

## **2025 Thedford Alumni Association Banquet Minutes**

Date: June 21, 2025

“Theme this year is “School Dazes”

### **Officers**

President Connie (Edelman) Elliott (1961)

Vice President – Alee (Ewoldt)Tucker (1963) and Cathy (Kenton) Williams (1972)

Secretary/Treasurer Willis (Bill) Hardy (1962)

Doors opened at 4 pm with registration and social hours, with snacks and drinks provided.

Registered for banquet 45 alumni from 19 different classes and 10 quests, oldest class attending is 1947.

Alumni from Honor Classes attending are: Every 10 years and after 40 years every 5 years

None from the Class of 1915, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1935, 1940 1945, 1950, 2005, 2015, 2025

Three from the Class of 1955, Rosalyne Ewoldt Condos, Barbara Connell Patterson and Winifred McKell Cooley

Two from the Class of 1960, Merry Ewoldt Jones, Barb Hanna Stichka

Five from the Class of 1965, Tom Witt, Neil Butler, Jim Teters, Allen Boyer, Sharon Hilderhoff McMullen and Dick Baxter

Eight from the Class of 1970, John Butler, Mary Alice Dugger Curtis, Russ Finney, Barry Keslar, Sydney Loudon Mickelson, Cindy Mercer Olson, Steve Mercure, Mark Nutter

Six from the Class of 1975, Perry Ayers, Debra Haberman Hatlewick, Rick Johnson, Sybil Mercer Fox, Kenya Neal Johnson, Dixie Neal Hollenbeck

One from the class of 2025 Tyson Hickman

### **Thedford Alumni 2025, written by Connie Elliott**

As placed in the Thomas County Herald with some changes

The Thedford 2025 Alumni Banquet was held on June 21. 2025.

This was the 69th banquet. it was started by the Class or 1957 in 1956.

Doors opened at 4:00 p.m. with a concession stand having many treats by Alee Ewoldt Tucker (1963) graduate. Many enjoyed them and "especially" the "Good Ole' Sandhills Water" the best in the nation.

Registration was handled by Bill Hardy, 1962 graduate, our faithfully excellent secretary. Other officers are Cathy Kenton Williams, Alee Ewoldt Tucker, Sylvia Mintle, Connie Edelman Elliott.

Alee Tucker sold raffle tickets at the door on two boxes of pewter Christmas ornaments designed and made by Linda Egle.

A greeting was given by Connie Edelman Elliott, and a prayer.

A delicious dinner, catered by The Double T in Halsey and owned by Reta Teahon, was served. The menu consisted of baked steak, baked potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls and cupcakes.

Door prizes were donated by the local merchants Call's Garage, Ewoldt's Grocery, Midwest Partitions, Sandhill Oil, Sandhills Corral - Bar None Hat Co., Homestead Spa & Hair, Thedford Lumber and Anthem Coffee.

Tables were decorated with many school items, lunch, wooden desks, apples, and lunch sacks with nut cups in them. Copies of a report card held napkins, silverware and straws. Many old books were also on display.

Bill Hardy, our own Veteran, honored the attending Veterans that were present at the banquet were Allen Boyer, Dick Baxter Jim Teter, Russ Finney, Tom Witt and Carl Olson, Bill Hardy and Dee Hickman. Each received a head and shoulder statue of a Veteran with "Thank-You for Serving" on it.

Classes ending in five and those after 40 years were honored.

The Class of 1975 was honored for 50 years since graduation, with special booklets with articles from newspapers, etc. from their year books and the graduates' pictures.

The oldest graduate received a free ticket for the raffle. Doris Hickman Bowen, class of 1947, was the recipient and Vernon Lowden donated the ticket.

Entertainment was actors consisting of the committee members: Teacher - Cathy Kenton Williams; Superintendent - Sylvia Mintle; Student - Bill Hardy; Student, Alee Ewoldt Tucker; Mother - Connie Elliott, the theme "School Daze" was played out.

Youth from the Brewster 4-H Club and their leaders were servers for the evening.

Pictures of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln hung in most school houses. Originals from Helen White's mother who taught Rural Schools, were on display.

