



Crater Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2020 • Issue No. 73

ALUMNI FEATURE

CRATER FOUNDATION HONORS ZACHARY MCKEEHAN

The Crater Alumni Newsletter is pleased to present 1990 Crater graduate, Zachary McKeehan, who has had an impressive career in the United States Navy. Like so many of our featured alumni, Zachary was an active and engaged Crater student. He was in the marching and jazz band and participated in track and field. He thrived in Crater's industrial arts and crafts programs, including the electronics offerings and basic aviation. Remembering his Crater days, he relates, "I was the recipient of an amazing well-rounded college prep and vocational education while at Crater with terrific caring and invested teachers!" He gives special credit to his shop and industrial arts teacher, Jim Miller, Marvin Hayes, his homeroom and crafts teacher and said he learned a lot about aviation from his study hall teacher, Hugh Barnhill.

Upon his graduation from Crater in 1990, Zachary enlisted in the Navy in September of that fall. His initial assignment was as a Fire Control Technician, not dealing with fire suppression but with guns. His early enlisted tours included the USS Nevada, the Trident Intermediate Maintenance Facility and the USS Georgia. After spending ten years as a Fire Control Technician, in 2000 he was commissioned as a Navy Cryptologist through the Navy Officer Candidate School. Naval Cryptologists analyze encrypted electronic communications, jam enemy radar signals, decipher information in foreign languages and maintain state-of-the-art equipment and networks used to generate top secret intel.

His almost 20-year career as a cryptologist had him serving in several operational and afloat assignments and in a variety of officer roles in several places in the world. His most current assignment is as Commanding Officer of Information Warfare Training Command Corry Station in Pensacola, Florida. During his 30-year Navy career, Zachary completed an undergraduate degree in Computer Science at Chapman University in Orange, California and a master's degree in Computer Science from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. His service to our country has been recognized by him being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary



Medal, the Navy Expeditionary Medal and various service medals.

Zachary married his wife Windy Kaye (Meler) on April 22, 1992. They met at Crater and have three children, Kirsten, Seth and Kayelee. On May 28, 2016 Kirsten presented them with their first grandchild, Aurora. As Commander McKeehan reflects on his Crater days, he does so with fondness, "Moving from Klamath Falls to Central Point just before the beginning of my sophomore year, I was not sure how this new town and high school would work out for me. I have to say that Central Point and Crater turned out to be a great experience and has always held terrific memories for me. I met my amazing wife, Windy, at Crater, and I made long-lasting friendships many of whom I keep in touch with.

The rich vocational education that I was able to blend with college preparatory classes has had a significant impact on my life and enabled much of what I have been blessed to accomplish since graduation." Zachary goes on to relate his Crater experience with his Navy career, "I draw upon much of what I learned about investing beyond academics at Crater in my current role in the Navy. I have the honor to lead an amazing professional team of military and civilian instructors as Commanding Officer of a technical training school for new sailors and joint service members from across the armed forces. We are fully invested in their well-being as well as their academic accomplishments, very much following the example I was able to experience at Crater." The Crater Alumni Newsletter offers a hearty salute to Commander Zachary McKeehan, another Crater graduate who has made us proud.

I nside Features

- ☀ **Scholarship Dessert/Auction**
- ☀ **Where Are They Now**
- ☀ **CraterWorks Makerspace**
- ☀ **Winter Athletic Results**

WHERE

are
they

NOW?

1952 - 1959

SHIRLEY SULLIVAN RAPP - (52) – lives in Elma, Washington with her new husband Wally Metzger. After sixty one years married to her childhood sweetheart, Fred Rapp passed away in 2017. Following Fred's passing, Shirley married Fred's good friend Wally, a retired science/geology/astronomy teacher and a chemist. They live in a beautiful part of the northwest, between Seattle and the Pacific Ocean.

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. With the University of Montana in Missoula, Bayard has attended many (over 20 so far) college level Classes via MOLLI(Montana Osher Life Long Learning Institute). They are taught by university professors. "The great part is no tests, grades and only recommended homework" he tells us. Bayard now spends time hiking and biking (had to give up skiing due to a medical problem). He also meets twice a week with a card playing group. "I turn 81 in a week and am happy and content here in Missoula." He has two grown children and three grandchildren.

