

To: My 50th Reunion Classmates
From: Mollie Gregory Tower
50th Reunion Chair

June 5, 2013

Thanks to all of you who attended our 50th Reunion--some from across town, and some from across the country! What a gift to see 230 classmates plus their spouses (a total of 310 folks) gathered together after so many years. Together, we brought the dynamic synergy of fellowship and friendship to our reunion experience that will resonate in our minds and hearts for a long time. Many beautiful memories about a very special time were shared. And so many of you have written lovely notes of appreciation--thank you from all of the reunion team for being so thoughtful and taking the time to write! To quote classmate Bill Bohannon, who now lives in the Philippines and sent us all a sweet note:

“I guess Brian Newberry said it best when he said that we grew up in the best neighborhood, of the best city, of the best region, of the best state, of the best country in the world. We were lucky, extremely lucky!” **Amen!**

We have so many people to thank.

*We want to **Thank** our Teachers Who Attended*

Roland Johnson, Dean Of Boys
Julia Mellenbruch, Spanish Teacher
Corkey Robinson, Music Man

*We want to **Thank** our 137 MAROON ANGELS (see list below)*

Because of the generosity of all these classmates, we had two fabulous parties, enjoyed by all, for a very low individual cost. We will also be sending a check from our class to the *Austin High School Continuing Education Foundation* for student scholarships in the amount of **\$5,000!!!**

*We want to **Thank** our 50th Reunion Planning Committee*

This is the amazing team of classmate volunteers who attended planning meetings, shared their special areas of expertise generously, came and helped stuff 500 invitation envelopes, and created personally-hand-made-with-love nametags for each person who attended the reunion. What an EXTRAORDINARY GROUP!!

Terry Hobbs Heller
John Bode
Sue Dodgen Vasser
Jean Doremus Grubb
Malone Hill
Bonnie Issac
Georgia Lochridge
Claudia Middleton
Susan Roberts
Ann Varnado Page

Marguerite Kelly Jarrell Luedeke
Sidney Brient Lock
Richard (Bill) Engle
Mary Frances Mercado Guerrero
Marcy Howard
Joanne Jennings Riley
Dale Lovell
Tommy Moore
Scotty Thomas
Nancy Williams

We also need to give a **special note of thanks** to:

Ann Varnado Page – who helped by entering tons of information into our Class of '63 database!

Joanne Jennings and Richard Riley – who shared their home for our two big committee work parties!

Tom Moore - who helped to design and then did ALL of the printing for those classy invitations, directories, programs and bookmarks. Not only that, he did it with beautifully tranquil aplomb even when we pushed his deadlines to the max!

Bonnie Issac - who created our official Class of '63 website, the swankiest and most user-friendly Reunion Website Ever! Period!

Mary Frances Mercado Guerrero – who worked tirelessly to involve our Hispanic classmates in the Reunion! How exciting to touch base with this special group of old friends!

Jimmy Raup – whose humorous and remarkably detailed (what a memory!) play-by-play narrative of the “Miracle at House Park” literally had us reliving some remarkable moments from the 1962 football game clips--especially when the MIGHTY AUSTIN MAROONS stripped the District Championship right out of the hands of the fumbling McCallum Knights!

Brooks Peterson – who wrote the beautiful poem used in the Memorial Moment on Saturday night, and if you'd like to see a copy of that poem you will find it inside the front cover of your 50th Reunion directory!

*We want to **Thank** Our SPECTACULAR Entertainers*

The **50th Reunion Garage Band All-Stars** - John Bode, Charlie Morton, Glen Lewis and Weldon Gentry showcased the kind of real musical talent that shines with years of polish--they weren't slouch musicians in high school, and they were absolutely magnificent on stage at the County Line Friday night!

The **Blast From the Past Trio** – Roland Johnson on bass, Corkey Robinson on sax and Terry Hobbs Heller on keyboard...playing the tent crowd without any music sheets and no rehearsal at all, these three could have played anywhere, anytime, all night long!

