



# Crater Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2018 • Issue No. 67

## ALUMNI FEATURE

The Crater Foundation Newsletter is proud to profile Aaron Newkirk a 1994 Crater High graduate. Aaron attended Jewett Elementary School, Scenic Junior High School and Crater High School. Aaron participated in basketball, soccer and cross country during his years at Crater High School. He received 2nd team all-conference honors in basketball his junior year and received 1st team all-conference and honorable mention all-state in basketball his senior year.

Following graduation from Crater High, Aaron enrolled at George Fox University where he spent the next five years. He played basketball for the Bruins four years and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History in 1998. He continued with his schooling and received a Master of Arts degree in Teaching in 1999. During his years at George Fox he met and married his wife Heidi in 1997. Aaron and Heidi have three children, Alex (14), Anna (12) and Allie (1).

Upon graduation from George Fox, Aaron began teaching at Oregon City High School a position he has held for the past nineteen years. He teaches US History, Government, Economics and Geography. He is also concluding his 6th year as the head boys' basketball coach at Oregon City High School. This year the Pioneers are 17-7 for the season and have earned a berth in the boys 6A division State basketball tournament.

Aaron has many strong feelings about the teachers, coaches and staff during his years in School District 6. He tells us he is "so thankful for my time at Crater High and School District 6. At Jewett Elementary, I had great teachers like Janie Harbour (White) and Larry Holm that loved and supported me in those critical early years. At Scenic, Greg Dippel, Larry Ryerson and Kevin Dixon were teachers and coaches that held me accountable and encouraged me to be more. At Crater, David Heard, Dave Love, Doug Gardner, Dave Orr, Craig Siebenlist and Dan Speasl invested their time and energy into my life, and the lives of so many of my classmates. I am so grateful for those coaches and teachers." He continues, "much of the reason I became a teacher was because of the positive experience they had on my life. I wanted to have that same impact on the next generation of high school students."



When not teaching or coaching, they are active members of Mountain View Community Church in Oregon City where his wife Heidi works as Children's Director. In addition their family enjoys visiting the beautiful National Parks of the Western States. They also have experienced an exciting new change in their lives this year in adding their foster daughter Allie to their family.

Congratulations and kudos to another in a long line of Crater graduates who is making a difference in our world.

## Foundation Facebook

The Crater foundation has had a Facebook account for the past 3 years, however generally speaking the only things posted were Foundation activities that included pictures and such. We are launching into a new era that will include information about the Foundation, information about Crater High School and information about former students including articles from our Newsletters and other informational items that we think you will enjoy. We will continue to post information and pictures about our activities as we have done in the past. We encourage you to share our Foundation Facebook with your friends and family as well as other people who may be interested in Crater High School and the Crater Foundation. Every other Thursday we intend to post a new information article and sometimes pictures with hope that you will look forward to these postings.

## Inside Features

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- 🌟 **Former Teacher Feature**
- 🌟 **Winter Sports Summary**

# WHERE

are  
they

# NOW?

## 1952 – 1959

**TRUMAN PRICE (55)** – lives in Monmouth, Oregon with his wife, Suzanne. They have five grown children with three becoming teachers or professors, one takes care of dams in Washington State for the Army Corps of Engineers, and one develops websites for large nonprofit institutions. Suzanne maintains an antiquarian children's-book site, oldhindresbooks.com. Truman gardens, raises a few beef each year and plays fiddle. He recently published a 248 page autobiographical memoir, *Canora: Notes from an Old-Time Fiddler*.

**BAYARD STONE (57)** – lives in Missoula, Montana with his daughter and her family. Bayard retired from school teaching in 2005 as a High School Social Studies teacher. He taught in a small continuation/Alternative High School in Mariposa, California. From the winter of 2005 to 2014 he was a downhill ski instructor at Badger Pass in Yosemite National Park. In the summers of 2001 to 2010 he was a Wilderness Ranger in the Ansel Adams Wilderness in the high Sierras. He has two grown children and three grandchildren.

**GAIL COLLINS ESHAIA (58)** – Lives in Hubbard, Oregon just outside of Portland. Gail attended Lewis and Clark College then stayed in the Portland area. She lived in Oakridge, Oregon for four and a half years then moved back to Hubbard, where she has been the last forty years. She has two grown daughters and six grandchildren. She retired from Tektronix and then Xerox Corporation in 2005 and lost her husband in 2012. She enjoys the outdoors, gardening, walking, bicycling and doing a little motorcycling at times.

