



The Hornet Gazette & Roundup



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Western Theme is Big Hit at Banquet

The 2010 Alumni Banquet is now history, but will not be quickly forgotten. By all reports, everyone enjoyed the western theme and a good time was had by all. Sheriff (Howard Emswiler) made sure that all the guns were checked at the saloon entrance and was happy to report that there were no barroom brawls. He did however have to tell the piano player to quiet down a few times. I guess some of those old timers had a hard time hear'n when the Mayor was a talk'n.



The barkeep (Buddy Capuano) said he nearly ran out of whisky (must have been them In'juns). Everyone raved over the vittles served up at the chuck wagon buffet. Miss. Kay (Capuano) put out a big spread and if'n you went home hungry, it were your own fault. After dinner, many of the folks were happy to just kick back, chew on a straw, relax in their best jeans and gather around the pickle barrel for some old fashion conversation. I can say that I heard some pretty tall tales that evening. And that Deputy, Bruce Baird, had me in stitches, I darn near wet my pants I was laugh'n so hard.

by Tom Dunkle

It's **Maroon & Gold** for 2011

Your Alumni Board has selected the banquet theme for the 2011 banquet and annual meeting, and it is **MAROON & GOLD**, also know as the **School Spirit** theme.

Don't wait until the last minute to start your search for those cool school sweaters, jackets, and sports letters. The dress is again casual, but you must adorn some sort of maroon and gold attire or accessory. Try to be creative and think of ways to show your school spirit; Licking Heights, Summit High, and don't forget Jersey. Bring some of your old school pictures of the class, the school, teams, parties, plays, freshmen initiation, senior trip, etc. to share and we'll 'scan' them for our records.

As we develop more details for the program for 2011, we will of course keep you up-to-date on the arrangements. If you have some suggestions you would like to share, please send them to us and we will include them in the next newsletter. Don't miss out on the fun and excitement, plan to join us on **June 18, 2011** for the Alumni Banquet.

Trophies Found and Preserved

Alum, Tom McCray, received word that all the old trophies were missing from the display cases at the High School. Tom called some other alumni and the search was on! We later discovered that the school had planned a benefit and memorial for a couple recently deceased students. In preparation, they had removed everything (old and new) from the display cases to display art work and other items in remembrance of those students. The trophies were carefully moved to a storage room behind the gym.

Why is this article important? Because we almost lost all our old trophies and class pictures some years back. After interviewing several alums, here is what I discovered. It was 1997 and the Superintendent (McVey) told Mike Swinning, Maintenance Supervisor, to clear out the old storage area in the District Office. He was told to trash everything. However, Mike, being an alum, could not bring himself to trash all those old memories. So, Mike called Barbara (Blair) Triplett, in hopes of finding a possible solution.



(continued on page 3)

Board of Education and Alumni Association Collaborate

Joint Press Release by Dr. Thomas Tucker: On August 4 the Board of Education of the Licking Heights Local School District approved a lease-purchase financing for the construction of \$10,500,000 in capital improvements to its existing buildings and facilities. The lease-purchase financing will allow the District to finance several capital projects and address the facility needs for the District's growing student population.

In connection with the lease-purchase financing, the District will authorize the execution of \$10,500,000 certificates of participation (COPs). COPs are securities that represent fractionalized interests in the lease payments but do not represent indebtedness of the District for state law purposes. The proceeds of the sale of the COPs are used to pay construction costs in the same manner as bonds are used to finance capital projects.

The **Licking Heights Alumni Association** approved a resolution on August 11 to play an active role in the financing. The **Alumni Association** will serve as a pass-through in the structure of the financing, executing a lease agreement with the District to document the District's lease payments and a concurrent "ground" lease agreement under which the District will initially lease the land that the capital improvements are constructed on to the **Alumni Association**. The **Alumni Association** will assign its right to the lease payments made by the District and its responsibilities in the financing to a trustee bank and will receive **\$1,500** for assisting in the financing, which will go toward the **Alumni Association's scholarship fund**.

"It is a win-win situation for both the School District and Alumni Association," said Superintendent Thomas Tucker. "The School District is able to finance \$10,500,000 in much needed capital projects without asking for additional property taxes while the **Alumni Association is able to help the School District and its students.**" The District will also take advantage of two financing programs available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The District expects to utilize both the Qualified School Construction Bond and Build America Bond Programs in the financing. Qualified School Construction Bonds will allow the District to receive an interest subsidy equal to up to 100% of the total interest cost on \$4,000,000 of the financing while Build America Bonds will allow the District receive an interest subsidy equal to 35% of the total interest cost on \$6,500,000 of the financing. Such interest subsidies will save the District and its taxpayers millions of dollars in interest costs over the life of the financing. (In part from a joint press release Monday, August 16, 2010)

Comments from Alumni President Tom Dunkle: The reasons for involvement of the Association are; 1) A third party is needed to enter into the real estate documents in the financing (Ground Lease and the Lease) as the Trustee is not willing to do so. The Association is a 501 c.3. charitable organization and is authorized to act as the Trustee. 2) The Association's involvement allows it to directly **assist the School District** without subjecting the Association to liability. 3) The Association will receive a nominal fee (donation) of \$1,500, which will go into the Alumni Scholarship Fund. 4) All of the Association's legal fees associated with the financing will be paid by the School District. 5) Risk to the Association is limited by the assignment to the Trustee (Huntington Bank) all rights, title and interests under the various agreements. At the advice of local attorney, Bernard Brush, the Board has contacted the Law Firm of Peck Shaffer. Attorney, Edward Cavezza, who specializes in public finance, public schools, and government and has agreed to represent the Association, pro-bono.

