



Camden Alumni News from the Camden Alumni Association



Quarterly News and Events

website: www.camdenalumni.com

Writer: Helen Miller Dick, 1966

Editor: Lance Williams, 1979

Camden Alumni Association Board of Directors



President
John E. Gerber
1987



Vice President
Barbara O'Rourke Young
1957



2nd Vice President
Tonya Cole Smith
1999

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Melissa Hardy Sullivan
1989



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Deanne VanDreser Suits
1979



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1979

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2005

Board of Directors Banquet Committee

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1953



Anita L. Narolis
1972

Michael Waterman
1973



Membership Committee



Helen Miller Dick
1966



Kenneth W. Ferris
1953



Lance Williams
1979

Scholarship Committee

Janet Hamner Albrecht
1971



Stewart Hatzinger
1993

Virginia Jacobs Schuelke
1965



2008 Alumni Banquet

Saturday, June 14
Katie & Karl's Restaurant
Social Hour
3:30pm - 5:00pm
(Appetizers Served)
Business Meeting
5:00pm
Dinner
6:00pm

The Camden Alumni News Launches First Quarterly Edition

The "Camden Alumni News" launches its first quarterly edition, today. The Camden Alumni Association hopes to promote its organization through quarterly reports in the Queen Central News.

In this edition, we hope to introduce all current and future alumni to the importance of starting or renewing an active membership in the Camden Alumni Association. This edition features the objectives of the Association, the membership requirements, and it offers suggestions for reunion planning.

Our April edition will feature more on reunion planning, and plans for the upcoming Annual

C.A.A. Outlines Membership Objectives and Requirements

There are three main reasons to maintain an active membership in the Camden Alumni Association:

- 1) to maintain and promote the loyalty and interests of Camden Central School;
- 2) to provide for the mutual enjoyment and entertainment of its members;
- 3) to provide scholarship awards to deserving students of the current graduating class of CCS.

The membership of this Association shall consist of all those persons who have been awarded a high school diploma or a New York State Regents diploma upon completion of the high school course at Camden High School or Camden Central School, or previous students of the Camden Schools who have earned a Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED).

Active membership shall be defined as any member whose membership dues are paid up to the current expiration date which is the date of the Annual Meeting at the Alumni Banquet every June.

Class of '58 Readies for 50th Reunion



(L to R) Janice Walker Alvord, Gayle Sheetz Hedgecock, Henry Hedgecock, Bruce Ferris, Sally Griffin Ferris, Gordyne Sover, Alan Palmer.

Janice Walker Alvord, 2085 Walker Road, Camden, New York 13316, is the contact for the Camden High School Class of 1958. Janice states that the class is trying to do some fund raising as well as making everyone aware that this is the 50 year celebration. Janice and the rest of the committee are ahead of the game as they are working on a 3rd Newsletter to be mailed in January. Camden Alumni Association President, John Gerber suggested that they notify their class members that Alumni Association membership could help in fund raising efforts for their Class and the Alumni Association.

Janice also states that the Class of '58's plans are similar to last year's 50 year class. There will be an ice breaker on Friday night and a tour of the new middle school Saturday afternoon, the class will attend the banquet which begins at 3 PM on June 14, 2008, and they plan to have a DJ for dancing after the banquet. As of this writing, the class is in the process of locating a speaker. For further information, Class of '58 members may contact Janice at 315-245-0634 or email at janicea1204@peoplepc.com.

Reunion Planning: A Personal Experience

By Helen Miller Dick

January 2006 and still no sign of reunion plans for the Class of '66. I scanned the Queen Central News each week in January. Then, February rolled around and I decided it was time to step up to the plate. So, I wrote a brief notice which was published in February 2006 in the QCN asking for help planning a 40th class reunion, and for those interested to call, write or meet me for lunch at Katie and Karl's on a Monday afternoon. It was a cold blustery February day, and I met with two other classmates for lunch at Katie and Karl's. We tossed around ideas for our next planning meeting. More requests for assistance were published in the QCN and at our next meeting there were 7 of us. I served a light lunch and snacks at the Parish Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church on a Sunday.

Over much laughter and reminiscence, we thrashed through our second planning meeting. I decided we should try a weekend event similar to the one I had in college. Everyone was on board for that. Leo Kelley suggested an ice breaker kick-off Friday evening at the Grape 'n Grog in Camden, Saturday would feature a dinner dance and DJ at Katie and Karl's with a Sunday brunch at Beck's Grove in Blossvale for those who wanted to linger longer with friends. Kathy Wolcott and Linda Kelley took charge of the Katie and Karl's arrangements and found us a DJ. I was in charge of the Sunday Brunch arrangements, monthly publicity in the QCN, and composing a reservation letter to be discussed at our next meeting. Everyone else would assist with researching and locating classmates. We split up the alphabet and we were all responsible for a certain section of the alphabet and for those whom we knew we could find.

Because it was more convenient for Kathy Wolcott, Linda and Leo Kelley, Mary Brown Pitcher, and me, our third meeting was held at the McConnellsville Community Church. At the third meeting, Linda Meeks MacFarland joined us, and helped with Class lists. I brought an old yearbook, my 30 year memory book, addresses from the Camden Alumni Association, phone books, etc., and we went to work approving the letter I composed, making the necessary changes and discussing where some classmates might be located. Ron Deeley said he was having a blast just attending these planning meetings.

Because I had the assistance and cooperation of these 8 committee members, I decided to do something special as they were very supportive. I decided for "party favors" that everyone attending the reunion would receive a directory listing the class members with their names, addresses, phone numbers and emails. Also, the committee and I made a commemorative scrapbook highlighting the year 1966 at CCS and life in Camden that year. It was a hit! But the work involved was tremendous and without the committee, my husband, Stephen Dick, a Watertown grad, Class of 1969, and my mother, Marian Miller, CCS Class of 1944, I could never have completed my project on time. Much time was spent working on this project at the Episcopal Church on a Sunday. Three or four of us spent late nights copying newspaper articles, sorting photos and articles and putting directories and scrapbooks together. And, it was a race to the finish line as my husband and I put together the last of the scrapbooks about an hour before the reunion.

All the planning was worth it because near the end of the planning session, I received a very discouraging email from a fellow classmate telling me he wanted to remember everyone as he or she was in High School, and he did not intend to travel from North Carolina to attend the reunion. Well, another classmate, Bruce Ackley, persuaded him to attend, and he did. After the reunion, I was blown away as I received a special phone call showering me with kudos for all I did--Jeff Hladun, I will never forget that phone call! And, I received several supportive emails from Colleen Kelley, Larry Carr, and Gary Jones, etc.

There were errors made in planning and at the reunion, guest teachers were somehow left out and I think I should have ordered a commemorative cake. But, basically, the committee and I presented a most successful weekend to our classmates. And we came away knowing that the part of the class who did attend that reunion knew the value of Camden loyalty and camaraderie.

We had grown up! We were no longer awkward teenagers suffering under peer pressure, but adults working toward a common goal--a good time together and memories we'll always treasure!

Camden Alumni Association Active Membership Application & Scholarship Donation Form

First Name: _____
 Last Name: _____
 Maiden Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____
 Spouse's Name: _____
 Graduating Class: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Dues are \$5 per year. # of Years Paid: _____
 Alumni Scholarship Fund Donation: \$ _____

Return This Form and Dues Payment To:

Camden Alumni Association
35 Fourth Street
Camden, NY 13316

Make Your Check Payable to:

Camden Alumni Association