A display of deceased graduates and obituaries were on display along with candles burning in "memory" of those who are forever present in our hearts.

The Alumni has purchased a USA flag on a stand, four banquet tables and a Trojan emblem and a cart made by Terry Elliott for the tables.

A sign for Thedford Champions is being made by the Industrial Arts Class, designed by their teacher, Bridger Chytka. It will be displayed by the Historical Society Building in downtown Thedford.

Two banners with the Alumni Banquet date are on display entering town from the east and west.

At the close of the banquet the raffle winners were drawn. Mark Teahon and Jessica Paxton Warren, Class of 1963, each won one box of six Ornaments.

TAPS was played by Tyson Hickman, Class of 2025, for the close of the program.

Cathy Kenton Williams Class of 1965 has agreed to take the presidency for 2026.

### **Secretary /Treasurer's Report**

This year 163 newsletters were sent out, and had 9 returned, and they were mailed with new addresses.

Also emailed 55 to honored members, with 5 returned, working on doing more by email, so if you have an email address, please provide it with your registration form.

The association has a web site. It has a lot of information and history about Alumni. Anyone can have access to it. It also has available a PayPal button which is used to pay for banquets, dues, and donations for scholarship. Serval has taken advance of that.

I encourage you to visit the website and email to [thedfordalumni@gmail.com](mailto:thedfordalumni@gmail.com) to provide information and updates, this way I have a copy. I try to keep reports of anyone that passed away, by emails and newspapers, and word of mouth. If you have suggestions of what to add to the website let me or Merriel know.

Date: June 15, 2025

This is the financial report for 2025

Starting Bank balance was \$3,528.07

Deposits	\$4,289.46
Expenses	\$4,482.76
Ending Balance	\$3,294.77
Ended with a decrease of	\$193.30

The gym key deposit check of \$250 was destroyed, so increase of \$56.70

### **Income**

1.	Dues	\$580
2.	Meals	\$1220
3.	Donations	\$715
4.	Scholarship donations	\$45
5.	Donations for table cart	\$400
6.	Raffle sells	\$390
7.	Donations concessions	\$39
Total		\$3,389

1.	Gym kitchen	\$50
2.	Connie for raffle and misc.	\$300
3.	Servers	\$200
4.	Double TT caters	\$1600
5.	Extra to kitchen	\$100
6.	Connie expenses	\$100
7.	Cathy expenses	\$100
8.	Website expenses	\$664
Total		\$3,114

Scholarship to be given in fall of 2025	\$500
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Submitted by

Secretary /Treasurer

Class	First	Maiden	Present	Death date
Teacher	Paula	Zibell	Paula Rhian	August 21, 2024
Teacher	Nona L.	Wagoner	Nona L. Lechtenberg	December 31, 2024
1925	Paul		McCawley	June 1, 1998
1930	Sylvan Lee		Sylvan Rodabaugh	February 23, 1993
1945	Jennings "Cap"		Capellen	July 18, 2013
1954	James R.		James R. Barker	December 25, 2024
1954	Hazel Coleen	Florea	Hazel Smith	October 19, 2024
1955	Martha L.	Edelman	Martha L. Donason	June 1, 2024

1955	Larry	Larry Jameson	September 9, 2024
1955	Barbara Ann Harrell	Barbara Ann Booher	February 12, 2023
Spouse	Michael Rae Crawford (Carla Simonson 1960)		September 3, 2024
1965	Janet Lee Coble	Janet Lee Cromer	October 14, 2024
Spouse	Randall LeRoy (Janet Coble 1965)	Randall Cromer	November 24, 2024
1966	Frank LaVay	Frank LaVay Warren	January 22, 2025
1967	Mary A. Licking	Mary A Feyerherm	February 5, 2025
1967	Leora Lynne Baxter	Lynne Johnson	April 26, 2025
1969	Charles Walter "Shot"	Charles "Shot" Kenton	August 1, 2024
1970	Dave Rogers	Dave Rogers	May 11, 2025
1976	Sharron "Shari"	Shari Kenton	May 23, 2025
2006	Jacob Dean	Jacob Dean Byrd	September 21, 2024