



## UVALDE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



# Coyote Trails

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
www.uhsalumni.com

## STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

By Terry Harrison, Chairman UHSAA

June 2007

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What an exciting time in the history of our Association! The Uvalde High School Alumni Association will be busting the 500-member mark this year. We have seen unprecedented participation from our alumni, including Uvalde alumnus Carper Capt, owner of Uvalco, who donated a 30-foot flatbed trailer to be used for all of our parade entries. Our visibility is higher than ever before with entries in all of the city parades, as well as a strong presence at reunions that have been held in Uvalde this past year. Our email list grows, as does our mailing list. We had a major hand in the success of our County's Sesquicentennial Celebration and we are on the move in offering our assistance to the Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District.

Our scholarship recipients from last year, Elizabeth Ramirez and Amy Henderson have both qualified for their second semester assistance and have both sent us letters thanking us for the help that we provide. Lawrence Ray Smith, our current Scholarship Committee Chairman, put together a dedicated team of members devoted to continuing this worthy and admirable mission. Lawrence Ray and his committee after much careful thought and consideration decided on our awardees for this year. There was an Awards Banquet and Uvalde Mini-Reunion dance held in honor of our scholarship recipients at La Paloma on Hacienda road in Uvalde on June 16th. The semi-formal awards banquet began at 5:30pm and the free dance/mini-reunion took place at 7:30pm.

Through cooperative efforts with several organizations in the Uvalde community, UHSAA has established an after-school tutoring program called *UHSAA's Pockets of Refuge*. Here young minds are able to find a quiet and "cool" homework environment to retreat to. These "pockets of refuge" around our city are staffed by student tutors and mentors, former teachers, and willing volunteers in order to offer our young men and women a chance to get help where they need it in a safe and secure environment that they are comfortable with. It's our biggest permanent undertaking thus far, and with the help of our community and our membership, it will be successful for us, and more importantly for our children; our future. Our first Pocket of Refuge is for elementary school students between 3rd and 6th grades and is at the Sacred Heart Catholic

Church administration classroom. Here we offer elementary school students the opportunity to be tutored. With the success of this after-school program, at the end of this school year, we are hoping that it will act as a springboard for our secondary school Pockets of Refuge beginning next school year.

We are also currently pursuing opportunities within the high school, itself, to establish a place for kids to go and learn computer programming. Through extra-curricular participation, our young men and women will be given a page on our website to start building their own class' permanent representation. They will be able to change and update it as they see fit and will be supervised by a staff member of the high school and a representative of UHSAA. These roles are only supervisory in nature and the kids will be given full control of their own website, building a web presence which will last forever, for their reunions, their networking, and their participation with UHS and UHSAA.

David Beard has pursued an invention of former Chairman George Speir and former Board Member Gary Heyen, where UHSAA facilitates opportunities for alumni to get together occasionally at Area-Wide Mini-Reunions, the first of which was held in Austin, TX and the next in Uvalde. Keep looking for a Mini-Reunion taking place in your area. Plans are also in the works for the Second All-School Reunion to be held during Homecoming in 2009!

I'm excited to be seated aboard the helm of this rocket ship, but there are people that you need to know about. Our Association's Board of Directors is an excited, active, and highly participatory group of leaders. This is one of the most productive groups that I've ever had the pleasure in working with. Vice Chair Barbara Sears Elrod, Secretary Carmen Iruegas, and Treasurer Kay Jungerman, is an executive board better than any Chairman could hope for. Other vital members of this Board include David Beard, Bill Carman, and Speck Nelson. These people have been absolutely incredible in their capacity at multi-tasking and self-sacrifice for the good of this association. Though I had to take my leave of them for a brief period during the height of the Sesquicentennial weekend, to welcome my newest son Rome Lucas Harrison into the world, they worked with one another to put together a

**Are YOU Still  
LOYAL & TRUE?  
Join UHSAA!**

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## REUNION OF UVALDE HIGH CLASS OF '47

Eighteen members of the Uvalde High School Class of 1947 attended a 60th class reunion luncheon in Uvalde on Saturday, April 21, 2007. The reunion was held at the Uvalde Country Club from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Marvin Buttler acted as master of ceremonies for the event. Mary Virginia Lewis McClendon made arrangements for the gathering, with assistance from Jane Alexander Knapik.

The event opened with a time for visiting among former classmates and guests. Names and photos from the 1947 yearbook decorated name tags. Tables held maroon and with decorations, including small figures of mascot coyotes.

A memorial chart held names and photos of 27 deceased class members, and another chart showed photos of class members unable to attend the reunion.

Those attending brought a variety of school photos and other memorabilia for display. Each graduate received a copy of the class graduation program from Jo Ann Farris Goodell of Austin, and rosters of current addresses of graduates were handed out.

At noon, Buttler officially opened the reunion by welcoming class members and guests. He gave the blessing before lunch was served.

After lunch, special guest Billie May Johnson Studer received a certificate in appreciation for her hosting a number of multi-class reunions for Uvalde graduates through the years.

