

NEWSLETTER



Aztec Calendar

AZUSA HIGH SCHOOL AZTECS
Kiowa Class of 1961

May-October 2010

General Information

Welcome to issue #17 of our newsletter. Again, thanks to everyone who provided alumni information and updates so that we would have something to write about. Keep those stories and information coming so we can continue to send out the newsletter on a timely basis. Be sure to email photos too.

If you have anything you'd like to include in the next newsletter, please email the info to me at cheryl.tango@gmail.com or mail to **Cheryl Dillard**, PO Box 2413, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. You may also phone me at 503-781-2658. You can view all newsletters, bios, event information and photos at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com>

If you have changed your mailing address, phone number or email address, PLEASE let us know so we can update our list. **Janice Quick Ashborn** is the "point man" where all your contact information should be sent. Her email is okayjan@hotmail.com and her mailing address is 8670 Robles Dr., San Diego, CA 92119.

Kiowa Spotlight

Elaine Fitzgerald Fafilek is featured this month.

Happenings

REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT: SAVE THE DATE! Our 50th Reunion will be held Sunday, October 16, 2011 at the Marriott Hotel in Irvine. The "Meet and Greet" for early arrivals will be held on Saturday, the evening before the reunion. After researching several venues we chose the Irvine Marriott because it's a very classy hotel, less expensive than others we were considering, and it's conveniently located. It's an easy drive from Azusa and surrounding cities and it's close to the John Wayne Airport for you out-of-towners. We decided to hold the reunion on a Sunday because of the 30% cost savings, which we are passing on to you. So be sure to **SAVE THE DATE October 16, 2011** on your calendar and start making plans to attend. You have a year to make arrangements, so **NO EXCUSES!** We want to see all of you there! The reunion committee has a very special weekend planned and you won't want to miss it. This is our 50th, after all! We will send you more information and a Reunion Reservation Form soon, as soon as we hammer out the details.

REUNION REQUEST: If you have any 1961 newspaper articles or fun photographs of classmates taken that year, please mail them to **Burt Franks** at 5264 Willow Walk Rd., Oceanside, CA 92057. Burt is building a display for our 50th reunion and plans to use everything he receives. Also, Burt will appreciate any photos you may have of classmates who are no longer with us so that we can honor them at the 50th. All photos and articles will be photocopied and returned.

From Azusa High

Homecoming weekend was held October 15 & 16 this year. The alumni football game took place on Friday, October 15 followed by a dance in the gym.

To view photos of the 2008 October All Class Reunion, click on the following link:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/azusahighreunion2008/sets/>

For info on Azusa High School events and activities visit: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/events.html>

Changes

If you change your address, phone number, email or even your name, please contact Janice Ashborn at okayjan@hotmail.com. She will let me know and I shall put the changes here.

Here are new email addresses for the following alumni:

Ken Gradoville: ken18sadie@gmail.com
Dennis Smith: dene1smith@gmail.com
Chris Englund: christerete@hotmail.com
Al Muster: mmuster@earthlink.net
Josie Acero McConnell: pawloma@cox.net
Judy Deane Greene: blueje719@aol.com
Pat Hill Roembke: PatRoembke@comcast.net
Patty Love: pattyjlove@yahoo.com

News Updates

Be sure to visit our new blog where classmates can share information, post comments and ideas. Though the blog is more interactive than our website, it doesn't replace it. Instead the blog will replace the detailed emails that we send you. At the blog you can easily retrieve archived posts on a subject rather than searching for an email that you may have deleted. You can link to our website from the blog and also access the blog from the navigation bar of the website. Check out the blog at <http://azusahigh1961.wordpress.com/> and be sure to post a comment while you're there.

In June, I (**Cheryl Burlingame** Dillard) enjoyed lunch at the Cannery restaurant on Lido Isle in Newport Beach with **Chuck Hardin**, **Don Funk** and his wife, Uta. **Troy Kinsey** and **Nita Matthews** Hardin had to cancel at the last minute.