## 1960 – 1969

**DENNIS FISHER (61)** – lives in the Roseburg, Oregon area with his wife Kim. Dennis is a retired English teacher who taught English and Journalism at South Umpqua High School and Sutherlin High School. He still reads weekly during the school year for the Smart program at Glide Elementary school. Dennis has three grown children, eleven grand-kids and three great-grand-kids. They enjoy visiting the Rogue Valley attending the Britt Festival, Shakespeare Festival, loves to go on fishing trips and attending Bluegrass Festivals. They recently visited Cuba and Scotland.

**TODD CASTER (62)** – lives in McMinnville where he is an active member of the McMinnville community. Todd retired in April of 2012 after a 44 year career in banking. Todd was named McMinnville Man of the Year for 2015.

**BOB ALLEN (64)** – lives in McMinnville with his wife of 52 years, Vicki. They have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. After graduation from Crater, Bob was part of the Operation Deep Freeze Expedition '65 Task Force in the U.S. Navy. After the Navy, Bob's work career was in quality assurance/manufacturing. Vicki worked as a secretary for 40+ years. Bob and Vicki enjoy spending time together and love going to the Oregon Coast.

## 1970 – 1979

**KIM GREB SETZER (75)** – lives in Donald, Oregon with her husband of 27 years, Randy ('75). They both work from home, Kim as an investment advisor and Randy as a pallet broker. Between them they have four boys and two grandchildren. After her son's death last May, Kim dove into her writing and just finished her first novel, "Peril in Paradise". She states "who knows . . . maybe my new guardian angel will facilitate a book deal for me in the near future!"

**BILL MCKIBBEN (75)** – lives in Seattle, Washington with his wife of 42 years, Lori Walden (class of '74). Bill is Senior Pastor of the Apostolic Faith Church in Seattle. He worked for ten years for Rogue Credit Union in Medford then entered pastoral ministry and has pastored mostly multicultural churches in California, Oregon and Washington for the past thirty years. Bill completed his doctorate from Fuller Theological Seminary in 2016. They have three adult children and six grandchildren ranging from age 1-10. They love to travel and enjoy culture, family and of course grandkids.

**CATHERINE MICHAELIS (79)** – lives in Shelton, Washington. She has been making artist books since 1992 under the imprint of May Day Press. She's had writing published sporadically

since the mid 80's and recently started making video poetry. In 2017 she was feature in the PBS show *Craft In America* "Nature" episode. She also has had a solo exhibition at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art. In 1994 she published a book of poetry by Crater retired teacher Vince Wixon called "Seed".

## 1980 – 1989

**PENNY DAMERON HILDRETH (83)** – Lives in Newberg, Oregon with her husband of 30 years, Michael. They have two grown children, Doug and Michelle and five grandchildren. Penny began working as a temp assignment in 1991 with the Oregon Education Association that turned into a full time position. She has been in that position with the OEA for the past seventeen years and can retire in 2020. They enjoy working out at their son's CrossFit and are always busy with their kids, grandkids and other family.

**TAMARA TOTTE GOLDSMITH (84)** – lives in Portland, Oregon with her wife, Pamela. After high school Tamara joined the Army and traveled between the American states and Europe. She remained in Germany as a civilian after her enlistment and eventually returned to the US. She has a degree in Accounting and Business Management. Tamara has a small FDA approved pickle company and enjoys gardening and growing the majority of the ingredients for her pickles. Pamela, originally from New England is a professional classical guitarist and professor at a private college.

## 1990 – 1999

**SUSAN WHITE BREWER (90)** – lives in Central Point with her husband and their three children. Susan works for Asante Physician Partners as the practice manager for a Family Medicine clinic and a new Urology clinic. In their free time they like to spend it at the lake or river fishing with their family.

**ANGIE ROSS MCCOY (90)** – lives in Jacksonville with her husband, Gabriel. They have three daughters ages 16, 12 & 9. After living in Nashville, Tennessee and Los Angeles they returned to Jacksonville 15 years ago. They own Trinity Counseling Center where Gabriel is a licensed therapist and Angie runs the business portion of their company.

