



The Marionette

FUNDRAISING AND FAMILIES

Submitted by Carolyn Spurlock-Sims '67

My years at Harding were not my favorite. As a typical teenager, I believed everything my parents said was wrong. They just didn't understand what I was facing. And, of course, those cheerleaders, jocks, and rich kids didn't understand either. I thought everyone was headed to college but me. I was skinny and the nickname that I heard was Olive Oil. High school was an unhappy time for me because I didn't feel like I belonged.

In all of the 40 years since I left Harding, no one had ever contacted me about a reunion except my friend, Julie Patton, until this year when Linda Samis went to the trouble of finding my phone number. As I remembered it, she and I lived in

totally different worlds. Should I call her back? I never thought anyone would call me to invite me to a reunion. I called – and she sounded fun! What a great experience it was to see all of those people from a new perspective, and to find out that we all have a lot in common after all.

So, the moral of this story is – when someone calls you to become a lifetime member of the alumni association or offer you the opportunity to give to the scholarship fund, realize that they are taking a risk. They don't know if you had fun in high school or if you hated those years, but they know that we are all part of the Harding family – we all belong!

We all had the opportunity to get the best education available in Oklahoma City when we were in school and we didn't pay private school tuition to get it. By

see Fundraising—page 3

THE CLASS OF 1967 CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Submitted by Hal McKnight

The event started with the daunting task of locating all our classmates. The Harding High School Alumni Association provided a partial list and **Frank Battle** and **Linda James** did the rest, succeeding beyond anyone's wildest dreams.

The festivities began on Friday night, July 20th at the Grand House. Saturday events included an assembly at Harding, touring the building and browsing through the memorabilia in the alumni area. Afterward, everyone meet at Johnnies for lunch.

One hundred forty-three classmates and guests attended the dinner dance at The Sportsman's Club and the evening was a great success. I was amazed that my classmates had not changed at all—Must have been the water back in the 1960's.

In closing, I embrace the memories both from High School and from our 40th reunion. They will warm the soul and illuminate the tapestry of shared experiences that connect us all.

Our Mission

The mission of Harding High School Alumni Association of Oklahoma City is to maintain contact with Harding alumni, promote class reunions and provide funding for instructional needs including scholarships for qualified graduating seniors in the Oklahoma City Public school system, with a focus on Harding Charter Preparatory and Harding Fine Arts.

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Outstanding Alumni—Bill Frankfurt and Kris Reeves Frankfurt

A well-known Harding High School couple, Bill and Kris Frankfurt will be featured this fall as “Wall of Fame” honorees by the Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation.

Bill attended Northwestern University where he received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is CEO of the architectural and engineering firm Frankfurt-Short-Bruza in Oklahoma City. Under his stewardship the firm has become one of Oklahoma’s largest architectural and engineering companies having completed projects for many locally and nationally known corporations. In Oklahoma City the firm was responsible for oversight of the MAPS project, the Kerr McGee Building and the Capital dome.

Bill is a graduate of the USAF’s 49th National Security Forum and a member of the Air Force Material Command Community Liaison Program and the Tinker Air Force Base’s COMSTAR program. He has served in several different capacities as an advocate for public schools and healthcare. He was a principal in fundraising efforts of the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, raising over \$1 million dollars in the last decade.

In his leisure time, he enjoys traveling, golf, photography and time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

After leaving Harding, Kris attended the University of Oklahoma where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi.

In her professional life Kris is a real estate agent and broker. She has served as business manager for

The Oklahoma City Junior League and the OmniPlex Science Museum. Kris has served on Oklahoma City boards including the Appeals Review Board, the Board of Adjustments and the Myriad Gardens Foundation. She has volunteered her time to a number of healthcare agencies serving on the Board of trustees for SSM Health Care of Oklahoma, St. Anthony Hospital Cancer Care Institute and others. She has served in leadership positions for more civic functions and foundations than could be listed here including Oklahoma City Junior League President and member of the National Board for Women in Community Service. Together, Kris and Bill have three children and four grandchildren.



Bill and Kris Frankfurt

Second Annual Meeting of the Membership

The 2nd HHSAA Annual Meeting was held in the Harding Library on Saturday, June 9th, 2007. All classes from 1958 through 1968 were represented.