Knapik then led a "round table discussion," when graduates recalled amusing stories from school days. Henry Charles Casal recited part of the poem he used in his graduation night address as senior class president. Jane Fulmer Willingham recalled parts of her valedictory address. Two class members who

received recognition were Torres and Celestino Uriegas.

Along with other matters, classmates mentioned names of teachers who were special to them. Those who attended first and second grades in the Old Getty Street School remembered teacher Wave Thompson with great affection. Mention was made of the Texas Historical Marker that is now located at that site where the first Uvalde High School was located at the corner of West Oak and North Getty streets.

Also remembered were Mabel Hunter, who taught students to classify wild flowers; Leona Gray, the Home Making teacher; M.B. Morris and Clem Jones, who served as science teachers and principals; Jess Bates, Reva Burns, Lois Pilgreen, Kate Whitehead and Coach Orville Etheridge

Naomi Thompson honored the memory of Spanish teachers Anna Mae Ford and Orlena Clinkscales by leading the group in singing the Spanish version of "Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?" The late Bertie Chinn, Texas History teacher, was remembered with a contest that used Texas History questions.

In attendance from Uvalde were Mary Virginia McClendon, Henry Charles Casal, Bob Cummins and wife, Frank and Mary Lou Ramsey, Knoxie Turner Johnson and husband Pat.

Others attending were Marvin Buttler and wife Margie of Kerrville; Jane Alexander Knapik, Marble Falls; Mona Brice Anderson, Pleasanton; Kay Coker McWilliams, Hondo; Dolores Espadas Wilson and husband Tom, Napa, California; Grace Flowers Sneed of Longview and daughter Jaime Goff; Jane Fulmer Willingham, Annapolis, Maryland.

Also attending were Gladys Ham Davidson, Albuquerque, New Mexico; Naomi Hendryx Thompson and husband Roger, Pottsville, Arkansas; Ina Sutherland Mudd, Plano; Anita Torres Smith and husband Don, Brackettville; Celso C. Torres, San Antonio; Celestino and Josie Uriegas, San Antonio.

On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning before the reunion, El Progreso Memorial Library archivist Ginger Wood Davis invited class members to visit the library to view a special display for their class and to read copies of 1947 high school newspapers and other items in the archives.

## NEALS LODGES CELEBRATES 80 YEARS



Mary Tom and John Buchanan

### Reception for John and Mary Tom Neal Buchanan

A lot of water has gone under, over and widespread at the low water crossing at Concan since 1926 but Neal's Lodges has abided. Originally established by local rancher, Tom Neal, and wife, Vida Thrift Neal, the vacation spot on the banks of the Frio River has been attracting summer guests for decades. It has survived great floods and has grown through the years. The number of cabins has grown to sixty-six, cable television has been added, the "dining room" has been remodeled and enlarged as has the store itself, and additional services have been added. Of course, tubing the Frio, hayrides and horseback riding remain as standard fare. The U.S. Postal Service now has a station there. Cabins are now available year-round with reduced rates after September 30 and the dining room serves during the week but only on weekends after the summer season; locals frequently dine in the dining room. A previous issue

of *Texas Highways Magazine* used the swimming hole at Neal's on its cover and referred to it as "the best little swimming hole in Texas."

Although the founders are now deceased Neal's Lodges has remained in the family. It was owned and operated by John and Mary Tom Buchanan for many years and then passed into the hands of the current owners, Mary Anna Buchanan and Rodger Roosa and John and Carol Neal.

An 80th Anniversary Celebration was held on October 27-29, 2006. There was a dance on the "slab" and a bar-b-que dinner one evening.

Given the untold number of friends who love and cherish John and Mary Tom, the Buchanan children held a reception for them in the largest cabin. Because a large number of you are among those who love and cherish John and Mary Tom, this picture is shared with you.

### COYOTE TRAILS

invites newsworthy items from UHSAA members. For example, we think the readers would be interested in write-ups and pictures from class reunions, articles concerning awards received by fellow alums, stories about fun and interesting trips and other interesting topics. Please feel free to send any such articles to David Beard at 4159 Steck Avenue, Unit 119, Austin, Texas, or, if by e-mail, at [Montoro728@austin.rr.com](mailto:Montoro728@austin.rr.com). Some editing may be necessary.

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seamless stream of activities. Many came from miles around in order to be a part of the activities. I'm proud to be on the Board with them all.

In closing, I would say that the state of our Association is: FANTASTIC! Keep helping, keep volunteering and keep spreading the word about the good that our Association is doing for UHS and the Uvalde community. We are doing great, but we can keep getting bigger, and better. If you have any ideas, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me directly, any time that you would like. All of my contact information can be readily accessed at [www.uhsalumni.com](http://www.uhsalumni.com).

