

CRATER ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Summer 2010 • Issue No. 44

ALUMNI FEATURE



The **Crater Foundation Newsletter** is proud to profile another in a long line of distinguished Crater High School graduates. 1990 graduate Karyn Christen (Thomas) is our focus for this edition. Karyn, the valedictorian of her class, is the daughter of Kent Thomas and Sonja Burk. Karyn has 3 siblings; Lisa (Class of '89) is a dental hygienist in Colorado, Springs, CO. Burk (Class of '99) is a chiropractor in Coeur d'Alene, ID, and Chad (Class of '09) is a freshman at the University of Oregon. Karyn points to her parents for instilling in each of their

children a strong work ethic.

"I have never been one to reminisce much about the past, but this article forced my sister and me to break out our yearbooks." Academics were and are Karyn's top priority, but her memory of Crater centers on the athletic field. "Our school had amazing spirit"; the pep rallies, Friday night football and the men's basketball teams' success at the State Tournament were memorable times. Karyn participated in basketball and track, but it was volleyball which aided in Karyn's future destination. Karyn still maintains contact with high school friends Shauna Tracy, Sandy Tuttle and Judy Anderson. "I also remember the great teachers who set me up for success, especially my homeroom teacher, Mr. Jerry Anderson, whose support and encouragement I am grateful for to this day."

Karyn was only 16 when she graduated from Crater. She was recruited for her academic/volleyball skills to the United States Air Force Academy. Entrance is denied for students under the age of 17, so at the counsel of the Academy, Karyn enrolled in the Preparatory School. Graduating in 1991, she was admitted to the Academy and started Basic Training in July of 1991. Karyn played varsity Intercollegiate Volleyball all 4 years. She graduated with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant and with a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering. As in high school, Karyn distinguished herself academically, earning the status of a Distinguished Graduate. This translates to finishing in the top 5% of her class.

Under President Clinton, in 1995 the United States was down-sizing the military, so pilot-training slots were competitive and the wash out rate was high. There were 225 pilot training slots for the 900+ graduates in Karyn's class. Despite limited experience, Karyn was accepted into the program. At the same time she was also accepted into graduate school, the option that she selected, delaying for one year her pilot training. "I chose the University of Texas at Austin, one of the top three Environmental Engineering Schools

in the nation." Karyn finished the 2 year program in a year and a half with a Masters of Science degree in Environmental Engineering and reported to Laughlin Air Force Base, TX, to start Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training. Karyn graduated in April 1997, #1 in her class, and pinned on the rank of First Lieutenant. She was given her first choice of assignments, Travis Air Force Base, CA.

Karyn spent 4 years at Travis flying KC-10's. She pinned on the rank of Captain, upgraded to Aircraft Commander, flew 22 combat sorties in the Kosovo Air War, received an Air Medal, saw 4 different continents and circled the globe twice, once to the east and once to the west. It was during her duty at Travis that Karyn met and married her husband, Eric Christen, and they had their first son, Damian. Eric, a fellow Oregonian, is a government affairs director for merit shop contractors in California.

Faced with a mandatory re-assignment (every 3-4 years) Karyn and Eric chose to return to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs where she still flies and evaluates cadets in the Airmanship Programs. Karyn pinned on the rank of Major; she and Eric had their daughter Sophia, and Karyn separated from active duty in October, 2005. "I was immediately hired by a Reserve unit at the Academy and have to this day been an instructor for Cessna (T-41) and Diamond (T-52) aircraft." In 2008 Karyn and Eric had their second son, Gabriel.

"My current job allows me to spend more time home with my family and for this I am thankful. It reminds me how I truly appreciate all those still serving on Active Duty, in the Reserves and the National Guard, who volunteer to serve, spend time away from their families and risk their lives to protect and defend our country. I have traveled to many countries all over the world and I am eternally grateful that I have the privilege of living and raising my family here in America, the greatest nation on earth." Karyn, the **Crater Foundation Newsletter** echoes your sentiments and THANKS YOU for your efforts and example.

I nside Features

- ☉ Where are they Now
- ☉ Boys Track - State Champions
- ☉ Crater's Class of 2010
- ☉ New Athletic Conference

WHERE *are they* NOW?

1952 – 1959

BARBARA PINNEY MCCOY (54) – lives in Central Point with her husband Ted. They retired in 1992 and moved to Hawaii where they lived for almost 5 years. They then moved back to Central Point. Though “retired” Ted continues to dabble in heavy equipment. Barbara has been to Europe; Hong Kong; Washington, DC; Detroit, Michigan; Nebraska; Vermont; San Diego; and Seattle in a 1933 car. Future plans are to travel in Ted’s 1933 Graham car.

