



## Tumwater High School Alumni Association

# THSAA NEWSLETTER

March 1, 2014

See us on the Web @  
[Tumwaterhighalumni.com](http://Tumwaterhighalumni.com)

### *Inside this issue:*

President's Corner 2

Principal's Message 2

Veterans' Corner 2

Scholarship 3

Coach Ward Induction 3

THSAA Activities 4

Reunions 5

Cathy Bain Passes 6

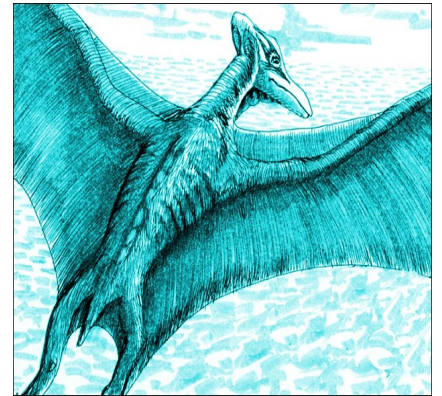
Alumni Letters 7

Treasurer's Report 8

## What's In a Name

Have you ever wondered about the THS mascot name

According to an Animal Planet article, Native American legend speaks of an enormous flying creature with a wingspan more than twice the length of a war canoe (approximately 20 feet). According to myths from Pacific Northwest, Plains and North-eastern tribes, the thunderbird was actually a god in animal form, and the thunderous sound of its flapping wings was meant to scare humans away from its territory. Although many stories claim the Thunderbird's favorite prey is the killer whale, other myths from the Illini tribe depict these monstrous birds as vengeful hunters. Some crypto zoologists today compare thunderbirds to pterosaurs, giant birds of prey that roamed the skies 115 million years ago.



Native American Legend:  
Thunderbird-Enormous  
Flying Creature

## Name the Newsletter and Win 1 Year THSAA Membership

We have extended our Name the Newsletter contest through mid 2014. Submit your suggested names to THSAA, P.O. Box 14114, Tumwater Wa. 98511 before July 1, 2014, or submit your suggestion to: [jet.i4d@gmail.com](mailto:jet.i4d@gmail.com)

# Address From Our President

President's Message: Greetings and Happy New Year! 2013 went by in a flash and with the dedicated efforts of a small number of alumni, your THSAA accomplished the following: conducted a membership drive, awarded our first \$1000 scholarship to McKenzie Click (2013) who is attending Seattle Pacific University, participated in the Tumwater 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade to promote our alumni golf tournament, held a fund raising golf tournament at Tumwater Valley Golf Course, displayed a history wall at homecoming, and created our website at [Tumwaterhighalumni.com](http://Tumwaterhighalumni.com). For the coming year we'd like to improve on last year's performance by significantly increasing membership in THSAA, increase our scholarship quality and quantity, sponsor a springtime family fun run, double the size of our golf tournament participation, sponsor a homecoming spaghetti feed, attain IRS 501.C3 nonprofit status, and most of all hear from more alumni.

There have also been suggestions to sponsor an alumni car show, an "all alumni" event of some sort, or perhaps an "all decade" reunion. These are all great ideas and would be possible if there are volunteers to make it happen. I'd like to encourage all alumni to consider participating in your area of interest. I'd like to thank the board members who have diligently performed their jobs and the contributors who have provided valuable support. A special thanks to Dan Parsons (65), for chairing the scholarship selection panel; and Rock Boardman (64), who has attended every scheduled meeting and volunteered to publish our newsletter. We'd like to expand our volunteer base as we continue leaning forward! Hope to hear from you soon.



# Message from Principal Broome

Dear THS Alumni Association members;

It is such an honor to be the Principal of Tumwater High School. As a 1997 graduate of THS this fall has been an incredible ride with many flash backs to my days as a student here. As I returned to my first football game in 17 years I was so proud to hear the band, see the packed student section and meet all of the community members at the game who had been there for decades. THS is a special place and I am honored to be a part of the Pride, Tradition and Courage that defines THS.