Thank you,

Terrance E. Harrison, Chairman of the Board, UHSAA, Class of 1988

## UHSAA'S PARTICIPATION IN SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Chairman Terry Harrison provided the recipe. Barbara Sears Elrod whipped up the batter. Speck and Patsy Nelson provided the cooking oil and Paul Kimble provided the butane bottle, cooking pot and grill. David provided the ineffective supervision and oversight while Kay Jungerman contributed her efforts to help Barbara and Paul cook the funnel cakes. This was a money-making effort at Uvalde's plaza, along with other food vendor kiosks, on the evening of October 6, 2006 as part of the celebration of Uvalde's 150th birthday. It was a great success . . . at least at cooking dabs of funnel cake that looked for all the world like popcorn shrimp, not funnel cakes. The problem was that no one in the group had ever cooked a funnel cake. If you are an experienced funnel cake cooker, you know that other considerations are necessary, namely, the temperature of the hot oil. Unfortunately, as happens in some money-making schemes, the project resulted in a deficit; \$52 purchased the cake's ingredients while the Association made about \$25.

On the whole, the food booth event was a poor showing. There were only five or six booths with few attendees until later in the evening. A street dance began following a junior college rodeo with which the plaza event was in competition. The street dance and a great show by **BILL DILLAHUNTY'S** Sahawi Indian Dancers were the highlights of the evening.

Not to despair, however. The UHSAA participation in the parade was very prominent. UHSAA member **CARPER CAPT** had donated, as a permanent gift, a fine flat-bed trailer to the Association for use as a float. On the previous Thursday, activities chair person, Paul Kimble, his children, Treasurer, Kay Jungerman, and Board member, David Beard, decorated the float in the warehouse owned by member Nathalie Patton and her husband, Joe Ray. On Saturday Paul pulled the float to the parade entrance site on North Getty where finishing touches were applied by Kay, David, Paul, Vice-Chairwoman Barbara Sears Elrod, Speck Nelson, and Secretary Carmen Iueregas. (See photos.) The



*Kay Graves Jungerman & Barbara Sears Elrod prepare to sell funnel cakes.*



*Left to right: Speck Nelson, Carmen Ibarra Ieurigas, Kay Graves Jungerman and Barbara Sears Elrod.*

UHSAA float was number ninety-three in what was likely the longest and most watched parade in Uvalde's history. The float was pulled by Paul Kimble. As can be seen from the photograph each rider carried a sign announcing their year of graduation. David Beard held a sign announcing his graduation year of 1957 and heard a young parade

watcher exclaim, "1957!! Man, you're OLD!" Like the true gentleman he is, David held his tongue.

For those of you who wonder where our esteemed chairman was during these festivities, he was in San Antonio pacing the floor in a maternity ward awaiting the birth of his 7+ lb. baby boy, Rome.

Neal's Lodges at Concan will be the headquarters of the reunion of the Class of 1957. This will be a special reunion, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of their graduation. The dates of the gathering are October 11, 12, 13, and 14th. This is

not a "closed" party; old friends are certainly welcome to join the celebrants. For more information, contact David Beard at 4159 Steck Avenue, #119, Austin, Texas 78759, telephone 512-454-6180, or by e-mail at [Montoro728@austin.rr.com](mailto:Montoro728@austin.rr.com).

## NOSTALGIA ANYONE?

By Mel Glauberg  
Class of '59\*

I remember live oak trees in the middle of an intersection, the sound of mourning doves on a summer afternoon, the chow dog on Nopal Street that I rode my bike four blocks out of the way to avoid, old West Main Elementary, homemade treats on Halloween, the tree house in Ralph Fulenwider's yard, the skating rink that came every summer, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans coming to the Bicentennial, sandlot baseball and football games, Concan, Garner Park, Chalk Bluff, the 19-mile Crossing, Mishamawka, the 2-mile waterhole and the legend of the railroad train supposed to be at the bottom of it. Horned toads, the all-night slumber parties on the last day of school, sneaking off to Villa Acuna and Piedras Negras, the band trips to the San Antonio Symphony, watching American Bandstand at Yvonne Calvert's house, how hot it was in summer and how it ever seemed to bother us, blue northers in winter, the Stardust Drive-In, the El Lasso Theater, the Honey Hut, Hangar 7 Café, Walgreens, and Ben Franklin's, cruisin' Getty Street, how goofy Mr. Posey was, how great Mr. Buchanan was, being overweight and pimply, starched blue jeans, girls wearing what had to be hundreds of petticoats with a skirt that had a French poodle on it, football game ribbons, my '47 Studebaker and then my '50 Ford with the Mercury engine, but most of all I remember Uvalde and how the Lord blessed me by allowing me to grow up there in the fifties and gave me such wonderful friends. I hope you have as much fun reading this as I had writing it. There are so many more good memories and I hope you will add your own to this list.

\*Poor Mel; he has lived in Arkansas for a number of years.



## '57s TO REUNE

## A LETTER FROM A SOLDIER SPECIAL TO COYOTE TRAILS

(Note: Below is an e-mail from Major Charles D. Kirby who at the time of the writing was in Afghanistan. It is reprinted here with his permission and simply to give you one soldier's perspective and its inclusion is not intended to express a view on the conflict in the Middle East.)

