

Tumwater High School Alumni Association  
January 2015  
Message from the President

Greetings THS Alum!

2014 was another year of incremental progress as we lean forward in the development of our THSAA. We finally received the Internal Revenue Service's approval for our status as a tax-exempt, non-profit charity organization pursuant to 501 (c) (3) of the IRS tax code. This means that individual and organizational contributions/donations to THSAA can be deducted for tax purposes.

Our paid membership continues to grow slowly at slightly over 50 members out of well over 10,000 THS alumni. This is a very miniscule percentage, and we'd love to increase the membership numbers significantly in the future. So, the question, I suppose, is "why should I become a THSAA member"? For many, it has been the interest to reconnect with classmates as well as other alumni from different generations who have had similar growing experiences at THS. The THS experience was during such a critical period in a teen's life and many valuable lessons were learned that translated to successful careers as adults. Many want to "give back" in some way by supporting fundraisers and becoming THSAA members. Our annual golf tournament combined with membership dues, allowed us to award \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors Tessa Brizzolara and Jerad Stottlemyre. We hope to continue this tradition and also increase the quality and quantity of scholarships awarded. This can happen with the support of increased alumni support and we'll continue to lean in that direction.

In 2014, our major activities included our annual golf tournament on June 14th, participation in the Tumwater 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, and hosting a barbecue prior to the Homecoming Game on October 10<sup>th</sup>. In 2015, we plan to host our golf tournament at TVGC on June 20<sup>th</sup>, participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, and host another Homecoming Barbecue. We'd love to increase activities if there's interest and support to do so. To keep in touch, visit us at [tumwaterhighalumni.com](http://tumwaterhighalumni.com) .

Leaning Forward,

Jim Ishihara, (64)