in the sixth grade and 40 in the 5th grade band.

## Minutes of the 1994 Alumni Meeting

102nd Alumni Banquet held Friday, June 24, 1994 at the River Valley Inn, Mannsville, NY. Following the invocation by Steve Timmerman, '69, 145 enjoyed a turkey and beef buffet.

Peggy Manchester reported on the Cole Fund. \$2,015.00 collected. \$1,346.50 in donations. Balance \$7,853.80 available for loans. The Association agreed to make some of the Cole fund available for grants.

Sue Bitz presented the Slate of Officers for 1995. Elected were: Honor President, Lawrence Grant '45; Co-Presidents Sue Bitz and Peggy Manchester '70; Vice-President John Shelmedine '71; Recording Secretary Brian Killam '75; Corresponding Secretary Betty McDougall '52; Treasurer Susan Crandall '67; Executive Chair Sue Bitz '70; Chair of Cole Fund Peggy Manchester '70; Historian Margaret Kastler '51; and Executive Secretary Nancy Ridgeway '63.

Superintendent Quimby's remarks and his opening stories were up to par. 1130 students, budget of 7.1 million, up 2.1%, Phyllis McNitt retired after 16 years of service on the Board, Fran Taplin elected to the board. \$21,300 in graduation awards, \$9,000 from Dollars for Scholars. 68 candidates for graduation. First candidate with full scholarship to West Point.

Betty McDougall called the roll of classes. Mable Rawlings of the class of 1916 was the oldest graduate present. Others included Josie Hedger, '21, Mabel Carnrite, '22, Gladys Archer '23 and Kathryn Widrig '25. 11 members of the 1944 honor class and 14 members of the 1969 honor class were present.

Margaret Kastler read the list of Alumni who passed away this last year. A moment of silence for those members was observed. 3 generations of Wilders and of Martins, 4 generations of Allen/Spencers. A flower was presented by Carrie Timmerman '94 to Mable Rawlings '16.

Joanne Wilder VanRy welcomed the Class of 1944 which included her mother, Margaret Caufield Dence, and her father, Lewis Wilder.

Margaret Dence responded for the Class of 1944 and then reminisced. 31 members of the Class of '44. WWII was on and they had no yearbook. Margaret commented on the changes that progress has made. '43-'44 basketball team was Sectional Champs. Class trip was a day trip to Clayton, NY by train and then a boat ride to Gananoque, Ontario. Margaret reported on the various class members and what they are doing now. She commented on the dedication of the teachers her class was privileged to have.

Roy Hunt then welcomed the Class of 1969 (or was it '68?). He has a special place in his heart for this class, a peaceful one with some fine members.

Rick Hazard then reminisced about his class from the sleep mats in kindergarten to the shadow pictures in second grade, to Mrs. Rawling's big ruler and the importance of the driver's blue card. Though they went their separate ways, their friendships have endured.

Joanne Wilder VanRy welcomed the Class of 1994, including her son Chris, and Carrie Timmerman, daughter of Honor President Steve Timmerman.

Carrie Timmerman responded for her class, who look forward to their future and remember their past.

Steve Timmerman gave the Benediction and we all sang all three verses of the Alma Mater.

In the absence of Brian Killam,  
these Minutes were submitted,  
by Sue Bitz

## A. Elmo Cole Memorial Fund

At last year's 1994 banquet there was a balance of \$7853.80. We had a very busy year. Ten loans totalling \$9400.00 were given to deserving SCCS alumni. Alumni contributions of \$583.00 were received, thank you very much. One loan was paid off in full and several others made payments totalling \$1956.44. Total receipts for the year were: \$2539.44 and total expenses were: \$9400.00. This leaves a balance as of April 30, 1995 of \$993.24. We must continue to pursue the payments of past-due loans, in order to be able to grant future loans.

Thank you in advance for all of the donations.

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## Does Anyone Know . . .

. . . the whereabouts of, or addresses of, the following Sandy Creek School Alumni? If you have any information please notify the secretary.

Mary Ann Jaques, 1967  
Daniel Hughes, 1963  
Robert Bumpus, 1968  
Maurice Newman, 1943  
George Scott, 1951  
Winona Brown Brezak, 1944  
Patti Breezee, 1970  
Malcolm Schug, 1983  
Thad Schug, 1985

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## 911 Alert

911 is coming to your town. With this change comes new addresses for a large number of our Alumni. Please take a minute and send us your new addresses. This way you will continue to receive the newsletter.

## Fellow Alumni:

This may be the last S.C.H.&C.S. Alumni Association Newsletter that you receive due to increased costs of postage and printing and drastic decreases in Alumni donations.

This year we were financially unable to mail our Newsletter first class. To conserve, we used bulk mailing, which does not guarantee that our letters reach our Alumni. When we used first class mailing, we often corrected addresses and forwarded returned newsletters at an additional expense, time and time again. Our lack of finances this year will not allow us to remain.

We have been in existence for 103 years, weathering two World Wars, the Spanish-American War, two Conflicts, Vietnam and Korea, and through the Depression. The objects of this Association shall be to promote the interests of our Alma Mater and to secure to ourselves the advantages of a united organization. The uniqueness of alumni associations from small schools is the gathering of all alumni - young and old - as opposed to single classes from larger schools.

We are in a very disheartened situation where the possibility of bankruptcy is upon us. We have two options. One - the 25 year and the 50 year classes can have their own celebrations, or two - we can dissolve.

To remain solvent, we must have incoming donations enough to pay 1995 expenses and have money for printing and postage for 1996.

Thank you in advance for your support and generous donations.

S.C.H.&C.S. Alumni  
Association Committee

## Sandy Creek High & Central School Alumni Association Financial Report January 31, 1994 - May 18, 1995

### RECEIPTS

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Balance on Hand       | \$1355.64        |
| Interest              | 47.28            |
| Total Deposits        | 2498.00          |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b> | <b>\$3900.92</b> |

### EXPENSES

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Postages  | \$800.00         |
| Printing & Supplies<br>(2,500 alumni letters, etc.)     | 613.60           |
| 200 Programs  | 150.80           |
| Dinners at RVI  | 1435.00          |
| Transfer to Cole Fund                                   | 268.00           |
| Bank Maintenance Fees<br>(also fees for bounced checks) | 48.38            |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                                   | <b>\$3315.78</b> |

**BALANCE ON HAND May 18, 1995**      **\$585.14**

Balance on hand is **\$979.26 short** of what we need to be able to send out the letters and order the programs. **Please send in your generous contributions now!!**

**YES!**

I am planning to attend the  
1995 Alumni Banquet

Enclosed is my donation/support  
of the SCCS Alumni Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Reservations &  
Operational Expenses for \_\_\_\_\_ (x \$12.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Cole Memorial Fund \_\_\_\_\_

History Fund \_\_\_\_\_



Sandy Creek Training Class 1914

(Back L-R) Ardena Hally Soderlund, Miss Frances, Teacher, Edna Hayes, Cora Barker Bencour, Alice Barker Aloan, Anna McNamara Quinn, Edith Peters, Helen Flagg Yerdon, Florence Grant Hilliker, Nancy Loomis Nutting, Bessie Ashcraft, Katie Quackenbush.  
(Front L-R) Laura Adsit McNamara, Irene Earl, Agnes Duane Grant, Pearl Brinklow.