**LINDSEY RICE (98)** – lives in Central Point with her 9 year old daughter, Amari. Lindsey attended Rogue Community College and pursued a dental and photography career. In 2011 she made a change and opened Rogue Valley Ziplines Adventure a Zipline attraction offering guided tours in the beautiful hills of Central Point. In 2016 her ex-husband and Amari's father, Jason Meilicke (96) passed away and Lindsey and her daughter have been adjusting to that since. She has been dating Matt Duste (92) for three years and enjoys the extended family with Matt's two kids and her own, Amari. For fun she loves spending time with friends and family at the dunes, concerts, camping, going to the beach, races and watching movies.

## 2000 – 2007

**MATT HILLIKER (04)** - lives in Medford with his wife, Kalah and their two daughters Ellie (7) and Marlee (4). Matt attended Rogue Community College earning a fire science degree and Umpqua CC earning a EMT degree. He worked as a wildland firefighter until being hired by Jackson County Fire District #5 in 2012. He currently is an engineer/EMT, is the Wildfire program coordinator and the Firewise communities manager. His wife Kalah is a paramedic with Mercy Flights. In their spare time they like to travel, take the girls camping and hiking and watch the girls do gymnastics and play sports. Matt is passionate about crossfit, snowboarding, paddle boarding, sports and generally staying active.

**DEREK HOGENSON (07)** – lives in Central Point with his wife, Brittney and their two pre-school daughters Drew and Colby. Derek attended Southern Oregon University for a year then was employed at Pepsi, Columbia Distributors and Budweiser. He then became a painter with his father's painting company. Recently, as his father's health declined, Derek took over his father's painting business and is in his third year running the business. Brittney is a dental hygienist in Medford.

# TEACHER FEATURE

## JEFF NAFIE LEFT HIS MARK ON CRATER

Each issue of the Crater Alumni Newsletter features a former School District 6 staff member who has moved on to enjoy a well-deserved retirement. For this issue we are proud to present legendary Crater teacher and coach, Jeff Nafie.

While at Crater, Mr. Nafie taught a variety of Social Studies classes, including the demanding Advanced Placement United States History and Advanced Placement European History classes. He was also an integral part of the experimental Crater Social Service School, which later became the Crater Academy of Health and Public Services. Along with co-teachers Karyn Hale and Steve Baird, they created an integrated student-focused block learning environment that was a demanding but popular student draw. Remembering this experience, Jeff relates, "I look back on that team-teaching experience fondly and the students at Crater always made teaching easier. I think these kids made it worthwhile to put in the long hours that good teaching always mandates." Jeff's particular take on teaching was that "Teaching is much more like painting a picture than a scientific analysis of what works." Besides being a gifted Master Teacher, many of his former students will remember with glee his unique way of honoring a student on his or her birthday by donning a gorilla outfit, bounding onto a student's desk and presenting a spirited and unique rendition of the birthday song. You had to be there.

Besides teaching, Jeff loved coaching and during his Crater tenure, coached freshman, sophomore and junior varsity football as well as establishing an Oregon reputation as a first rate throwing coach in track. In this capacity he coached many state placers. Reflecting on his coaching experience he relates, "Coaching had more highlights than I have space to relate. Going to state track meets was a biggie and having so many athletes actually place at that difficult competition was always rewarding." In his coaching circle Jeff Nafie was noted for his prodigious appetite; Jeff saw a two-hamburger meal as an appetizer.

Jeff's high-energy spirit has not dampened in retirement and, if anything, has only intensified. Upon retirement Jeff and his wife, Artha, moved to Mill Creek, Washington where Jeff immersed himself in taking on the duties of "house husband" in superb fashion. "I do the housekeeping and cooking since Artha is still working full time. It's funny all the chores one never gets to when teaching and coaching. I get these chores done now; the cars are always washed and waxed, the house floors are al-



ways vacuumed and mopped and my garden has no weeds." But Jeff does not limit his activity to the house and garden as he relates, "I always wanted to get fluent in the French language, so I'm working on that. In addition, I read a lot with my goal in 2017 to read 100 books." He met this goal but also found time to work on his own book, an account of John Wycliffe and the Lollard movement in 14th Century medieval England. But he warns, "Do not look for the book at the bookstore or online just yet.

Writing is a slow and sometimes tedious pastime for me. Someday I'll have a first draft finished."