Cheryl Burlingame Dillard, Don Funk, Uta Funk, Chuck Hardin – The Cannery, Newport Beach

On July 18 **Edith “Pee Wee” Todd** Marchand married Larry Smith of Grants Pass, Oregon. Read her engagement story here: <http://azusahigh1961.wordpress.com/>

This summer **Walt Ashborn** and **Janice Quick** Ashborn took a three-month motor home trip across the country to Nova Scotia. Click on the following link to read their travel journal & to see photos of their fun-filled vacation:

<http://ashbornadventures.wordpress.com/>

Lenore Plumber Rishel has lived in Las Vegas for the past 11 years where she has worked as a real estate broker and California licensed general contractor. In addition to her real estate business Lenore has been pursuing her love of music and has recently “done a few gigs singing and playing keyboard” in the Las Vegas area.

Joanne Srack Mead volunteered at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab Utah May 29-June 4. This is the largest no-kill shelter in the United States. In August Joanne and her friend, Judy Stanton, traveled to Switzerland and Germany where they met up with **Joel Dethlefs** and his wife, Geri, and our former foreign exchange student, **Till Huhns**. To read Joanne’s story click here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/JoanneMead-Switz-Germ2010.pdf>

In August **Rachel Pille** Roth enjoyed reconnecting with **Gwen Cook** Cotton over lunch at the Olive Garden in Aurora, Colorado. It’s the first time they’d seen each other in 49 years so they had a lot of catching up to do. Also this summer Rachel and her husband, Terry, visited the Gateway Auto Museum in western Colorado. See story and photos here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/RachelPilleRoth-CarMuseum.pdf>



Joel Dethlefs (sitting), Geri Dethlefs & Till Huhns



Rachel Pille Roth & Gwen Cook Cotton

In September **Sue Dove** Dunn and her husband, Al, met their very first great-grandchild in Kansas.

Also in September **Elaine Fitzgerald** Faflek paid a trip to our Alma Mater. Armed with a visitor’s pass, Elaine visited Azusa High classrooms, the library, quad areas, the gym and more! Read more here: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/bios.html>

October 16 **John Baumann** and his wife Nancy were the music DJs for the Azusa High Class of 1960 reunion held at the Doubletree Inn in Ontario, California. **Burt Franks** and his spouse Carol assisted the Baumanns at the event. I too attended the reunion where I reconnected with '60 alumni and did a little research for our upcoming 50th reunion.

In October **Jessie Balandran** Moreno and her daughter, Lisa, visited Jessie’s granddaughter, Brooke, at Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, Ohio where she was playing soccer and having an ROTC gathering with her commander. Brooke is studying to become a doctor, fulfilling a promise she made to her grandfather, **Frank Moreno**, who passed away last year.

In September on my way to California I stopped by to visit **Dave Hartley** in Lebanon, Oregon. He’s trying to adjust to life without Barbara by keeping busy with family and friends and by tending to chores at his Christmas tree/Hazelnut tree farm. Dave’s daughter, Betsy, has moved into the farmhouse to keep Dave company and to help run the farm. We were all happy to see him at the Palm Desert golf tournament where he ended up winning a prize.



Jessie with granddaughter Brooke



Dave Hartley and his hazelnut orchard

Yolanda Ramos Chittum and her husband bought a new 5th wheel trailer and have been traveling the western states sightseeing and visiting their children and grandchildren.

This summer **Ron Nelson** took a break from the rain in Washington to enjoy Montana and the Florida sunshine.

Richard Rubio and his wife, Joy, joined **Richard Montes** and his wife, Rose, for a two-week cruise on the Baltic Sea. Click the following link to read about their trip: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/RubioMontesCruise.pdf>



Richard & Joy Rubio with Rose & Richard Montes - Baltic Sea Cruise 2010

Troy Kinsey is enjoying his retirement by relaxing and “doing nothing” after working in the construction business for the past 37 years. He did say though that he’s getting geared up to start fishing again soon.