RENA WRIGHT CRUSE (55) – lives in Eagle Point, Oregon with her husband, David. She has four children, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Rena loves to travel and has been to Mexico, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and all over the USA. She’s been on a cruise to Alaska and Canada. Her hobbies include her yard and growing flowers, attending sporting events and enjoying her home.

JOE ALVAREZ (59) – lives in Pensacola, Florida with his wife Pamela. They have three grown children, Kevin, Bryan and Ty. Their home is on the waterfront so they enjoy anything on the water. Joe is retired and has an offshore boat so spends a lot of time in the Gulf of Mexico fishing.

1960 – 1969

EILEEN KELL LIME (67) – lives in Los Alamos, New Mexico with her husband Jim. They have two grown daughters, Rachel and Susan. Eileen was a RN BSN but is now on disability and works as a substitute nurse for Los Alamos Schools. They enjoy fishing, fish-keeping as a hobby and singing.

DAVID BAILEY (67) – lives in Minden, Nevada with his wife the former Diane White (71). They have two grown daughters who both are graduates of University of Nevada Reno. David has a son Stuart who teaches mathematics and coaches basketball at Tigard High School. David has been a transportation/logistics recruiter for the past 18 years and owns Lake Tahoe Executive Search, L.L.C. Diane has been a technical support person for Charter Cable for 13+ years.

ALETA MILAM (68) – lives in Central Point with Carl, her husband of 43 years. They have two grown children, Tracy and Chuck. After 8 years in trucking and 12 years in sales, Aleta is now employed in Office Management with Medford Irrigation District

WILL MILLER (69) – lives in Medford with his wife the former Christine Taylor (70). They have five children and one grandchild. Will has been self-employed as a photographer for the last 28 years in the Rogue Valley. They enjoy BBQ’s, air shows and watching their children experiencing life.

1970 – 1979

CHRISTIE JOHNSON WINTER (70) – lives in Gold Hill with Ron, her husband of 26 years. Christie has a son Jim and a daughter Wendy who both graduated from Crater High School. Christie and Ron enjoy bass fishing and spending quiet time at home.

VINNIE GARMAN LAREMORE (72) – lives in Renton, Washington with her husband, Joe. They have three grown children, Aaron, Kevin and Crystal. Vinnie after twenty years went to college and became a nurse which she dearly loves. Her husband is a technician repairing home entertainment equipment.

RANDY DANIELS (76) – lives in Wilsonville, Oregon with his wife, the former Denise Kirk (78). They have two children, Randi and Jordan. Randy is a Line Supervisor for Coca Cola Bottling and Denise is an accountant with US Bancorp Equipment Finance.

CINDY MEADOWS MCMULLEN (75) – lives in Shady Cove, Oregon with her husband, Rick. They have two children, Mallory and Mandy. Cindy is an Underwriter and Operations Manager for GMAC Mortgage where she’s been for the past 15 years. Her husband Rick is a retired Medford Police Department Officer.

MARCUS VICKLUND (75) – lives in Anderson, California with his wife of over 30 years, Anita. They have two grown children, Marcus and Travis. Marcus is owner of NorCal Auto Center in Redding, California and has been in car sales for over 29 years. Marcus loves to ride motorcycles, fish and hunt. He is also a collector of old cars.

1980 – 1989

DUANE PFAFF (82) – lives in Portland, Oregon with hi wife Jamie. They have three children, Morgan, Molly and Davis. Duane is currently Operations Manager for Successful Money Management Seminars, Inc. He enjoys golfing, softball and playing with the kids.

CHRIS SKAUGSET (84) – lives in Longview, Washington with his wife, the former Angela Mills (83). They have one son, Zachary. Chris received a B.S and an M.A. in U.S. History from Southern Oregon State College and University of Oregon. He later received an M.L.S. from Syracuse University so that he

could work in libraries. He has held numerous positions at the Longview Public Library including his current position as the Library Director.

ANNE-LOUISE JACOBSSON SANDVIK (85) – lives in Eskilstuna, Sweden with her husband, Robert. They have 3 children, Gustav, Elin and Tilde. Anne-Louise works as a Site Manger and Resource Deployment Manager at IBM.

MAY WONG (85) – lives in Renton, Washington with her husband, Brett Christopher. They have two children, Tyler and Emily. May is in her 21st year as a high school social studies teacher in the Kent School District near Seattle.