The **Divas and Cavaliers** – one of the best variety cover bands on the Austin music scene, John Bode and Charlie Morton head up their own incredibly gifted group of musicians, which also happens to include one of the gals from legendary Rotel & the Hot Tomatoes. Check out their website at divasandcavaliers.com -- John and Charlie actually formed this group in 2009 from the many bands they've headed up over the years, starting 'way back in the 50's!

Corkey Robinson and the Keynoter Trio - provided music for the cocktail hour at Westwood Country Club Saturday night--and totally wowed the crowd. At age 85, Corkey is still a musical force to be reckoned with--just amazing!

Terry Hobbs Heller – who provided beautiful background music during our dinner Saturday night, plays in several venues weekly for her own charity of choice, Symphony of Soul [symphonyofsoul.org] -- “Devoted to lifting the spirits of others”-- and for private events. She also composes very special songs for special occasions.

Finally, Our Four SPECIAL “Reunion Thank You Awards”

Thank you, Claudia Middleton

How can we adequately thank you for volunteering to assume the job of GREAT COMMUNICATOR for our group? The organization of our past reunion parties, the fabulous monthly emails sent through the past years that are full of information, both glad and sad, and the sharing of information to help the success of this Reunion-
Thank you so much!

Thank you, Sidney Brient Lock

Our PARTY PLANNER EXTRAORDINAIRE who planned every detail of our Saturday evening party at Westwood Country Club – from the delicious food to the arrangement of chairs and tables to buying and arranging the beautiful flowers you saw around us.
What a wonderful night!
Thank you so much!

Thank you, Terry Hobbs Heller

Our CREATIVE WIZARD OF MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY
It is impossible for me to describe all of the “hats” Terry has worn in our planning for this weekend. What an amazingly talented, skillful and loving friend. For example:
Who designed & worked endless hours on the fabulous invitation AND the Directory/ Memory Book? – Terry!
Who worked so hard to create our wonderful Video Scrapbook? – Terry!
Who composed and performed our very own Class Reunion Song, “A Toast to the Class of ‘63?” – Terry!
Thank you so much!

Thank you, Marguerite Kelly Jarrell Luedeke

Our DEDICATED SHEPHERDESS

I call her our shepherdess because of her dedication to finding EVERY last one of our HS classmates, even spending the time and money to place over a hundred phone calls when all other avenues of finding people had closed. She knows everyone’s name, everyone’s face, and has made it abundantly clear that she loves each of us.

She is also the most fabulously organized person I have ever met, and was responsible for planning all those details that kept our weekend moving along so well.

Her beautiful arrangements for the Tours of “old” and “new” Austin High were so amazing – I saw quite a few misty eyes during those delightful moments. Did you check out her very special displays from the AHS Archives on Saturday night? AND her JUGS BRUNCH at her home extended the Reunion Magic for a few more hours on Sunday.

Marguerite Kelly - your incredible efforts were CENTRAL in helping us have the MOST FANTASTIC 50th REUNION EVER!!

Thank you so much!

Finally, thanks to everyone who joined us and shared your time, energy, experiences, and knowledge to make our brief time together so very special.

A REMINDER - be sure to check out:

- * Our FaceBook page (**AHS Class of '63 Reunion Group**) for wonderful pictures provided by Kathy Carr Hardy Hobbs and others
- * Our fabulous website (<http://www.ahsclassof63.com>) for further updates
- * The link to Bash Photos – the photo booth company that came to County Line - <http://bashphotobooth.instaproofs.com/category.php?event=828411&id=1218850#213864981>.

Enjoy all the pictures!!

LOYAL FOREVER

MAROON ANGELS

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to donate to the AHS Scholarship Fund, it's not too late!! We want to continue to build this fund through the years. Please make out your check to "AHS Continuing Education Foundation" and send it to:

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