

## **2021 Thedford Alumni Association Banquet Minutes**

**Date: June 19 2021**

### **Officers**

President Connie (Edelman) Elliott (1961)

Vice President – Alee (Ewoldt) Tucker (1963)

Secretary/Treasurer Willis (Bill) Hardy (1962)

The Thedford 64<sup>rd</sup> High School Alumni was held on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at the Thedford High School west gym in Thedford.

This year's theme was "We left footprints in the sand" and honored alumni that graduated in years ending in 1. The gymnasium was decorated in royal blue and yellow. Wooden boxes with sand and Sandhill cactus were used on the tables and there were footprints on the tables. Honor class pictures were in the vases with candles and placed at the end of the honor tables.

Doors opened at 5 pm with registration and social hour.

There were 76 reservations

There were 12 registries at the door

Total attending 88

Alumni from Honor Class attending are:

**Five from the Class of 1951** Janet (Scranton) Howell, Dee Hickman, Joellen (Jody)(Loudon) Phillips and Marjorie (Cordis) Barent.

**Five from the Class of 1961** Dorothy (Warren) Harmon. Connie (Edelman) Elliott, Margy (Ewoldt) Daniels, Ray Harmon and Gene Weber.

**Nine from the Class of 1971** Mary Ann (Garner) Rudloff, Doug Havermann, Marian (Miles) Nutter, Beth Baxter, Sally Burney, Debra Figard, Kent Magnuson, Wanda (Pound) Purdum, and Terry Purdum

**Seven from the Class of 1981** Cheryl (Hoffman) Linder, Donna (Jameson) Higgins, Kelly (Johnston) Neill, Christi (Mulligan, Leonard, Joe Sutton, Brett Bowdish, and Laurie (Smith) Wessels,

**None from the Class of 1991**

**None from the Class of 2001**

**None from of the Class of 2011**

**Two from the Class of 2021** Rhiannon Painter and Colton Polenske

Connie Elliott welcomed those in attendance and the “Pledge of Allegiance” to our flag was recited.

A prayer was given followed by a Prime Rib dinner, catered by the Double T. from Halsey, Ne. with Reta Teahon, her sons and helpers. THS teacher, Justina Bencoter’s “SkillsUSA” students helped serve, taking around food for those who needed it and cleaning up.

A replica of the old schoolhouse that was where the Elementary School stands now was on display. Made from a 1944 picture.

Fifteen door prizes were given out throughout the banquet. Numbers were placed on homemade sand cherry jelly cups and numbers drawn out. Nebraska gifts include flavored honey, a Yeti tumbler, chimes, and more. Some of the door prizes were donated by Alumni members.

Bill Hardy, Committee Secretary/treasurer asked present Veterans to come to the head table and state their name, branch of service and about their experience. They were given gifts from the Alumni to thank them for their service to protect our nation.

The high school CNC Design Class with teacher Bridger Chytka, designed a four-foot Trojan emblem and made it out of metal using a plasma cutter. Bec Ray painted it in red with black lettering identifying it as the former Trojan mascot. It is mounted in place of the painted emblem that was painted over many years ago. The Trojan mascot was changed to the Knights in 2009-10 when the sports team consolidated with Dunning. There are plans to possibly add a Knights mascot to the wall in the future.

The CNC Class also made a 15-inch emblem of the Trojan, which was raffled off, tickets were sold for \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5, \$50 of tickets were sold. The proceeds were added to the high school scholarship. The winner of the Trojan emblem was Michelle McIntosh.

The Alumni scholarship of \$250 plus the \$50 from raffle and the Alumni matched the raffle with \$50 was awarded to Rhiannon Painter, she will be given the \$350 after the first semester. She plans to attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

A special table was set up in gold for the oldest alumni members attending. There were 21 different classes, 65 Alumni and 23 guests. The oldest classes represented were 1945 Max Hickman, 1947 Doris Hickman, and 1949 Tom Howell.

Terri Licking was there to take pictures of the honor classes.