1990 – 1999

HOLLY WHITE DRAKE (90) – lives in Central Point with her husband, Dan. They have three children, Alli 17, McKenna 15, both attending Crater, and Garrett 12, who attends Scenic. Dan is a co-owner of Drake’s Paint & Supply in Medford and Holly is an Operations Assistant with People’s Bank of Commerce. In their spare time they usually spend it with family although Holly and her oldest daughter recently took a cruise to Mexico and have decided that Cabo San Lucas is their new favorite vacation spot.

BRANDI COLPITTS COWDEN (93) - lives in Eagle Point with her husband, Robbie. They have two children, Megan 14 and Tate 12. Brandi works for Premier West Bank and Robbie is a teacher and coach at Eagle Point High School.

MEGAN SMITH NEAL (94) – lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband, Jake. They have a new baby, Hazel, born just over a month ago. Megan graduated from Willamette University and began work at Sunnyside Middle School and has been there for the past 11 years. Her husband Jake also graduated from Willamette and is an environmental engineer.

TYLER SMITH (99) – lives in Corvallis, Oregon with his wife, Michelle. They have three children, Ella 4, Asher 3 and Knox 8 months. Tyler graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in mechanical engineering. He is currently a regional manager for ACT Technology in McMinnville. His wife, Michelle was a basketball player for the Oregon State University women’s team. She also graduated from OSU and is now a stay at home mom.

NEW ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

In 2006 the Oregon Schools Activities Association made significant changes in athletic classifications throughout Oregon high schools. The result was a move from 4 levels of classifications to 6 levels, based on enrollment. Beginning with the fall athletic season the OSAA has again made changes in classifications.

Crater High School which has been in the 5A classification for the past 5 years has been moved up to 6A classification. That move has resulted in many changes of conferences and opponents. Crater will compete in the South West Conference in football, cross country, swimming, wrestling, golf and track & field. The South West Conference will consist of North Medford, South Medford, Crater, Grants Pass, Roseburg, South Eugene, Sheldon and Thurston. In wrestling only, Redmond is also a South West Conference member.

In the other sports, Crater will be a member of the Southern Oregon Conference. In volleyball, softball, baseball, boys’ and girls’ basketball and boys’ and girls’ soccer, Crater will compete as a member of the Southern Oregon Conference. That conference will consist of North Medford, South Medford, Crater, Grants Pass, Roseburg, Eagle Point and Ashland. Although in the Southern Oregon Conference, Eagle Point and Ashland will compete for state playoff berths as 5A schools.

Playoff positions are complex at best as each sport has different criteria to qualify for post season playoffs. The **Alumni Newsletter** will attempt to explain those criteria in later issues and as the information becomes clearer.

Crater High Class of 2010

FOUR SCHOOLS — SIX VALEDICTORIANS

THE CRATER FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER is proud to introduce the 6 valedictorians for the Crater High School graduating class of 2010.

Representing the Crater Academy of Health and Public Service is Hannah Ironside. Hannah is the daughter of Blake and Julie Ironside. Hannah has a weighted GPA of 4.16. In the fall of 2010 Hannah will venture to Oregon State University and study Biology leading to Pre Med. Her career plan is to become a Pediatrician. Her fondest memory of Crater was a class trip to New York City.

The School of Business, Innovation and Science is proud to announce Amanda Gudzan as the Valedictorian for 2010. Amanda is the daughter of Kevin Gudzan and Ann Barns.

Amanda has a weighted GPA of 4.04. In the fall of 2010 she will join Hannah on the Oregon State University campus. Amanda plans on a major in nursing. Her career plan is to matriculate from Corvallis to Oregon Health Sciences University with the aim of being a Pediatric Nurse. Amanda also points to a class trip to New York City as a highlight of her 4 years at Crater.

The Crater Academy of Natural Sciences has co-valedictorians for the graduating year 2010. Aubry Fuller is the daughter of Doreen Fuller. Aubry has earned a 4.0 GPA these past 4 years. In the fall of 2010 Aubry will enter Southern Oregon University where she will pursue her career goal of being a nurse. Aubry recalls the simple day-to-day associations with friends as a fond memory of C.H.S. Joining Aubry as co-valedictorian is Jose Benitez. Jose has earned a 4.0 GPA; he is the son of Jaime Jacuinde and Connie Ramos. In the fall Jose will venture to Oregon Institute of Technology where he will pursue a degree in Electrical Engineering. Jose played soccer for 4 years at Crater and recalls that experience as being something very special.

