

## ANN ARBOR HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1963

# 50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION NEWSLETTER # 1

**TO:** Ann Arbor High School, Class of 1963

**FROM:** The 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion Steering Committee  
*Stan Bidlack*                      *Charles Larkins*  
*Bill Bond*                         *Louise Salamin*  
*Betty Brown*                    *Rick Weid*  
*Mary Lou Covert*              *Chuck Wilkins*  
*Pete Dodge*

**SUBJECT:** Reunion Planning INFO!

**DATE:** February, 2011

Hello, Class of '63 —

Greetings from your Reunion Steering Committee!

This is “general information” Newsletter #1 to let the Class of '63 know how our Reunion planning is coming along. We'll try to send out one of these periodically as things develop. In addition to our website (<http://www.aahs63.com/>), we hope that everybody will look over these occasional updates to find out what we're up to. Don't hesitate to ask questions, make comments, and give us advice! Contact us via email [here](#), or USPS mail at:

Class of 63  
PO Box 2229  
Ann Arbor MI  
48106

We've accomplished quite a lot in the last year. It has been work, but we're having fun, and we're trying to think of everything. Here's a look at our endeavors to date ...

## OUR "MAJOR PROJECTS" SO FAR:

- **WEBSITE CREATION** — Our [website](#) is constantly changing. We are updating the classmate contact list, expanding the various pages' content, and adding photos & profiles.
- **CLASSMATES LIST** — The list is growing as our ongoing search for *EVERY* classmate continues. We want to track down complete & accurate contact information for everybody. This is one of our toughest jobs. We've got a ways to go, but here are the statistics right now:

110 of us missing (no address, phone, or email as yet);  
333 of us with either physical address or phone number only;  
247 of us with e-mail address.

*YOU CAN HELP!* The more email addresses we can get, the more our postage expenses drop. We need everybody's assistance on this one — *please* check the website's [Missing Classmates list](#) and let us know if you have any of the postal addresses *or, if possible, email addresses*. That will help a lot with our tight budget!

- **WE'RE A NEW NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION** — With a ton of help from classmate-attorney Peter Dodge, we have formed a non-profit organization. It's called the *Ann Arbor High School Class of 1963 Alumni Association*. This was necessary in order to comply with the IRS and Michigan's tax laws in making us a tax-exempt entity. In other words, it really helps with expenses and balancing the budget. Thanks a million, Pete!
- **REUNION LOCATION** — After debating lots of Washtenaw County potential venues for the reunion, we have found a spot that will be ideal for our big event. We'll be spending the evening of Saturday, July 13, 2013, at Washtenaw [Community College](#). We have reserved a large section of WCC's excellent Morris Lawrence Building. It's a beautiful facility with moveable walls that will give us lots of flexibility for dining, dancing, relaxing, and hobnobbing.
- **THE "ANNUAL EVENT"** — We hate to brag on ourselves, but ... we think that one of our best ideas so far has been what we've called the *CLASS OF '63'S ANNUAL EVENT*. As you can see from the [website photos](#), our first one (last July) was, as we used to say in '63, *a blast!* You'll notice from the pictures that one of the best things about the day was the attendance of eight of our former teachers. They really seemed to have a good time, and it was wonderful to see them again. Sadly, we've lost one since then. Last month Roland Schwab passed away. At the event Mr. Schwab thoroughly enjoyed hearing all about what we old students had been up to. There will be a memorial for him in Ann Arbor next Spring, when his grandson returns from Afghanistan. We had 33 classmates in attendance. Of course, we had no trouble recognizing each other since we all still look just like we did in '63. So — if you're in southeastern Michigan in either or both of the next two summers, put it on your calendar — July 9<sup>th</sup> this year, and July 14<sup>th</sup> in 2012, Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson Avenue, from 4:00 – 7:00PM.

## OUR NEXT STEPS:

- **A FEW THINGS THE STEERING COMMITTEE IS UP TO NOW** — At our upcoming meetings we'll continue the following Reunion plans & program details.
  - ✓ The website now has a page called "[Reunion Committee Notes](#)." This is where we've been posting our meeting minutes so that everybody can have access in some detail to our thinking & planning. We update it after each meeting.
  - ✓ We are taking the necessary steps to obtain required insurance and a one-day liquor license at WCC. There will be a cash bar with beer & wine.
  - ✓ We are making arrangements for special pricing for a block of Reunion rooms at [Weber's Inn](#). We will have a hospitality suite, and use of the indoor pool, hot tub, etc. Weber's is being very generous with us on usage of the hotel. We also hope to obtain discounted suites for special groups, such as teams, band, social networks, clubs, etc.
  - ✓ Ann Arbor has gone through a million changes since we left Ann Arbor High. We want to be able to offer tours of the city for those who haven't been around here for a while.
  - ✓ [Ann Arbor High](#) itself has changed a great deal, too, although there are plenty of familiar and nostalgic spots still there. It's fun to look around, so we're planning on a tour of the old place for classmates who'd like to reminisce as well as take a look at what's new. (It's a classy lookin' school!)

- **FINANCES** — Um ... well ... er ... ahem, here's an unabashed plea for your assistance!

As mentioned, our Steering Committee budget is tight. We are doing our best to keep the Reunion overhead and ticket costs as low as possible. Plus, we'd like to invite former teachers to be our guests (there won't be many). So far, we on the Committee have all been chipping in as various needs come up. However, we would shamelessly accept donations to seed our work and keep us out of the red. If you'd like to chip in, watch the website for a soon-to-come "Donation Button" to click on.

- **WHO'S PROBABLY COMING?** — It's important for us to start developing a ballpark figure on the number of us that are planning to attend the Reunion. It would be extremely helpful if you could tell us what your thinking is right now. In other words, if you are definitely planning to be there OR definitely not planning to, we'd like to know. We're not asking for a "written in stone" commitment either way, but it would sure help us as we forge ahead with planning.

Whenever you can give us a *tentative* decision on your attendance, please fire off a note or an email. You'll find handy "Email Us" buttons on most pages of the [website](#).

They look like this.



Okay! That's the latest info from here in Ann Arbor. Don't forget, we welcome your comments and questions at any time ...

**BUT WAIT!** Here are answers to *two questions* we've already been asked:

*"Will the Reunion be formal?"*

Nope!

The dress for the evening is casual. Dress to dance, mingle, hobnob, blend, relax, mix, get hugs, chat, renew friendships, rub elbows, network, gossip, hang out, and have a lot of fun!

*"Can you guys get a real jukebox for the night?"*

Yup!

It's all taken care of — we will have an actual real-live Jukebox, full of great 45's, and set up so that we don't even have to stick quarters in it!

Until **NEWSLETTER #2**, so long for now from your Reunion Steering Committee!

*Stan Bidlack*

*Charles Larkins*

*Bill Bond*

*Louise Salamin*

*Betty Brown*

*Rick Weid*

*Mary Lou Couert*

*Chuck Wilkins*

*Pete Dodge*