The previous Principal, Scott Seaman, did an incredible job preparing our building for the last 15 years and now we are in a great place to prepare our students for life after high school. At THS we are not satisfied with good enough; daily we prepare our students to be learners, leaders and servants in the community. We have an amazing staff and student culture and kids from around the county come to THS to experience a great high school. Kids learn and enjoy more than just an education but also the Tumwater experience.

Thank you all for your support, it has been great to re-connect with old friends, hear familiar songs, cheer "Who you routin' for? THS!" and re-integrate into the community that has provided me so much. People who are not from THS do not fully understand what it means to be a T-Bird. It means you still remember the fight song. It means you still remember the thrill of watching your team roll to another victory. It means building lasting relationships with your classmates and teachers. It means you still recognize the terms GATA, ROTA and NGUNGU.

Simply put.....being a T-Bird means a lot. Thank you for the warm welcome you have all provided me I look forward to sharing more memories with you and serving as your Principal long into the future.

Sincerely,

Jeff Broome '97

[Jeff.broome@tumwater.k12.wa.us](mailto:Jeff.broome@tumwater.k12.wa.us)



## Alumni Veterans Corner

THSAA would like to reestablish an acknowledgement for our military veterans which was begun during the 50th Anniversary Celebration. Veterans please E-mail the following information to Rock Boardman at [elkhorns@comcast.net](mailto:elkhorns@comcast.net) or "Snail Mail" to him at 8109 88th St. Ct. SW, Lakewood, Wa. 98498.

Name	THS Class	Branch/s of Service	Years of service	Rank	Campaign/s or Commands
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# 2013 Scholarship Winner McKenzie Click

The Tumwater High School Alumni Association (THSAA) offered a secondary education scholarship to graduating seniors for the first time in 2013. The scholarship of \$1,000 was awarded to McKenzie Click who is attending Seattle Pacific University this fall.



The scholarship award selection is made based upon leadership, scholarship, and financial need. This year, eight applications were submitted and evaluated on these criteria. The committee selected McKenzie based upon her scholastic record, her leadership, her participation in school activities, and general financial need.

McKenzie is a 4.0 grade point student. McKenzie participated in tennis, volleyball, orchestra, choir, and other clubs. McKenzie was a leader in school activities and her church.

McKenzie is a deserving recipient of this scholarship award. She exemplifies the pride, tradition, and courage that are part of the Tumwater High School legacy.

Excerpt from THSAA Website.

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## Longtime Boys Basketball Coach Bill Ward Honored

Coach Bill Ward, THS's first boys basketball coach, was honored by his coaching associates, family, and THSAA members at the 39th annual Hall of Fame Banquet held at the Tacoma Elks Lodge on the 24th of July 2013. Coach Ward's induction into the WIAA Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame was attended by his wife and family, and several members of the THSAA. Among the THSAA members attending were five members of his first THS basketball team.



# THSAA 2013 Activities

## 2013 Homecoming



Mrs. Ward with Jim Ishihara, Jim and Len Madison

THSAA members were out in force for this year's homecoming. Our extensive THS Historical Wall was displayed for all to see.

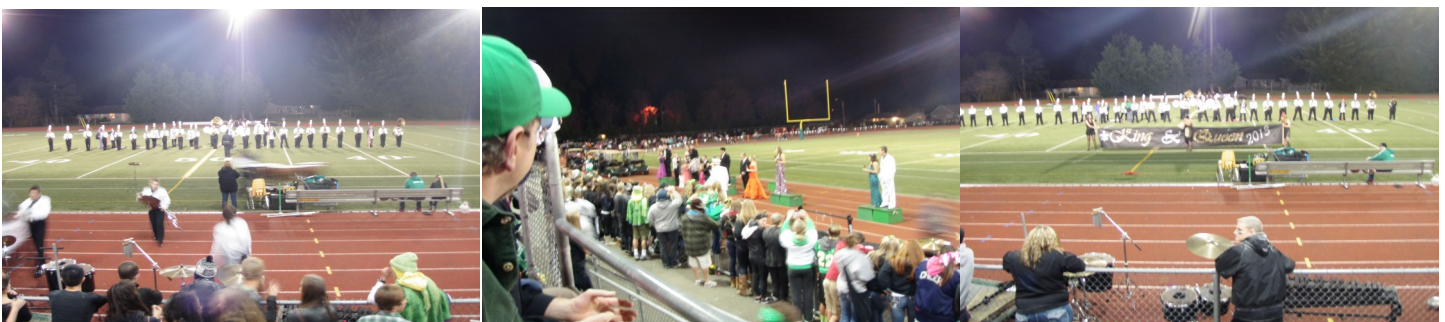


Louisa Shimamoto and Janet Ishihara set up part of the THS "Historical Wall" for Homecoming.