“I wrote this yesterday as soon as I returned from the camp mentioned below. I think THIS is why we are here.

“Today is Friday, the Sabbath here in Afghanistan. Generally, unless we, the Coalition, have something pressing we try to take the morning off. So we will climb a mountain, go to the bazaar to see if we can maneuver the local merchants, or just lay in bed and sleep until noon (not hard to do with the pace we work at during the week). Well, today I took a trip to the western edge of Kabul. I went with a group led by the local US Chaplains. We went to spend some time at a refugee camp – play with the kids, hand out some toys, and try to bring a little joy to their day.

“This refugee camp has been in existence since the overthrow of the Taliban back in 2001. When the Taliban realized that Kabul (the capital of Afghanistan) was about to be taken from them by the Northern Alliance they went through one of the local villages (I'm sure there were others) and killed all of the soldier-age men and any women that

happened to get in their way. Once Kabul was under the control of the new government, the new Army went through this village and realized what had happened. They loaded up all of the remaining people in the village – old men and women (the “Elders”), the children, and whatever young men and women happened to live through the Taliban slaughter – and brought them to a compound – the refugee camp I visited today. Now the “Elders,” older children, and the women raise these children, kind of like an orphanage. The government provides guards for the compound, food, water, and donated clothes.

“Our instructions before we actually to pick up the kids for the morning were as follows:

a. Don't give them ANYTHING but the toys from the Chaplains at the end of the morning; this includes bottled water, pens, pads, hats, toys; NOTHING – it makes the Elders angry because it causes fights among the kids;

b. Don't wander up the side of the hill next to the fields we were playing – the Afghan Army hasn't had time to clear the landmines from the base of the hill up to the top – but don't worry, the field has been cleared;

c. Keep your weapons and ammunition on your person at all times, but no magazines (ammunition) in the weapons. It makes the Elders nervous because we could accidentally fire a round, or worse.

The Chaplains broke the kids into groups of 15-25 kids by age group. I was in a group with a Navy Commander, an Air Force Sergeant, an Army Corporal, and myself – we got about 25 14-18 year old boys. We taught them to play Frisbee, ran relay races, and the Corporal even led us in some line dancing (yup, even me). Then the boys started to get a little restless so I gave my 9mm to the Corporal and I wrestled every one of them – one at a time. Then a 7 or 8 year old boy came over; I took him on. I let him take me to my back, he was pumping his fist in the air in victory. I was laughing so hard I could hardly move, all of the teenage boys were cheering for him. Then I grabbed him up in one arm and stood up and ran around in a circle with him. Then we were all laughing so hard we could barely stand, never mind the fact that it was 95 degrees in the middle of the desert. For awhile we were able to forget where we were, why we were all there, and just have some fun.

“Before we left we gave a toy to every child in the camp – probably about 200 or more of them in total. Since our group was the oldest of the children, and they were boys we had to wait a little while to get our toys. This was a time when we really got to just talk with the boys. One of the boys who wouldn't wrestle with me during our ‘fun time’ showed me the scars on his stomach – he had been bayoneted when he tried to protect a family member (I couldn't get a

clear interpretation) when his village was overrun. He had two scars: one vertical scar about 18 inches long and one straight stabbing mark. Both had been sewn up in a very crude manner but he lived – now his stomach is weak and he can't do anything real strenuous – he's 14 but was stabbed when he was 9 years old. Another boy told me his nickname was “Rambo,” he could only say Rambo in English. Then, while I was standing in a circle with a smaller group of boys they taught me to count to five in Dari, their language.

“These boys, all of the kids for that matter, saw what happened to their parents. And while of them were a little distant, by and large they are just growing up being kids in spite of everything that is going on around them.

“I went to this refugee camp to spread a little cheer and maybe to help these kids a little. I left covered in sweat and sand and dirt and humbled. I know that all of the boys in our group had fun today and we'll likely never know the real impact we may have had on their lives. But I know the impact on mine. Today, my friends, life is better than it was yesterday? Today? Live it!! Hug your kids, enjoy your friends, cherish your family; know that we are citizens of the greatest country in the world, and thank God that we do not have to fight these wars on our own soil.”

### ANNUAL MEETING OF UHSAA BOARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The annual meeting of the UHS Alumni Association has been scheduled for July 19, 2007, in Uvalde. It will be conducted in the McNelly Room of the First State Bank. Doors will open at 9:00 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m.

This is a very important meeting during which the names of five newly-elected board members will be announced. Association members are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting.

#### Nominations Now Open

Four regular two-year terms on the Board of Directors and one unexpired term with one year remaining will become vacant in July, 2007. Nominations are open for these five positions. The positions are currently occupied by Terry Harrison, the

incumbent chairman, Carmen Ireugas, incumbent secretary, and Bill Carman. Gary Heyen resigned from the position with one year remaining and the other two-year position is vacant. Persons wishing to nominate must obtain the permission of the nominee before making the nomination and the nominee is asked to submit a brief bio. Nominees should have access to the internet on which most board meetings are held, although there are two face-to-face meetings per year. These submissions, the nominations and the bios, must be sent to Carmen Ireugas at UHSAA, Box 757, Uvalde, Texas 78801 or via e-mail at [mcii36@AOL.com](mailto:mcii36@AOL.com), by July 9. Nominations received after that date will not be accepted.