Patrick Rueter spent the summer shoveling manure, feeding horses and doing other chores on his nine-acre horse ranch in Winston, Oregon. View photos: <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Stories/PatrickRueterHorsePhotos.pdf>

Bob O'Connor hosted our class of '61 semi-annual golf tournament and BBQ held May 21-24 at the Shadow Ridge Golf course in Palm Desert, California. To see photos of this fun-filled weekend, click on the following link:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/9806517@N03/4636894413>



Kiowa golfers trying to figure out how to light the BBQ



Patrick Rueter and "Whisky"

Also this summer **Lloyd "Butch" Lightfoot** joined over 150 of his family members and high school friends for the first annual Lightfoot reunion, which was held at Valleydale Park in Azusa.. Four generations of Lightfoots were represented, some of whom hadn't seen one another in over 40 years. The Azusa High graduates attending were: Karl Thomasser – Class of '57, Gary Thomasser '60, Heather Singleton '60, Janet Spear '60, Jerry Davenport '60, **Butch Lightfoot** '61, **Roger Whiteley** '61, **David Hartley** '61, Wendy Singleton '62



Lightfoot family reunion – Valleydale Park, Azusa California

Many of you have taken fun vacations that our alumni would enjoy reading about. If you would like your travel story and photos to be included in our next newsletter, please email them to me at cheryl.tango@gmail.com.

Illnesses, etc...

During the past few months several of our classmates have struggled through various health problems. Some are still in the process of healing and appreciate our continuing positive thoughts and prayers.

Bill Reeves has finally healed from his foot surgery and the bacterial infection has cleared up, so was able to be fitted for a prosthetic foot (partial) and has just started physical therapy to learn how to walk and drive using the prosthesis. He is looking forward to driving his new truck and playing in the next golf tournament. Bill is grateful for your support and prayers.

Chuck Hardin suffered a mild heart attack the end of October, but he's fine now. The docs reamed him out, inserted a couple of stents and he's just like new. He feels great and is ready to beat **Louie Mason** at golf.

If someone knows of an alumnus who is very ill, please let me know.

In Memoriam

The past year has been a difficult one because we have lost some of our former classmates. Gone, but not forgotten, they will remain in our hearts and minds forever.

On June 11 **Nancy Stewart** passed away.

In September Kiowa alumnus **Linda Beavers** Ponce passed away.

You, dear readers, have to be the ones to let me know about anyone who passes.

At the present time we are aware of the following alumni who are no longer with us:

Loree Hodge	Gary Bielke	Ken Navarro
Theresa Asbury Bence	Kenneth MacDermott	Ray Nakama
Gary Pollard	Kenneth White	Geraldine Diaz Kinsey
Keith Hunt	Kenn Crafton	Harry Kimura
Mary Arbuckle	DonRay Logan	Les Frieberg
Billy Estrada	Joe Contreras	Joseph Mora Jr.
Henry Pedroza	Ronald Dunkle	Regina Johnson Nash
Mike Walters	Mary Ann Connor	Darwyn Freed
Laurie Wittich Taft	Oren Putnam	Dennis Prober
Christine Kekos Smithhart	Melvina Andrieux	Carol Turner Seiverson
Neal Sparks	Paulette Waltz McMurtrey	Doug Morris
William McKenzie	Frank Moreno	Karol Ruffing White
Mike Rawlings	Richard Romero	Barbara Hawley Hartley
Carolyn Warfield Justice	Nancy Stewart	Linda Beavers Ponce

Thanks to all of you for supporting our newsletter by sending in your personal stories, bios, completed questionnaires, information about class of '61 events and news of your retirement, vacations, activities, health, etc. If it weren't for you, there would be no newsletter, so thanks again and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Please email news and photos to cheryl.tango@gmail.com and address changes to okayjan@hotmail.com

Cheryl Dillard (Burlingame)

You can view all of our newsletters at <http://www.azusahighschool1961.com/Pages/newsletters.html>

Spotlight on Elaine Fitzgerald Fafilek



Elaine was elected President of the Boeing Aerospace Leadership Chapter in January of 2003.