THS'S 52 YEARS OF HISTORY

The Halftime Score—An eventual lopsided victory



Halftime Festivities



# 2013 Annual Tumwater High School Alumni Association (THSAA) Golf Tournament Summary

34 enthusiastic golfers teed off at 08:00 am August 3, 2013 to participate in the **First** annual (second if you're counting the 2011 50<sup>th</sup> THS celebration tournament) THSAA Golf Tournament at Tumwater Valley Golf Course. The tournament is THSAA's major fund raiser to support the scholarship program as well as other alumni activities.

This year's "best ball" tournament was won by the team of Ron Gudyka, Phil Hallstrom, Eric Tonder, and Kevin Campbell (87) with a score of 8 under par. Longest drive winners were Kevin Campbell and Andrea Carey (90). Closest to pin winners were Lloyd Ensley (65) and Andrea Carey. The first three lowest scoring teams, plus longest drive and closest to pin winners received Costco gift cards for their excellent performance. The tournament was concluded by a delicious buffet luncheon/award ceremony served by the River's Edge Restaurant at TVGC.

Sincerest **THANK YOU** to all our community sponsors:

Tournament Sponsor, **OBEE Credit Union;**

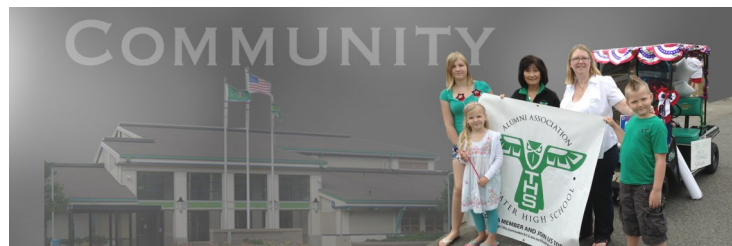
Cart Sponsors, **Dairy Queen** and **Olympic West Retirement Inn;**

Hole Sponsors and Major Donors, **N R Smith and Associates, Tumwater Auto Salon, Tumwater Automotive, Vision Health, Baydos RV, Olympia Federal Savings, Olympia Family and Cosmetic Dentistry, and Brewery City Pizza.**

Our THSAA annual golf tournament is scheduled for June 14, 2014 at Tumwater Valley Golf Course

## INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

The annual Independence Parade was a huge success, as usual. THSAA was represented by two board members: Janet Ishihara (Secretary—'65) and Pam (Wagner) Sapp (Treasurer—'69), navigating the



Accompanying the entry were several grandchildren of Pam's and future THS Alumni! The parade route started on Linderson Way, traveled south on Capitol Blvd. and ended on Israel Rd. at the High School. There were enthusiastic parade watchers all along the route and many shouts of support! We are looking forward to 2014's parade and hope to increase participation by having an alumni band and alumni dance team members march along! Look for details to be announced and join us.



## REUNIONS

2014 Reunions:

Class of 63/64 - (50th & 51st) Sunday July 27th 2014 — Tumwater Historical Park — Noon to ?????

Class of 69 - (45th) Saturday Oct. 11th. — Place and time to be announced

# Cathy Bien (Montague) '63' Passes

One of THS's very first pep staff and a driving force in building camaraderie in the formative years of THS has passed away.

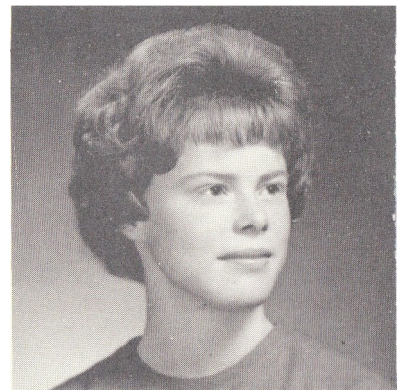
Cathy Montague Bien was instrumental with Tumwater High School students moving forward from our humble beginning in a concerted effort to build and create together one of region's premier high schools. She possessed a huge smile, big heart, and more energy than any teenager in the county. The first four classes of THS students operated more as one giant class to initiate the new school, openly learn and include everyone in the opportunity to build this new high school. Cathy embodied that spirit of camaraderie and not just because she was a part of the first cheerleading team.