### HELP OUR MAILING LIST GROW

Your UHS Alumni Association has been in existence for four years now and has accomplished a lot in that short time. But to continue to grow we need your help. Do you have children or grandchildren who attended or graduated from Uvalde High School who may not be receiving these newsletters and other information about their individual classes? If so, please send us their names and addresses so we can add them to our mailing list.

Also, the Association's mailing list becomes rather sparse in listing alums who graduated from about the mid-70s and later. If you know any of these folks who are not receiving these newsletters we would very much like to know who they are.

Please send their full name (including maiden name), class year, mailing address, e-mail address and

their telephone numbers to: USA Alumni Mail List, P.O. Box 340715, Austin, TX 78734 or to [UHSMAILLIST@YAHOO.COM](mailto:UHSMAILLIST@YAHOO.COM). Or, if you prefer, visit our website, [www.uhsalumni.com](http://www.uhsalumni.com), scroll down to the “Register” link (it is in the second box down the page on the left side) and enter the requested information.

The Association DOES NOT share address information with outside organizations; it is used only to inform fellow alums of reunions and other news of the Association. Please send us the information now before you forget. Also if you are not yet a member, this would be a great time to join us in helping the youth of Uvalde. Membership information is printed on page 7 in this newsletter.

## THE CLASS OF 2007

Most 18-year old students who graduated from high school in 2007 were born in 1988 or 1989. They grew up with a mouse in one hand and a computer screen as part of their worldview. They learned to surf the internet as they learned to read. While they were still in their cribs the 20th century started to close as the Berlin Wall came down, the Soviet block disintegrated, and frequent traditional wars in Latin America gave way to the uncontrolled terrors of the Middle East.

Each August since 1998, Beloit College in Wisconsin has released the Beloit College Mindset List. It is meant to be thought-provoking and fun, yet accurate as it looks at the cultural touchstones that have shaped the lives of today's students who will be entering college in 2007.

This year's entering students from a generation has always been "connected" and is used to things happening in "real time" like live satellite coverage of revolutions and wars, instant messaging and movies on demand. They expect solutions for every problem from baldness to diseased organs. To the chagrin of teachers and parents, they've developed their own generational means of communication.

### The Class of 2007 Mindset

1. The Soviet Union has never existed and therefore is about as scary as the student union.
2. They have known only two presidents.
3. For most of their lives major U.S. airlines have been bankrupt.
4. The Kennedy tragedy was a plane crash, not an assassination.
5. There have always been ATM machines.
6. There has always been only one Germany.
7. They have never heard anyone actually "ring it up" on a cash register.
8. They are wireless yet always connected.
9. Women have always had tattoos.
10. Thanks to headphones in the back seat parents have always been able to speak freely in front.
11. A coffee has always taken longer to make than a milkshake.
12. Smoking has never been permitted on U.S. airlines.
13. Faux fur has always been element of style.
14. While they all know her children, they have no idea who "Ma Bell" was.
15. They never played the game of state license plates in the car.
16. DNA fingerprinting has always been admissible evidence in court.

17. They grew up pushing their own miniature shopping carts in the store.

18. They grew up with and have outgrown faxing as a means of communication.

19. "Google" has always been a verb.

20. Text messaging is their e-mail.

21. We have always been able to choose our long distance carriers.

22. Richard Burton, Grace Kelley, Ricky Nelson and Truman Capote have always been dead.

23. Bar codes have always been on everything from U.S. mail and library cards and to retail items.

24. They have never put their money in a "Savings & Loan."

25. Phantom of the Opera has always been on Broadway.

26. Cars have always had eye-level rear stop lights, CD players and airbags.

27. They have probably never dialed a phone or opened an ice box.

28. There has never been a "sky-hook" in the NBA.

29. Carbon copies are oddities found in their grandparents' attics.

30. Acura, Lexus, and Infiniti have always been luxury cars of choice.

31. Disposable contact lenses have always been available.

32. Reality shows have always been on television.

33. The "evil empire" has moved from Moscow to a setting in some distant galaxy.

34. Prom dresses have always come in basic black.

35. Fox has always been a television network choice.

36. They have rarely mailed anything using a stamp.

37. Brides have always worn white as a first, second or third wedding.

38. Dianne Sawyer has always been live in Prime Time.

39. George Foreman has always been a barbecue grill salesman.

40. Affluent troubled teens in Southern California have always been the subjects of television series.

41. They have always been able to watch wars and revolutions on television.

42. Huckleberry Finn has always been a "banned book."

43. The U.S. and the Soviets have always been partners in space.

44. Retin-A has always made America look less wrinkled.

45. Ringo Starr has always been clean and sober.

46. Most of them know someone who was born with the help of a test tube.

47. Volkswagen beetles have always had engines in the front.

## HOW CAN I STUDY WITH ALL OF THIS NOISE?

By: Terry Harrison,  
Chairman UHSAA  
May 2007

One year ago, at the Annual Meeting in Uvalde, TX, our keynote speaker was then newly hired Superintendent Dr. Wendell Brown. Dr. Brown gave a moving speech about the current high level of "at risk" students that are incorporated into Uvalde High School. Being moved to the point of action the next logical question was: What can UHSAA do to help Uvalde's kids?