The Crater Renaissance Academy likewise has co-valedictorians for 2010. Jennette Chisolm is the daughter of Ernie and Astrid Chisolm. Jennette has accumulated a 4.02 weighted GPA and will enter Marquette University (Milwaukee, WI) in the fall of 2010. Jennette has yet to determine a major field of study. Her fondest memories of Crater include a class trip to the British Isles. Joining Jennette is co-valedictorian Emily Wilder. Emily is the daughter of Grif and Kathy Wilder. Emily has a weighted GPA of 4.02 and will attend Pacific Bible College/Rogue Community College in the fall. Emily has several mission trips planned during her studies at Pacific Bible College. Pursuit of a Counseling degree will be her academic focus.

THE CRATER FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER is proud of all the graduates of the class of 2010 but takes this opportunity to pay a special tribute to Valedictorians – Hannah Ironside, Amanda Gudzan, Aubry Fuller, Jose Benitez, Jennette Chisolm and Emily Wilder.



Spring Sports Results



The Crater Comets spring athletic season ended with some very impressive accomplishments by our baseball, softball and track & field teams.

The Crater boys track team finished 1st in the Southern Sky district meet and qualified a number of boys for the state meet. After finishing 2nd in the state meet last year, the Crater boys' team was not to be denied this year. They won the 5A State Track & Field Championship by scoring 86 points to outdistance the second place team by over 20 points. Junior Jack Galpin was a state champion in the 200 meter, 400 meter and was a member of the 4x100 meter winning relay team and the 4x400 meter winning relay team. The Comets set state records in both relay wins and Galpin tied the state meet record in the 200

meter. Senior Josh Elliott place 2nd in both the 1500 and 3000 meter runs.

The Crater girls team finished 1st at the Southern Sky district meet and then proceeded to finish 11th at the state meet. The girls 4x400 relay team finished 6th.

After three consecutive State Championships, the Crater girls' softball team won the district title and proceeded to the state playoffs. They were defeated by Century in the quarterfinals of the state playoffs.

The boys' baseball team finished the season as the third place team in the Southern Sky Conference and qualified for the state playoffs. They were defeated 11-3 in the quarter finals by Madras.

The Crater girls' golf team won the Southern Sky Conference and had a chance to compete at the state tourney for the fourth consecutive year

CLASS REUNION

See page 4 for
class reunion information



CRATER ALUMNI REGISTRATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

CRATER GRAD: YES NO _____
YEAR

Yearly \$10 alumni dues enclosed _____

Additional Contributions _____

Please make checks payable to Crater Alumni Association and include additional information about yourself

Please return to: Willeen Bittle, Crater Alumni Coordinator
P.O. Box 5172, Central Point, OR 97502
(541) 494-6308 • FAX (541) 664-7589

CRATER FOUNDATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
300 Ash Street
Central Point, OR 97502

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1955 Aug. 15th
Contact: Erma Layton 541-664-5232 or
laytons@charter.net

1960 Sept. 10th
Contact: Charley Warren 541-826-9383 or
cmwarren@embarqmail.com

1965 Sept. 11th
At the Mace building, Jackson County Expo
Contacts: Donna Bailey York ry7249@aol.com
Dwight Harsh 541-664-6057

1970 Oct. 9th - 11th
Contact: Pam Whitehead Huffman
huffman471@aol.com

1980 Aug. 20th, 21st and 22nd
Contact: Sue Barlow 541-944-4887
crateralumni@yahoo.com

1990 Aug. 6th and 7th
Contact: Holly White Drake 541-665-5262 or
holly@peoplesbankofcommerce.com

2000 June 26th
Rogue Regency, 6:30 p.m.
Contact: Joey Kaufman 541-324-6746
Craterclass2000@gmail.com

Class Reunions

Crater Foundation Information

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97502

**CRATER HIGH VARSITY
FALL SPORTS HOME SCHEDULES**

FOOTBALL

Sept. 03 McNary
Sept. 24 South Medford
Oct. 08 Sheldon
Oct. 29 Roseburg

BOYS SOCCER

Sept. 14 Klamath
Sept. 21 North Medford
Sept. 25 Roseburg
Oct. 05 Grants Pass
Oct. 12 Ashland
Oct. 19 South Medford

CROSS COUNTRY

No home meets scheduled.

VOLLEYBALL

Sept. 14 South Medford
Sept. 21 North Medford
Sept. 30 Roseburg
Oct. 05 Ashland
Oct. 12 Grants Pass
Oct. 21 Eagle Point

GIRLS SOCCER

Sept. 07 Sheldon
Sept. 18 Grants Pass
Sept. 28 Ashland
Oct. 02 South Medford
Oct. 16 North Medford
Oct. 23 Eagle Point
Oct. 26 Roseburg