Mary Catherine Bien, known to most as Cathy, and in naval aviation circles as Dragon Lady, was born 11 Oct 1945 at Tumwater, WA to Patrick and Faye Montague. She attended Catholic grammar school, then enrolled in the first class at the new Tumwater High School. Along with her family, she was active in the Catholic church which gave her a spiritual foundation that was at the heart of her entire being and sustained her through many challenging times. She was a student at the University of Washington but left school after two years to pursue her passion for aviation as an airline stewardess for United Airlines.

Cathy was engaged to be married to a Navy pilot, Terry Ryan, who was killed in a carrier aviation accident in early 1970 after which she met another Navy flyer, Lyle Bien. In the summer of 1972 they became engaged and were visiting the farm near Hillhead, SD where Lyle grew up when she was involved in a catastrophic horseback riding accident that very nearly took her life and left her a quadriplegic. After weeks of recovery, they were married in Aug 1972 with Cathy still immobilized and in traction in St Luke's Hospital in Fargo, ND. From there she was transferred to the University of Washington Medical Center and later for 8 months of intense rehab in San Diego where she was finally released from the hospital just days short of one full year from the date of her accident.

For the next 26 years, Lyle pursued his career in naval aviation while Cathy took on the endless duties of caring for the wives and families of the sailors with whom he served. She also managed 11 household moves from coast to coast, was President of the Wives Club, the go-to girl for organizing everything from Christmas parties for the families to sending care packages to the sailors who were deployed, to just being the always understanding ear whose phone was never too busy to take a late night call from a 20-year old Navy wife alone and away from home for the first time. In addition to her volunteering to care for the Navy families, Cathy continued to work on her college degree, provide a welcoming home for an endless parade of visitors, and always make welcome her small cadre of life long friends who were as dear to her as her own life.

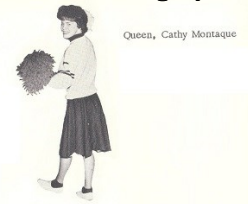
Cathy's was a fulfilled and active life that lost little of it's velocity when she was confined to her wheelchair for 42 years. All those years were shared with her husband, Vice Admiral Lyle Bien, retired, of Hillhead, South Dakota. Cathy died peacefully at her home at Nine Mile Lake near Hillhead, SD on 14 Sept 2013 at age 67. She chose to be buried at the Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego, CA.



CATHY MONTAGUE: Homecoming Queen; Song Queen; Pep Club President; Legislature; Girls' League; Latin Club President; F. T. A.



With her legacy



Queen, Cathy Montague

## Alumni Letters

Tell us about your life since attending THS. A few short sentences will do. Send it in with your dues or membership form.

### Howard Brooks

#### IN MEMORY OF DAD by Sheli Sweet

Howard Brooks graduated from Port Orchard High School (Now South Kitsap) where he was the first player in Washington State to be selected as an All State player for two consecutive years. His first teaching and coaching position was in Pe Ell in 1956, moving to Little Rock Grade School in 1958. While there he taught 7th and 8th grade, along with coaching, driving a school bus, counseling and helping out wherever he was needed. In 1972 Howard transferred to Tumwater High School, where he taught Language Arts and coached the freshman basketball team. Along with his active coaching career, he devoted several years to refereeing basketball games.

**From:** Jim Ishihara to Sheli Sweet  
**Subject:** In Memory of Dad

Sheli, Thank you so much for sharing your "In Memory of Dad". I remember your dad as the coach of the Little Rock Grade School sports teams (I graduated from Michael T Simmons in 1960 and we used to have non-league games with Littlerock). I remember your dad as a tall, handsome athletic man who did a great job of coaching his athletes, and his players showed great respect for him. As I recall he was kind of quiet but when he talked the players listened. I graduated from THS in 1964, so didn't have the opportunity to get know him when he became THS coach and educator, but I'm sure I would have learned a lot. As a two time all-state basketball player I'm sure he had a lot to offer his players. I live in Kitsap County and this area has produced a lot of basketball talent.