Dr. Brown then outlined a plan where the students and the community work together to help kids who are in "at risk" situations. He underscored that UHSAA could help get the community side of this equation moving in that positive direction.

It was this moment that I knew I had found a cause that I believed that UHSAA could fight for. A worthy cause, in direct contact with the children, and a pro-active approach to getting our TAKS scores where they need to be and if the children need our help, getting them the help that they desire. That Saturday morning last June, Dr. Brown had asked that certain "pockets of refuge" be established for kids in high risk families, or even for kids who have a home that's just not very conducive to their studying efforts. I know that sometimes even my 17 year old has a hard time finding a "quiet place" to study with his brothers (ages 4 and 2) running around. It was this suggestion that inspired me to talk with my teenager about what he thought was important about places to study. What would attract a teenager to a place in order for them to go study? That question is what helped formulate my list of qualifications.

1) The place either needed to be "cool" by teenager standards or safe, or both.

2) It needed to have something other than schoolwork that you could or would do there after you're done with your homework.

3) Tutors (with background

checks) needed to be readily available for help if someone needed it.

4) Other students have to be there so nobody will ever be there "alone."

I began by speaking with the Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma, and the El Progresso Club, soliciting volunteers for help as tutors and/or directors. I then started speaking with business owners and soliciting places to have these "pockets of refuge." In February of this year Dr. Brown called me and told me that Sacred Heart Catholic Church had volunteered to open it's offices as the first location for the program. Putting the machine in motion, we staffed the location with volunteers and though we didn't have students every time, I would consider the program successful. We are readying ourselves now for next year and we have put together a short list of volunteers and volunteer businesses that will help with the Pockets of Refuge Tutoring. My thanks go out to all of the student volunteers, especially the ones on Dr. Brown's student advisory committee, and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. I would also like to thank the ladies who consistently showed to help the kids, Sharon Colwell, and Glenda Swink. Next year, to go along with or tutoring location at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, we will be opening tutoring locations at El Progresso Memorial Library (in the computer room), and Uvalde Bowling Center has also offered to allow us use of their little study room. The San Antonio Archdiocese has also afforded us the opportunity to do all of our background checks.

This is an awe-inspiring program that the kids and the schools will appreciate. Through programs like the Pockets of Refuge Tutoring and the St. Henry De Osso Family Literacy Program, our community will rise to much greater levels. The future is in the hands of our children, and our children are in our hands. Who better to take care of a Coyote pup, than a Coyote?

### NOT A MEMBER YET?

If you are not a member of the UHS Alumni Association, won't you join us? A new member form is on page 7 and a pre-addressed return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. The Association is engaged in helping you, your classmates and Uvalde's young people in some very rewarding activities. Become a supporter of these activities and take great pride in knowing that you've done your part. An annual membership costs you a fraction more than a nickle per day; a lifetime membership costs you only \$100.00 which will grow through its being invested.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOSTS AREA ALUMS Other Locales Being Considered

The Uvalde High School Alumni Association hosted a gathering of area Uvalde High School alums on June 16. The affair was held at La Paloma on Hacienda Road, located one mile west of High Street. There was a cash bar, soft drinks, and snacks. The Association is grateful to the H.E.B. grocery supermarket for its partial financing of the snacks.

There was also a brief presentation about the Alumni Association, its goals and current projects.

The Association would like to conduct similar so-called mini-reunions in other areas of the state,

particularly the larger cities such as Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio as well as possible certain regions like the Valley, East Texas, etc. These gatherings require help from local Alums, however, and volunteers are earnestly solicited. Notifications can be e-mailed to area alums who would be asked to spread the word to fellow exes who do not have e-mail. Volunteers can contact either David Beard at 4159 Steck Avenue, #119, Austin, Texas 78759, e-mail [Montoro728@austin.rr.com](mailto:Montoro728@austin.rr.com) or Membership Chair George Speir at [Gspeir@austin.rr.com](mailto:Gspeir@austin.rr.com).