1960 - 1969

JIM ALLEN - (61) – lives in Antelope, California with his wife, Debbie. They have grown children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren who live close by. Jim and Debbie are both retired teachers and are enjoying life each and every day. They love going out for long lunches and working in their yard. Jim also enjoys chasing golf balls and getting together with friends to watch football.

RICK HAMILTON – (61) – lives in Klamath Falls with his wife of 39 years, Beth. They have three grown children, Karyn of Klamath Falls, Heather of Kuna, Idaho and Craig of Vancouver Washington. Rick tells us, "he was greatly influenced by Martin of Paulsen & Gates Market who was his employer all thru high school." He attended Oregon Technical institute and graduated in 1963 with a degree in Diesel Technology and then with a degree in the automotive program. He worked at a Cadillac, Oldsmobile and GMC dealership then moved to a job for Heaton steel. Following that he accepted a job at Weyerhaeuser and remained there for 25 years until 1996 when he returned to Heaton steel. He met his wife through mutual interest in corvettes. Since then they have owned various corvettes and attended many corvette events.

1970 - 1979

RANDY SCHOCK - (74) – lives in Central Point with his wife, Angie. Randy has 3 grown children, 9 grandchildren, 3 step children and 7 step grandkids. Randy worked for the City of Medford from 1977 to 2015 in public works. He spent 20 years in the Traffic & Signing & Striping Department operating a street sweeper. He retired in 2015 but still works for Medford and the City of Central Point on a temporary basis, driving a sweeper. They live on a small farm with Dexter cows, ducks, chickens and 3 dogs.

MARY BOEHM CHISUM – (76) – lives in Medford with her husband of 32 years, Dallas. They have a grown son, Dallas. Mary is a United States Navy veteran and currently works in the outpatient clinic for the Department of Veteran Affairs in White City caring for fellow veterans. In her spare time she enjoys painting rocks and spreading cheer.

1980 - 1989

TIMOTHY COWLING - (88) - lives in Estacada, Oregon, with his wife, Beki, and their five children: Jami 21, Hari 15, Graci 14, Jireh 13, and Gari 6. Tim has been working at OHSU for 14.5 years now as a CNA. He enjoys biking to work and has logged almost 27,000 miles bicycling over the last 14 years.

JAMIS BICKEL - (89) - lives in Lakewood, California, with his wife and two children ages 6 and 10. After graduating from Western Oregon State College in 1995 with a Bachelor degree in Health Education, Jamis soon found work as a Anesthesia Technician/Orderly at three different hospitals in Oregon and California. Jamis left the medical field to teach English in Japan for two years, then returned from abroad and found work as an educator for children with special needs. In 2003, he began working for Department of Homeland Security (17 years) as an officer with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). In 2007,

he switched agencies to become an officer with U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the Los Angeles/Long Beach Seaport. Jamis' wife is also in law enforcement as a lieutenant with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (26 years). In 2010, Jamis earned a Master degree in Public Administration: Government and in 2012, he earned a Graduate Certificate in Project Management. The Bickel family enjoys domestic and international travel, attending local festivals, bike riding, and international foods.

1990 - 1999

AMY STONE JOHNSTON – (92) – lives in Eugene, Oregon with her spouse, Sherry. Amy married in 1995, had her son Jon in 1996, and divorced in 1998. She then moved to the Willamette Valley when he was a baby, and has lived in Eugene ever since. She met her current spouse, Sherry in 2000, and they will be celebrating 20 years together this summer. Amy went to college in 2015, and ended up with an AGS degree in June 2018. She is currently employed as a Maintenance technician for the largest property management company in the world, Greystar. She has been employed with this company for nearly 4 years, and is waiting for a supervisor position to open up. Her son Jon is engaged and will be married next spring. Her stepdaughter Kristina has been married for 12 years and has a 7 year old daughter, Sophia.

Amy enjoys visiting southern Oregon whenever she can, and enjoys hiking, the coast, reading true crime novels, and wine tasting!