If you don't mind we'd like to include your "In Memory of Dad" in our next newsletter.

Jim Ishihara (64)

**From:** Sheli Sweet to Jim Ishihara  
**Subject:** RE: In Memory of Dad

Jim, thank you so much for your kind thoughts of Dad. He was a wonderful man and it's really nice to hear what others thought of him too. I sent a copy to both my sisters, so they could "cry" too. I would love to have you include my piece on Dad in the next newsletter. If you know of any others Vwho knew him, maybe they could write a few words. It'd be great to include your remembrance also, thanks again for the kind words.

Sheli Sweet

### Andy Lally

**Subject:** THS alumni

Hi Jim,

Somehow I received an email about Tumwater High Alumni. Sounds like an exciting plan and long over-due. I now live out of state and will not be able to attend any of the meetings but found it interesting that the timing of this goes along with some of the things we are working on here at the seminary. We have been looking at way to connect with our alumni, both those who graduated at the college level and those who went onto master degrees in the seminary. Typically our graduates become priests or work within the church but that doesn't always happen as life plans do change.

Please allow me to offer a few of the things we are looking at, the first is a private facebook group in which you have to be approved to join. The beauty of Facebook is that it is free and it is

A private page on the school's website that could be used a forum for alumni. Keeping in touch with alumni through newsletters and cards. And additional item which is more designed for the graduate level is annual refresher training which we do conduct doing our Spring term.

Please let me know how I can help from a distance, I hold many great memories from Tumwater and have many great friends still from those years. Thank you for leading the effort!

Go Navy!

Andy Lally Class of 1978  
Information & Technology Department  
(503) 845-3100  
[andy.lally@mta-ngel.edu](mailto:andy.lally@mta-ngel.edu)

### Dr. Joseph L. Kearney

**From** Jim Ishihara to Erin Leary

I'm Jim Ishihara a 1964 graduate of Tumwater High School where your father was our first principal. Norm Wisner gave me your email address as a contact point for the Kearney family. We are in the process of establishing a Tumwater High School Alumni Association (THSAA). The activities leading up to our 50th anniversary celebration in 2011 gave us a lot of momentum to establish the THSAA. Your father was such a positive and indelible influence on that first faculty, student body, and staff and I know that he wanted to attend the celebration. With your concurrence we would like to honor his memory by naming our THSAA life membership "The Dr. Joseph L. Kearney Memorial Life Membership"

Sincerely,  
Jim Ishihara

**From:** Erin to Jim

Absolutely, Jim! That would be a lovely way to honor his memory. I've copied my siblings on this email to let them know.

Thank you for thinking of dad. It is wonderful to see his legacy continue.

Erin

Editor's Note: Dr. Joseph L. Kearney was THS's first principal.

# Yearly Treasurer's Report

THSAA

Treasurer's Report January 1, 2013

01/01/13	Beginning Balance	\$4,366.68	
	<u>Deposits</u> Membership funds		\$ 860.00
	Golf Tournament Sponsors		\$3,500.00
	Golf Tournament Players		\$3,230.00
	Merchandise sales		\$ 20.00
	<u>Expenses</u>		
	USPO (renew post box for 1 year)		-\$ 76.00
	Business Lic renew & Rev Tax due		-\$ 36.39
	Website development		-\$ 763.91
	Insurance		-\$ 663.65
	Golf Tournament expenses:		
	Office supplies (P.O., printing, etc.)	\$ 230.04	
	Prizes	\$ 346.26	
	River's Edge (lunch)	\$ 648.71	
	TVGC	<u>\$1,598.00</u>	
	Total Golf expenses		-\$2,823.01
	Scholarship (McKenzie Click '13)		-\$1,000.00
	Transfer to savings for scholarship fund		<u>-\$1,771.83</u>
12/31/13	Ending Balance (checking)		\$4,341.89
	Dedicated donation to scholarship fund		\$ 500.00

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Pamela Sapp, Treasurer*