Born and raised in Southern California, I am a true native of the Golden State. Although I enjoyed a quiet, sun-loving youth, in later years, I sought adventure.

After graduating from Azusa High, I spent two years at the University of California, Riverside. Transferring to UC Berkeley in 1963, I encountered the Free Speech Movement and massive campus rallies. Bypassing the demonstrations, I graduated with a degree in Psychology. Entering graduate school at San Francisco State, I discovered that the chaos followed me. Through whiffs of tear gas and continuing student unrest, I attended classes and earned a teaching credential and a Master's degree in Counseling.

I entered a very "safe" elementary teaching career in the Bay Area in 1967; life settled down. However, that desire to explore the world could not be subdued, so I grabbed a Eurorail Pass in the summer of 1968 and headed off solo for the "continent." I tested the Iron Curtain by traveling to Berlin and crossing through no man's land at Checkpoint Charlie. Exploring Europe for these three months was not enough, so the following summer I booked one of the first American tours into the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. That's why, standing on a busy street in Leningrad in 1969, I watched Russian TV show American astronauts imprint man's first footsteps on the Moon. This tour included stops in Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia. (Little did I imagine that a Czech would become my beloved husband a few years later.)

Returning to my elementary school job, I continued my adventuresome summers with more trips to Europe and to the South Pacific. Tahiti became one of my most favorite destinations on earth. The remoteness of Tahiti provided an idyllic refuge from the regimented classroom!

Many Kiowa classmates have met my charming husband, Al. After attending the San Francisco Opera on a memorable evening in the fall of 1972, I met Al at a local gathering place. We have been together ever since. Al worked in the hotel industry in San Francisco and in the casinos at Lake Tahoe. In Tahoe, I learned not only how to snow ski but how to water ski under his patient, but demanding instruction! I left the San Francisco Bay and returned to Southern California in the early 80's when Al accepted a management job as the flour milling superintendent of the largest mill in Los Angeles. This career-changing event, prompted me to explore new options in private industry.

After a few years as an independent contractor, an administrative position with Ball Aerospace provided my transition into the aerospace industry. When the Ball facility closed, I migrated to McDonnell Douglas in Huntington Beach where I quickly landed a fantastic job supporting the production team on the International Space Station. Shortly after McDonnell Douglas merged with Boeing and the major structural segments of the Space Station were completed, I joined the Materials & Process Engineering organization. As the business, IT, facilities and administrative liaison for the Director, my days were filled with activities supporting a dynamic group of engineers and technicians who worked material issues on many complex Boeing products: Delta rockets, the Shuttle, International Space Station, military aircraft, commercial aircraft (including the 787), Phantom Works products, and research and design projects. Exposed daily to all of this advanced technology, I now wish that I had studied to become an engineer!

With such a varied career, I was afforded many opportunities to develop leadership skills. In 1989 I joined the Huntington Beach Management Association (HBMA) at McDonnell Douglas and was eventually elected to the Board. When the HBMA merged with the Boeing Chapter (BALC) of the National Management Association (NMA) I was responsible for membership. After holding several key board positions, I was elected President of the BALC in 2003. That year I was also selected as the NMA Member of the Year. In August of 2007, I retired from Boeing; however, I still enjoy meeting with current employees and retired friends.

Travel has always been a passion in my life. Al and I traveled frequently to Czechoslovakia during the 1980's to visit his family and friends. Our visits always included medieval castles and historical sites that shaped history. Political and social changes over the past 20 years have been startling – pre- and post-Soviet occupation. A subdued population under communism has emerged into a modern, technology-driven society. Prague has become the “Paris of Central Europe.” We travel to the Czech Republic frequently so I am learning the basics of the Czech language! My stepson, daughter-in-law, and grandson are frequent visitors at our home in Westminster. Visits from our 18-year-old grandson, Radovan, highlight our summers; he is an avid sportsman, enjoys home improvement projects with Al, and is becoming quite an accomplished chef.

