



The Alum Castle Crier

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The Alumni Association: A Look Back at the First Year

Thuy Nguyen, '93 President

It is hard to believe that the Castlemont High School Alumni Association is reaching its first anniversary in January! Early this year, CHSAA formally came into existence with the adoption of its by-laws and the election of five officers and twelve members to the Board of Directors. We are currently submitting papers for non-profit status (your tax-deductible donations now go through the high school).

- ✓ Since last January, CHSAA has:
- ✓ organized the first all-class picnic;
- ✓ developed a web site linked to the school's website;
- ✓ gathered a database of more than 2700 alumni;
- ✓ put on a school-wide Career Day for students;
- ✓ increased paid membership to more than 90 members; and
- ✓ published three editions of the Ye Castle Crier.

These achievements were only possible through the dedication and talents of many alumni volunteering their time and resources. This diverse group of alumni, spanning five decades, has helped CHSAA take its most difficult step- its first step, its first year.

It has been a privilege to serve as CHSAA's first president. May you and your loved ones enjoy a wonderful holiday season, and please: become a member or renew your membership in 2005!!!

The All Class Picnic

Lita Jackson, '78

On September 25, 2004, Castlemont alums gathered at the Alameda County Fairground in Pleasanton for the first all-class picnic. Although not as well attended as the planning committee had hoped, it was great fun and a good start. The picnic idea originated with CHSAA member Greg Hickey's original Castle picnics, which was held for the past three years.

Alums attending had a wonderful day of reminiscing and story telling of the "good old days." They represented classes from 1938 (Eva Wilson and **Vince Riddle**) to 2004 (**Wilmon Hubbard, Jr.**).

Also attending were current members of the Castleers, the school choir which led the alums in singing "Hail Castlemont." Three current teachers and one principal, **Rick Gaston** of the Business and Information Technology School, were there too. **Bob Beechler**, '52, donated a beautiful foot-high metal knight, which was auctioned. One of the teachers, **Linda Thompson**, '67, was the high bidder. She plans to display the brave Knight on her desk at school!



Wilmon Hubbard, '04, and Vince Riddle, '38

Want a Cool Castlemont Visor? Contact the Board. They are \$10, or join the CHSAA and get one for \$5!



Linda Thompson, '67, and Tom Wesselhoff, '64



Jim Simpson, '61, and Bob Jensen, '60

Castlemont news:

<http://tlc/ousd.k12.ca.us/castlemont>

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Reunion News



Gail Murphy reports that the Class of 1964 celebrated their 40th anniversary in late October at the Sequoia Country Club in Oakland. Over 180 classmates and friends enjoyed an evening of dinner, dancing and reminiscing, with the music from the 60's to the present. The reunion committee continues to plan events for the class, which will include the Annual Picnic Reunion and the "Sexy Sixty" party in 2005.



Lanna Butler-McCoy reports that the Class of 1969 held its 35 year reunion in September. Over a 3 day weekend, including a "get together," an "Old School House Party at the Lakeside Park Garden Center," and a worship service and brunch, the 100 alums and guests simply enjoyed being with classmates and listening and dancing to great music from the 60s and 70s. Remembering classmates who are no longer here, looking at class photographs, and recalling long-forgotten trivia regarding the class of '69 were highlights of the evening.

The class was honored by the presence of **Mrs. Garrett**, Castlemont High's girls gym teacher, who enjoyed seeing all the familiar faces from the good old days. The class hosts a class reunion at least every five years, and each event has been exciting and successful. Come join us!!!



You Go, Girl!!!

Castlemont senior **Kiesha Phelps** is one of many Knights athletes who will attend college on a full scholarship. A leader both on and off the courts, Kiesha signed a letter of intent to attend St. Mary's College in Moraga, in part because it's close to home and also because it has an excellent academic reputation.

Kiesha plays forward for the Lady Knights, and has led the team in scoring, at 15.1 points per game. Not only can she shoot, but she can dunk, defend and rebound.

Kiesha comes from a large family but she is the only one to attend Castlemont. Her coach, **Matthew Lane**, said of her: "Her selection sends an important message to the community. You can come to Castlemont, and you can be successful. Kiesha is another example of a kid coming up with a hard life, and making it." Kiesha joins a long list of Castlemont Knights who are strong, who are gifted, and who "got game"!! (article excerpted from Oakland Tribune)

Get the Word OUT!

If you would like to share an event with hundreds of Castlemont alums, and you are a member of CHSAA, just let us know at the Crier and we will print it



Friends from the Class of '51: Jean Shrum Paich, Jackie Watson Whitener, Roxana Cowden Larsen, Beverly Woody Olson, Marlene Martin Northam

Reunions Greg Hickey, '56

This year, several classes had reunions, and in this column, I will highlight reports from just two of them. If your class is one of those, and you want to let others know about it, the Crier may be one way to tell others. Another is the CHSAA website for alums. If you are a CHSAA member, send the information to Crier editor **Gary Yee** (yee@hnu.edu), he will see that it is announced in the next edition of the Crier, and/or put on the alum website, when it is completely operational.

Don't know if your class is having a reunion event? You can try commercial sites such as www.classmates.com or www.reunion.com, or if you are a member, you can contact the Board, and we will direct your inquiry to others in your class.

This year, we had the first all class picnic, and we're already planning for this summer's! If you want to help, just contact me at the board email and let me know. It's fun!!