

OSCEOLA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Osceola High School, Osceola, Missouri

May 2017

Reunion 2017

Plans are underway for this year's reunion June 9, 10, and 11, and celebrating with the 50-year class of 1967. This year's plans include Friday night at Sugarfoot, another wonderful piano concert, a tribute to Richard Sunderwirth at the Saturday night program along with a delicious dinner served by the Osceola senior class of 2018, worship service with Austin Shelby, OHS 2015, bringing the message and the always respectful balloon release.

The Class of 1967 will be leading the Alumni Parade at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Any entry in the parade will be appreciated and enjoyed! Jump in your car, pick-up or pull your boat around the square to celebrate OHS! Don't forget the Roscoe Connection at 2 p.m. in the courthouse. This has always been a great time for Roscoe area students and many others to connect! Lunch at the Bus Station Café will be available again this year—come reminisce about old times in the café while enjoying burgers and fries.



JOIN US FOR ANY EVENT OR ALL!!!



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Remembering the Old School

By Karen Nickel

Do you remember the old playground and ball field at the old school?

On the playground there were swings and slides; teeter totters, merry-go-rounds and the giants. There were also rocks as big around as coffee cans. If you never fell on the old playground, you have no idea what I'm talking about. Skinned knees and elbows were trophies of the day.

Can you hear the sounds of the playground? Hear the creak of the swings, the clang of the giants, the slap of jump ropes on cement and shouts of laughter from happy children.

Can you see the kids weaving in and out while playing tag? Watch while some are playing Statues or Blind Man's Bluff.

Look at the old ball field. It is crammed with kids of all shapes, ages and sizes. High school students play on the diamond next to the road and younger kids are on the one in the back, with numerous fielders playing work up. In March, some lucky children mingle with the ball players to fly their kites. Some kites go so high they vie with low flying planes.

Winter's snow resulted in snow angels, snowmen, snow forts and snowball fights. Who cared if our gloves, trousers or dress tails were soaked—we were having fun.

I'm sure that the old playground and ball field would be considered too dangerous today. Instead of tall metal slides, kids now play on short plastic ones. Teeter totters are not just painted planks of wood, they are also plastic, with good hand-holds.

The rocks have disappeared from playgrounds and are replaced with shredded rubber tires.

Sometimes I wonder, "How did we manage to live through all those dangerous activities?"

Maxwell Is Alumni

Scholarship Recipient

Mariah Maxwell was the 2016 recipient of the OHS Alumni Scholarship. Presented each year to a deserving senior, Mariah is the daughter of Willie and Jan Nelson Maxwell and the granddaughter of Janelle Shelby Nelson. Mariah is attending State Fair Community College.

New OHS Author Larry Lewis

Check out Larry's new book, "Osceola, A Town on the Border" on Amazon. Larry has written a charming book about the area and his memories of the past. Grab one of these books; it's a "good read!"

In Memory. . .

Richard Sunderwirth '56

Eunice Scott '42

Bill Hartley '42

Francis M. Roberts Jr. '57

Doris Smith Garrison

Bud Lankford

Joe & Marge Whiting

Lisa Sykes Phelps '79

Edith Marie Watkins

Tom Roberts

Curtis Tyson '91

Lynn Boyer, Coach

Bonnie Wheeler Gardner
'53

Makeeshia Skopec '01

Joseph Walker

Denzel Manuel

Lee Gilbert '49 (passed in
2015)

Jane Marshall '66

Jo Burrow '60

Wanda Carroll Layher '44

Charleen Kauffman Peery

Evelyn Gilbert Cary '47

Bill Woods '60

Sharon Evans

Judi Miller Burks '71

Denny Basore '65

Dan Howerton '66

Bob Harris '35

Good Things from OHS Alumni

- **Class of 1938 Celebrated 50 years with first Parade**
- **Class of 1957 had their own band and performed at their 50th**
- **These classes offer OHS Graduates a scholarship—1950, 1952, 1957, 1960, 1964 Phil Suiter Memorial Scholarship, 1971, and the Alumni Association scholarship**
- **Class of 1965 had their own Jim Sunderwirth perform in concert at their 50th**
- **Class of 1970 have faithfully given out flags to veterans at the Alumni program for several years! Thanks so much!**
- **Class of 1961 Steve Cloud brought his chocolate fountain to share with alumni at his 50th**
- **Class of 1968 Jeanie Gover Cloud handles a facebook listing—ask her to friend you! “I Attended the old Osceola Public School, Osceola, MO”**
- **Class of 1954 with Bob Howerton and Bill Harris as engineers, designed and built the best parade entry for the Alumni to share, wonderful picture of the old school was included in giant size**
- **Class of 1947 Glendena James Perkins has donated 5 hand-made quilts of valor for OHS veterans and given at the reunion; thank you, Glendena, and thank you veterans!**
- **Class of 1968 spouse, Robert Keeton, husband of Karen Bell Keeton, presents his cowboy poetry each year at the reunion! Entertaining!**
- **And maybe most importantly to our community, Class of 1960 graduate Anita Gilbert Bennett coordinates, supervises, and presents the Osceola Ministerial Alliance Christmas Pageant each year. If you haven't taken this walk down memory lane, make plans now to see it mid-December this year—it is much the same as the earliest productions led by Mrs. Remington. Many alumni proudly assist Anita in differing chores connected with the pageant. It is truly**