On Christmas shutdowns in the aerospace industry, we started traveling to Hawaii. Now that we are both retired, we find even more time to visit the islands. Since retirement, we have also become cruisers! In 2008 we booked a cruise/land tour of Alaska. What a wonderful introduction to the independent Alaskan spirit! This winter, we explored many countries on our cruise to the Panama Canal. Viewing the technological wonders of the Canal amazed us. Learning more about the culture and history of Columbia, Panama, Costa Rica, and Mexico kept our minds busy. The most “adventuresome” tour of this trip was the Zip Line down through a tropical forest in Costa Rica. Planned for January of 2011 is a cruise of New Zealand, Australia and a land tour to the interior of Australia. Plans for future “adventures” are being formulated.



*The Fafileks enjoy the wineries in Temecula -2009
Jarmila, Radovan, Jr., Radovan, Sr., Al & Elaine*



Seeking more adventure, Elaine donned the safety gear and flew down the Zip Line in the Costa Rican tropical forest - 2010.



The Fafileks toured Acapulco while on their Panama Canal cruise – 2010



Elaine & Al rekindle memories in the San Francisco area – where they met and lived for over a decade - 2010

DO YOU KNOW WHERE ANY OF THESE 136 ALUMNI ARE?

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDRESSES, EMAILS AND PHONE NUMBERS

THANK YOU FOR ANY ASSISTANCE. **THERE HAVE BEEN MORE ADDED SINCE LAST ISSUE!**

EMAIL TO okayjan@hotmail.com or MAIL to Janice Ashborn, 8670 Robles Dr, San Diego, CA 92119

Cesaria	Accardo			Bob	Klassen	
Delores	Alonzo			Mary	Kluter	
Anne	Alvarez			Alice	Konopasek	Pipping
Julianna	Ardelean	Parker		Jane	Kunkle	
Roberta	Armstrong			Robert	LaFata	
Kathy	Arnold	Houlthouser		Dorothy	Lake	
Bertha	Ascencio			Robert	Lee	
Larry	Bailey			Patricia	Lenschmidt	
Charlette	Barnes			Leslie	Long	
Jeanne	Becker			Elvira	Lopez	
William	Behounek			Paul	Malenfant	
Ladd	Biggs	Merwin		Janice	Mann	
Jeanne	Boese			Olivia	Mardis	
Joanne	Boss	Turner		George	Marquez	
Carol	Brown			Josephine	Martinez	
Larry	Brown			Sandra	McFadden	
Diane	Burns			Dennis	Miller	
Harriet	Bush			Judith	Morski	
James	Butcher			Bobby	Nakatani	
Gary	Campbell			Sharon	Nolen	
Tom	Campbell			Deanne	Noriega	
Joan	Carson	Woodward		David	Nunez	
Susan	Chambers			Melody	O'Brien	
Lucy	Chavira			Janet	Parker	
Marie	Chavira			Judith	Peterson	
Ray	Chavira			Jerome	Pollock	
Kenneth	Clement			John	Powell	
Herbert	Cross			Bert	Putsey	
Robert	Cummins			James	Railey	
Richard	Davolos			Herbert	Reynolds	
Lorraine	Defosses			Pauline	Rheault	
Eleanore	Dominguez	Manqueros		Phil	Rix	
Rubin	Dominguez			Albert	Rocha	
Charlotte	Dotson	Ryan		Elizabeth	Romero	
Joann	Duke			Walter	Roy	
Sheila	Dunlap			Norma	Rust	
Ruth	Eckes			Jessie	Santellan	Romero
James	Engel			Janet	Schnute	
Nancy	Ewing			Mary	Sever	
Carrie	Farrell	Harner		Craig	Shepard	
Roberta	Fike			Janice	Silvera	
Virginia	Flewell			Judith	Smith	
Patricia	Fox			Delores	Soto	
Joy	Gammill	Zelvitz		Sharon	Stroika	
Eloise	Garcia	Flannery		Gail	Stuart	