In part, because of the Association's involvement, the School District and Citizens will realize a significant amount of savings in financing (low or no interest funding and federal funding on other interest). The Alumni Association is honored to partner with Superintendent Tucker and Board of Education to assist the School District, the Students, and the Community in this 'Project'.

Thomas Dunkle, President

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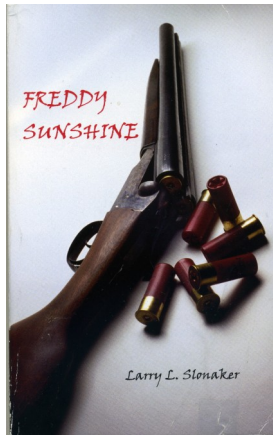
Author Larry Slonaker - Class of 1960

Larry Slonaker graduated with the class of 1960 from Licking Heights High School. He grew up in Summit Station where his parents operated a small store on Broad Street (in Summit). At the age of 18, he drove across the country to attend a small college in California. He returned to Ohio and completed his four years of post-doctoral study at the Mershon Center, Ohio State University in **National Security**.



At the same time he worked in both Detroit and San Francisco for two education task forces. His career has been devoted to consulting in both the public and private sectors. Larry is married with two grown daughters. He is now retired and in his own words: "but lively, and full of piss and vinegar".

Larry is working on a sequel to his book *Freddy Sunshine*, that he hopes to release in late 2010. He has also started work on a civil war novel.



I Didn't get an Invitation

Or why didn't so and so get an invitation to the Banquet. I heard this several times at the banquet and hear it from friends often. You already know the answer because you are either a member or you subscribe to the mailing list.

It's purely economics my friends, we would love to send everyone a newsletter and invitation to the banquet. But, the Association has nearly 4,000 alumni addresses on file. The postage alone would cost us \$1,760 and if you include the cost of printing, it totals just under \$3,000.

Here is an idea that many of our officers have started, we pay for the \$5 subscription to the mailing list for our kids (if they are LH grads). Some of them have started to attend the banquets and get involved. Why not give your kids a subscription, today?

Old Trophies Preserved *(continued)*

Barb told Mike to bring everything over to her house and they could store everything in her garage, until she found a more permanent solution. Mike and his crew then moved everything to Barb's garage. Barb and Tom Hendren sorted the trophies and pictures. Milly and Bob Shaffer volunteered to take the class pictures and restore them for the Association. (They are now hanging in the 'Hall of Fame' in the new high school).

Later that year, many of the trophies were used as decorations for the Alumni Banquet. At the conclusion of the banquet, alums were offered the trophies if they had taken part in the team activity. Barb, wanting to reclaim her garage, asked if anyone had any storage space available. Patty (Harr) Wyrick said she had a barn in Etna and the trophies were moved to the barn.

Bobby Kennedy, in a conversation with Barb, wanted to assist the Association in preserving school history and old memories. Barb suggested the trophies. That was all it took for Bobby! He organized a team of alums and initiated a trophy restoration project. We owe a debt of gratitude to those alums; Bobby Kennedy, Mike Harrison, Tom McCray and others for tracking down and recovering the old trophies. They found trophies in barns, homes, and several other locations. Many of the trophies were in pretty bad shape; missing figures, broken pieces, missing decals and name plates, or had just fallen apart. The team spent many hours restoring those trophies with a lot of sweat and pride. These men had been a part of many of the teams that brought trophies (and honor) home, back to Licking Heights and Summit High.

When the new high school opened, the Administration had set aside a large display case next to the gym, just for the Alumni. The Restoration Team proudly arranged the trophies, pictures and other memorabilia in the display case, just in time for the high school's grand opening. All the hard work paid off, the display was a great representation of preserving the past...it looked great!

The Association recently met with the new high school administration to reestablish lines of communication and ensure the security of the alumni property. We were welcomed by Principal Olverson and assured that we would enjoy the rights and privileges previously agreed to by past Administrations. He offered additional space and said that plaques would be placed in the display cases, dedicating the case to the Alumni. We welcome the opportunity and look forward to working with Mr. Olverson and his staff.

by Tom Dunkle

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Hannah graduated with honors and is headed to the Ohio State University. Her plans are to major in Veterinary Medicine and become a Veterinarian. She hopes to graduate in only 6 years (2 yrs early) and open her own office and animal hospital. We welcome Hannah to the Licking Heights alumni family and wish her the very best.

Scholarship Award Recipient



Ms. Hannah Sutton

Licking Heights Alumni Newsletter

2010 Boys Varsity Basketball Schedule *(Home Games Only)*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>
12/11	Grandview Hts.
12/14	Big Walnut
12/21	Fisher Catholic
12/28	Watkins Memorial
12/30	Lakewood
01/11	Millersport
01/21	Harvest Prep
01/29	Berne Union
02/08	West Jefferson
02/15	Liberty Union

2010 Girls Varsity Basketball Schedule *(Home Games Only)*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>
11/27	Canal Winchester
11/30	Worthington
12/02	Grandview Hts.
12/04	Berne Union
12/15	West Jefferson
12/23	Grove City
01/04	Liberty Union
01/22	Fisher Catholic
02/01	Millersport
02/11	Harvest Perp