In November a letter was sent to all living honor alumni for the coming year. This year 78 letters were sent and 18 returned as not deliverable. Whitepages were used to find a new address and then resent the letter and of which only 2 returned.

The Alumni business meeting was headed by Bill Hardy, Secretary/Treasurer. He gave the Treasurer Report.

### **Treasurer Report**

It is the financial report for 2020 banquet since some of the bills come in after the banquet.

Starting Bank balance was	\$2,134.73
Deposits	\$2,865.00
Expenses	\$2,568.48
Ending Balance	\$2,431.25
Ended with increase of	\$46.52

For this year I will give just the income as it is before the banquet and the expenses after the banquet. The income is broken down in 4 categories for banquet, dues, donations and for scholarship. It does not include what was paid at the door this evening. So far this is what has been received.

Received for banquet \$960

Received for dues \$225

Donations received \$685

Donation for scholarship \$70

Total income \$1900

Bills to be paid are Double T for meal, reimburse Connie for her expenses, a Scholarship of \$350, and SkillsUSA organization for servers \$150.

Bill thanked all past officers for keeping the Alumni going over the last 64 years. Specially to Connie Moiser and Verla Hamilton. Mary Alice Curtis said her mother should also be recognized for keeping the records for many years. Also thanked Connie Elliott for all her time and work putting this banquet together.

He reported the alumni has a web site which Meriel Woods is working to improve and make changes, it has forms that can be downloaded, past newsletters and banquet minutes are available. The newsletter no longer needs a password to view. It has all the classes, and you can search by last name. I encourage you to visit the website.

Bill reported that he and Connie have been working on getting email addresses of alumni so they can be contacted without the postage expense, so if you have not provided an email address, send an email to thefordalumni@gmail.com or if it has changed let us know. We have over 400 email address, an email was sent to each one to test if it was a good address, over 50 returned as not delivered.

In May 136 newsletters were sent to the alumni who is current on their dues and the honor classes. Nine were returned, thanks to the ones that sent information about their experiences since graduating.

The oldest honor class that showed alumni still living is 1931, 15 in class show only 6 deceased, only 2 had addresses Grace White and Hazel England, using Whitepages reverse address lookup they showed to be living at that address, so a newsletter were sent them, but both were returned, both would be 107 years old. The Association needs your help to keep the database updated.

The last item to report on is dues, it has been \$5 for a long time. Some registrations included additional money to help with the alumni expenses thanks to them. But increase in expenses and starting again to give a scholarship, I feel we need to increase it to \$10. The item was opened to the floor for comments on raising the dues to \$10 starting after this banquet. No comments or objections were made, so a voice vote was taken, it passed with no vote against.

Bill thanked everyone all for their help and support and thanks for coming.

It was a pleasant evening with much fun and visiting being enjoyed and the Alumni Banquet will be in 2022 with honoring the classes ending in 2. The officers ask that you please get your new addresses and e-mails in to Bill Hardy at 402-362-5330 or e-mail [thefordalumni@gmail.com](mailto:thefordalumni@gmail.com) Secretary/Treasurer so they can be updated. Meeting closed.

Honor Class pictures will be taken.

#### **Deaths Since 2020 Banquet**

<b>Class</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Maiden</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Death date</b>
1938	Perry	Pearman	Perry Pearman	December 01, 2020
1944	Betty	Jameson	Betty Neal	April 19, 2021
1956	Norma Jean	Knepper	Norma Jean Stevens	March 01, 2021
1957	Rena	Ayres	Rena Piel	September 21, 2020
1957	Alta Mae	Mercer	Alta Mae Chilson	May 24, 2021
1959	John Paul	Morris	John Paul Morris	November 10, 2020
1960	Alberta Ann	Jones	Alberta Ann Kramer	January 04, 2021
1961	Deanna Lynn	Curtis	Deanna Lynn Sweet	March 24, 2021
Freshman 59	George	Jones	George Jones	February 8, 2021
1963	Cheryl	Neiman	Cheryl Neiman	January 23, 2021
2007	Charity Jean	Miles	Charity Jean DeLawyer	April 18, 2021

Minutes submitted by  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Willis (Bill) Hardy