## ALUMNUS VISITS HOLY LAND

*(Alumnus and Board Secretary Carmen Iruegas and her husband, Raul, recently visited the Holy Land. She filed this report.)*

A group of about thirty-two recently returned from a fourteen-day church-related pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Egypt and Jordan. The pilgrimage was called "In the Footsteps of Moses" and began in Cairo. They made a side trip to Giza and delighted in seeing one of the old Seven Wonders of the World, the Pyramid of Keops and the Sphinx. They traveled to Mt. Sinai and visited St. Catherine Monastery high up on the hills near the mountain. They entered Israel on the third day of their trip, arrived in Jerusalem and stayed at a hotel run by the Legionnaires of Christ" just outside the Old City of Jerusalem. They visited the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, made the Via Dolorosa walk, visited the Wailing Wall in the Old City, and took side trips to the Dead Sea where some of them "floated" in the sea. They also went by the Qumran caves where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found and rode on a wooden boat on the Sea of

Galilee much like the ones fishermen used during the time of Jesus. The group visited the Mount of Olives where they enjoyed a meal with the local priests, visited the Garden of Gethsemane where they were given a private tour of the Gardens therein. The trees, two thousand years old, with their gnarled trunks give a silent testimony of what transpired there the night Jesus was arrested by the Roman soldiers. All the couples renewed their wedding vows at Cana and visited Capernaum.

They traveled into Bethlehem where they visited the Church of the Nativity. Then they crossed the Jordan River and entered Jordan and lodged in Madaba. There they saw Mt. Nebo, Jordan's highest mountain, and the Monastery where Moses is buried. From Madaba they traveled to the Rose City of Petra now the number one of the new Seven Wonders of the World and the most amazing place visited.

They returned home on March 30, via Air France, from Ammon, Jordan to Paris, to Houston and back to San Antonio. The trip was a beautiful and rewarding experience for the group.

## BOARD ADOPTS BUSINESS MEMBER POLICY

The Association's Board of Directors recently adopted a policy for businesses wishing to become partners with the Association. In an effort to recognize that business operations in Uvalde vary in their resources and preferences the policy is tiered with each tier offering a benefit for the business. The tiers consist of the following:

Level 1: The business's logo listed in the newsletter; \$100.00

Level 2: The business's logo listed on

the UHSAA website; \$200.00

Level 3: The business's logo listed in the newsletter and on the website with a direct link to the website of the business; \$300.00

Level 4: A \$1,000.00 scholarship in the business's name and all of the perks of the Level 3 membership, \$1100.00

If you are an individual member and are also in business in Uvalde, we strongly urge you to enroll as a business member as well. This program is renewable annually.

## NEW SUPERINTENDENT ADDRESSES UHSAA

Dr. Wendell J. Brown, the new superintendent of the Uvalde Consolidated Independent School District, was the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Uvalde High School Alumni Association last July. In his remarks Dr. Brown emphasized the importance of the cooperation and involvement of parents and families in the home top ensure the proper atmosphere in the classroom. He introduced the idea of "study pods," "pockets of refuge," and satellite cen-

ters where students might receive tutoring and mentoring. Such centers would be staffed by volunteer teachers with the assistance of other students. Dr. Brown made it clear that he is one hundred percent behind the UHS Alumni Association and welcomes any help the Association might provide in promoting his goals and objectives for the school district. He was warmly welcomed and given a standing ovation at the conclusion of his presentation.

## FIRST TUESDAY GROUP GROWING STILL ROOM FOR MORE

A group of 1957 graduates living in Uvalde met for dinner one Tuesday night in August, 2003 and enjoyed it so much that they decided to make it a monthly affair. They discussed how easy it had been to become so caught-up in daily life that notwithstanding their proximity to each other they had only limited time for visiting. Thus began what turned out to be a nearly four-year practice which continues.

Now referred to "The First Tuesday Group," (for a standard date of the first Tuesday of each month), the group has invited members of other classes to join them and the group has grown to nearly double its original

size. The invitation continues to be open to area UHS exes. The Group's regular meeting place is Lunkers which is located on East Main and is a part of the Inn of Uvalde. Dinner time is around 7:00 p.m. and after dinner visiting time is limited only by Lunkers' closing time.

If those of you who live away from Uvalde would like to set up a monthly dinner meeting, contact the Association at [uhsmaillist@yahoo.com](mailto:uhsmaillist@yahoo.com) and you will be provided a roster of UHS exes living in your area. Give it a try, it can be a very enjoyable occasion and an excellent way to stay in touch.

## HELP WANTED

### Local Volunteers:

The number of UHS graduates and ex-students living in the Uvalde area total into the thousands, and like everyone else, they are all very busy with their jobs and family. Your Alumni Association desperately needs a group of these alums as **local Uvalde volunteers**. An effective volunteer program has a **Volunteer Coordinator**, it so happens that the position is open and available. The primary job of a volunteer coordinator is to act as a liaison between the volunteers and the association, maintain a list of volunteers and notify those whose talents are needed for a particular project. The projects are not often and shouldn't require much time or effort, particularly if there are a number of people to perform the jobs. If you would be willing to volunteer your time, talents and services either as a Volunteer Coordinator or a volunteer, please call Terry Harrison at 830-278-3130.