Susan Moorman-Edwards reported that our alumni list now includes almost 2,200 people and we have email information for 50% of those on the list. **Mary Susan Sisk-Bond** reported that the Newsletter Committee, chaired by **Becky Blackstock ‘61**, published 2

Alumni Marionettes over the past year. Our website, www.hardingalumni.org, maintained by **Joe Briley ‘63**, continues to grow and improve. The HHSAA Scholarship Committee, chaired by **Greg Robertson ‘64**, awarded \$1,000 scholarships to five very deserving 2007 graduates of Harding Charter Prep --- the first graduating class from Harding in 39 years.

Revisions to the HHSAA by-laws were approved and the slate of officers and board members elected.

Following our meeting, we all headed for lunch at --- WHERE ELSE?? --- Johnnies

HELP SEND A STUDENT TO COLLEGE!

CONTRIBUTE TO THE HHSAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

supporting the alumni association, you can help a student receive a quality education at Harding and give them the opportunity to continue on to higher education. Isn't that what families do; help each other succeed?

The Harding High School Alumni Association is currently pursuing lifetime memberships and scholarship donations in a campaign from September 15 through November 15. You may call Carolyn Sims at 405-808-7922 to make a donation or to help with the campaign. You may also send in membership dues and scholarship donations using the form on page 4 of this newsletter.

Harding Charter Prep Graduates It's First Senior Class

The first senior class to graduate high school from Harding in almost 40 years celebrated their graduation this May.

Members of the Harding High School class of 1958 participated by providing refreshments for the senior convocation.

The success of the class can be seen from the following academic accomplishments:

- 50 students graduated.
- 93% of these students will attend college.
- These students were awarded over \$750,000 in scholarships and grants to attend college.
- 75% of the class were awarded some college credit from Advanced Placement Testing.
- 3 student will start college with a sophomore standing.
- Several other students will start college as 2nd semester freshmen.

Congratulations to the class of 2007!!

Harding Fine Arts Center Invites Harding High School Alumni

A number of activities are scheduled this year at HFC that may be of interest to alumni of Harding High School.

- October 26th and 27th—presentation of the musical "Oklahoma" in celebration of the State's Centennial.
- November 6 from 7-9 p.m.—Open house for prospective students and their parents
- November 12th—Veterans' Day Assembly
- December 4th—Choir and Piano performance
- December 6th—Band and guitar performance
- February 16th—First Annual Winter Arts Fest, 2-5 p.m.. This event will include art and photography exhibits as well as musical dance and drama performances.
Harding alumni are invited to exhibit their work and/or perform at their alma mater.

For further information about any of the events above or to sign up for the Winter Arts Fest, please contact Sherry Rowan at 702-4322.

Gwen Hughes Bell '60, July 9, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK

Jack Biggerstaff '60, Oklahoma City, OK

Alfred Bragg '61, 2007, Chawtaw, OK

Len Coleman, '59, Sept 12, 2007, Morris Plains, N.J.

Jan Gill Fritsch '60, 2007, Fairview, TX

Don Roberts '59, May 15, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK.

John Tarr '59, August 18, 2007, Edmond, OK.

Thomas Weirich, D.D.S. '65, June 3, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK.

Richard Carter White, '67, Sept 14, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK.

Francelia Latting Wilson '61, May 21, 2007, Oklahoma City, OK.

Report recent deaths at
www.hardingalumni.org

Classes of 1968 and 1969

Tentative plans for a combined reunion of the classes of '68 and '69 are set for July 25-26, 2008.

Check www.hardingalumni.org for updates as they become available.

What Are They Doing Now?

James Thompson, M.D. '61 reports that he is practicing upper limb reconstructive surgery at the Carolina Hand Surgery Associates in Ashville, N.C.

Lee Gammil '65 opened a new restaurant, "Life is a Beach", in Highland Village, TX. He will retire soon and live in Marble Falls, TX.



**HARDING HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION OF OKLAHOMA CITY**

P.O. Box 54307
Oklahoma City, OK 73154

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AND/OR CONTRIBUTE TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND !

Dues from alumni are what keep this newsletter coming.

If you are a lifetime member, use this form to update your contact information. You can also update your contact information at www.hardingalumni.org

\$10.00 Yearly Membership from Oct 1, 2007 or \$100.00 Lifetime Membership

First Name _____ Last Name while at Harding _____

Last Name _____ Spouse _____ HHS class _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I have included a \$ _____ donation for the HHSAA scholarship fund.

E-mail address _____

Update us on what you have been doing _____

Mail to: HHSAA, PO.Box 54307, Oklahoma City, OK 73154