Jeff is involved in his community as well. He leads a weekly Bible study for his church and through his church was part of a missionary team to Nagoya, Japan. In the spring, Jeff can be found at Eisenhower Middle School in Everett, volunteering to help the throwers on the track team. He also enjoys singing in a small group of church-sponsored Victorian carolers at Christmas time, singing at retirement homes, homeless shelters and at the nearby Alderwood Mall.

### Crater Foundation Information

**Web Site:** [craterfoundation.district6.org](http://craterfoundation.district6.org)  
**E-mail:** [craterfoundation@district6.org](mailto:craterfoundation@district6.org)  
**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/craterfoundation>  
**Telephone:** 541-494-6308  
**Mail address:** Crater Foundation  
 P.O. Box 5127 Central Point, OR 97502

## CRATER HIGH SPRING SPORTS HOME SCHEDULES

### VARSITY HOME SCHEDULES

#### BASEBALL

March 12	Crater Jamboree
March 20	Springfield
March 27	Spring Tourney
March 28	Spring Tourney
March 29	Spring Tourney
April 3	Ashland
April 14	Thurston
April 21	Churchill
April 28	North Eugene
May 2	Marist
May 11	Eagle Point

#### TRACK

March 14	Grants Pass
April 14	Crater Classic
May 2	Ashland/Eagle Point

#### GIRLS GOLF

April 2	@Stoneridge
April 23	@Stoneridge

#### BOYS GOLF

April 2	@Stoneridge
April 5	@Eagle Point
April 23	@Stoneridge
April 25	@Eagle Point CC

#### SOFTBALL

March 15	North Medford
March 20	Eagle Point
April 7	Springfield
April 10	Churchill
April 21	Thurston
May 4	Marist
May 8	North Eugene



**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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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Permit No. 687

**1958 – 60th - Class Reunion**

- Dates to be determined

**1968 – 50th - Class Reunion**

- Sept. 15th, 16th and 17th

**1978 – 40th - Class Reunion**

- Follow the Facebook Group  
*Crater Alumni Class Reunions*  
Dates to be posted on Facebook.

*Teresa Spencer Moore*

*Home Phone: 541-664-3683 Cell*

*Phone: 541-821-8115*

*Steve Plunk*

*Cell Phone: 541-660-1394*

**1988 – 30th – Class Reunion**

- July 7, 8, 9.



**WINTER SPORTS SUMMARY**

**5A-3 Midwestern League**

Now playing in the 5A-3 Midwestern League. The league is comprised of Ashland, Churchill, Crater, Eagle Point, Marist, North Eugene, Springfield and Thurston.

**Fall - State Results**

**Boys Cross Country - STATE CHAMPIONS** - The boys cross country team finished 1st at the state meet and were crowned Boys 5A State Champions for the second year in a row. They finished with 32 points. Crater was led by state champion Andy Monroe followed by Derek Tripp 3rd and Jantz Tostenson 4th.

**Girls Cross Country** - The girls team finished 3rd at the state meet led by Ariana Marks who finished 7th.

**Football** - As the regular season came to an end the Crater football team finished 4th in the league and qualified for a state playoff game. They were defeated by South Albany 23 -16 to end their season. They finished the season with a 5 – 5 record

**Winter results**

**Comets wrestling team** were Midwestern League district runner up qualifying 17 wrestlers for the state tourney. At the State Tournament the Comets finished second in the 5A State Tournament. They were led by senior Logan Meek (160 lbs) as a three time state champion. They had two other state champions, senior Zeth Brower (120 lbs.) and senior Beau Crawford (220 lbs.) They had one 3rd place finisher, one 4th place finisher and one 6th place finisher. Of the 17 wrestlers that qualified for the state tourney, all 17 scored team points.

**The Comets girls' basketball** team finished 3rd in the Midwestern League and earned a state play-in game. The Lady Comets defeated South Albany 43 – 31 and moved on to play Wilsonville. They were defeated by Corvallis in their 1st tournament game, then defeated. They finished the season with a 20- 5 record.

**The Comets boys' basketball** team finished their regular season winning the Midwestern League and ranked number two in the state thus earning a state playoff berth. They finished the regular season with a 21 - 1 record.

**The Crater girls swim team** did not place swimmers into the state meet.

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**The Crater Cheerleaders** placed 4th at the OSAA state 5A competition.