**Publicity Chairman:** Another

need of the UHS Alumni Association is, purely and simply, *visibility*. The Association's membership likely would grow with greater visibility. However, the visibility is best provided when the organization has a person who is responsible for making the organization visible. Currently, David Beard is serving in the publicity capacity but David lives in Austin and this remoteness increases the difficulties in publicizing the Association. Obviously, the most obvious routes to visibility are the **Uvalde Leader-News, La Vox, and KVOU**. Not only are the newspapers read locally but many people who live elsewhere subscribe to them and many people access their on-line publication. Yet, the Association gets exposure in this local newspaper only when one of the already-busy board members takes the time to submit an article. If you are interested in serving as the Association's Publicity Committee Chairman, please contact Terry Harrison at 830-278-3130.

# WE NEED YOU!

There is no better time than today to join 450 of your fellow Uvalde High School graduates as a member of the UHS Alumni Association. The Alumni Association provides scholarships and other benefits for the children of Uvalde and among other things acts as a source and repository of information about your fellow classmates when reunion time rolls around.

An Annual Membership is \$20, about 5 1/2 cents per day and a Lifetime Membership is still only \$100. Monies received for Lifetime Memberships and memorial donations go directly into the Association Investment Trust to grow and provide scholarships for years to come. The principal of this trust is not to be invaded for any purpose. Monies received for Annual Memberships are used for day to day Association expenses.

Please, if you are not one of the 450 UHSAA members, take a few minutes, fill out the registration blank below and send it along with your check in the amount of \$20 or \$100 in the enclosed self addressed envelope. If you would like to pay by credit card go to [www.uhsalumni.com](http://www.uhsalumni.com) and click on the "Join and make it happen." link at the top of the page for instructions.

Thank you.

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## UHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION FORM

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden/Middle: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Class of: \_\_\_\_\_ Home. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$20.00 per person for a one year Membership.

I am enclosing \$100.00 per person for a Lifetime Membership.

Mail to: UHS Alumni Assn., P.O. Box 757, Uvalde, TX 78802



## UHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS THREE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Uvalde High School Alumni Association awarded three UHS graduates scholarships totaling \$5,000. The three students were selected from the 290 graduating seniors of the Class of 2007.

Receiving a \$1,000 scholarship was Bianca Campos. Bianca has been active in UIL Accounting, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars. Her community involvements have included volunteering at the Community Council of Southwest Texas, helping the Head Start Education Coordinators. Bianca plans to attend Texas Tech University.

Also receiving a \$1,000 scholarship was Megan Kruckemeyer. Among Megan's activities are Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society and the Student Council. She has volunteered for Vacation Bible School, the Little Diggers, as well as Tour

Guide for the San Antonio Livestock Exposition and Rodeo School tours. Texas Tech is Megan's college choice.

The UHSAA awarded a special scholarship supported by friends of the late Paul Alfred "Freddy" Edward, class of 1959. The scholarship, named the "Friends of Freddy Edwards" Scholarship, was given in the amount of \$3,000 and was designated to be presented to a graduating student attending Southwest Texas Junior College. The recipient was Lauren Ryland. As a student at UHS, Lauren has been in the National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Student Council. She has volunteered as Camp Counselor at Camp Capers and volunteered on a Habit for Humanity Project.

Terry Harrison, Chairman of the Board of the UHSW Alumni Association made the presentations.

## Friends We Will Miss

*The following are Uvalde High School ex-students, graduates, and teachers who have passed away in the period since our previous newsletter was published. We know this list is not complete; if we miss someone please make us aware and we will include them in the next newsletter. When a memorial donation to the Alumni Association is made in the memory of a departed friend or loved one that person's name is printed on the Memorial Page of our web site and the donation is deposited into our permanent investment fund. Please take a few minutes and visit our Memorial Page, have your sound turned on, and listen to the beautiful music.*

India Louise Newton – Teacher	Claude Allen – Class of 1958
Ella Blanche Meyer Doyle – Class of 1927	Eloise Sansom Callaway – Class of 1959
Irene White Haggerton – Class of 1954	Jack Motes – Class of 1940
Cumi Jean Murphy – Class of 1953	Faber Franklin Spires, Jr. – Class of 1940
Edward Lesesne Sutherland – Class of 1931	Sue Finley – Class of 1959
Sid Gibbens – Class of 1954	Wallace B. Hall – Class of 1947
Seth Rogers Davenport – Class of 1934	William Gene Vickers – Class of 1959
Carolyne Uriegas McClellan – Class of 1954	Floyd Hayes Scrimshire – Class of 1960
Lochie Mundine Kincaid – Class of 1935	Bob Mueller – Class of 1948
Margaret Wentworth Behrens – Class of 1937	Ismael Talavera – Class of 1962
Jerry McKinney – Class of 1955	Helen Bryce Redding – Class of 1963
James Oliver "J.O." Nance – Class of 1936	Sandra Gilmour Nokes – Class of 1966
Joe G. Silva – Class of 1955	Murel "Spud" Murphy – Class of 1950
Alma May Brown Willingham – Class of 1938	Minerva Elvira Hernandez – Class 1970
	Jorge Arturo Sanchez – Class of 1973
	Clint Stafford