KARIN KLAPAK RIO - (95) – lives in Marietta, Georgia with her husband and two daughters ages 4 and 2. After leaving Crater, she went to Oregon State and played soccer, majored in History and Women Studies. She moved to San Francisco and that move started a Technology and Marketing career (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/karinklapakrio/>). She worked at Palm (the original Palm Pilot!), a start-up electronics manufacturer called Magpix, Inc. then went into Ad Agency life at iMarc in Boston, MA and PureRED in Atlanta, GA. She left her VP Digital Marketing job at PureRED to start a family a few years ago. Her husband is a music composer and sound designer for Warner Media. Karen now does "some marketing consulting, stay at home Mom thing, and I blog at <http://www.witchladyathome.com/>." They have an amazing poodle and they love to travel, go hiking, and walk around Marietta Square as much as their schedules allow.

2000 - 2009

JENNI BITTLE GOODHEART - (04) – lives in Central Point with her husband, Brandon and their two girls, Braelyn (7) and Jordyn (4). Jenni attended Northwest Christian College on a softball scholarship for one year before transferring to Oregon Technical Institute where she played softball for three years. She was named the Cascade Collegiate Conference Softball player of the Year in 2008. She then finished her college studies earning a nursing degree from Southern Oregon University. Currently Jenni is a registered nurse in the Pac/U Unit at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford. Brandon is an electrician

CYNTHIA LEWIS SANDERS - (05) – lives in Medford with her husband, Johnathan. Cynthia worked for Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield and currently works at Rogue Credit Union. Johnathan works in the Southern Oregon lumber industry. In their free time they do a lot of hiking and bike riding. They are both into archery and John works with and makes primitive weapons. They love spending time with their five nieces and nephews.

CLINT MEFFORD - (07) – lives in Lincoln, Nebraska. Graduated from Oklahoma State University with a Bachelors in animal science in 2011. Received his Master's in communications from Oklahoma State in 2013 and was a graduate college honors student, coached the 2012 National Champion Livestock Judging Team and conducted qualitative research based on the importance of life and career skills gained from the activity. Taught animal science, communications and coached judging teams for a few years post-graduation. Served as the Director of Communications for the world's largest beef breed, the American Angus Association. He managed all marketing and public relations efforts while also producing and hosting a weekly television program. Currently he serves as the Product Marketing Manager for Neogen GeneSeek, where he manages all marketing initiatives on a global basis for the world's largest animal genomics organization.

CRATERWORKS MAKERSPACE

What is CraterWorks MakerSpace? CraterWorks provides tools, equipment and an environment that assists with designing, prototyping and manufacturing virtually anything - all under one big roof. Equipped with the traditional equipment and tools along with new technology like 3D printers, digital fabrication, and computer-aided design labs; a commercial kitchen, ceramics studio, sewing studio, and more - all toward working together in building a community of makers, entrepreneurs, industry leaders and students working under one roof, sharing tools and ideas at building incredible futures. Find inspiration. Share ideas.

"A lot of times people think that students either take woodshop in high school and go on to a trade or they take AP calculus and go onto university. Our vision is that every student will have those authentic learning experiences here," says the Central Point School District Superintendent, Samantha Steele. "Our idea was that we would create a space that would be available to students and teachers as part of their core curriculum but would also be available to the community," Steele said.

The Makerspace is not just for middle and high school students, but an entire community. Anyone can get a membership to work in the space during business hours. Industries can host workshops in the community to teach valuable skills to future employees

The School District leadership based its concept of the makerspace on a Portland company called ADX, where people can create individually or take classes.

The District has created a membership model for interested partners to use the space. Memberships would bring in revenue that would go back into funding staffing and upkeep of the makerspace. The goal, officials said, is to create a self-sustaining model.



WINTER ATHLETIC RESULTS 5A-3 MIDWESTERN LEAGUE

Crater is now playing in the 5A-3 Midwestern League. The league is comprised of Ashland, Churchill, Crater, Eagle Point, North Bend, North Eugene, South Eugene, Springfield, Thurston, Willamette, Redmond, and Ridgeview.

Winter results

Comets Wrestling Team were second at the Midwestern League district qualifying 16 wrestlers for the state tourney. At the State Tournament the Comets finished fourth in the 5A State Tournament. They had two 2nd place finishers, sophomore Jimmy Jordahl at 195 lbs. and junior Kabb Christianson at 160 lbs. In addition they had one 3rd place finisher, two 5th place finishers and three 6th place finishers.

The Comets Girls' Basketball Team finished 2nd in the Midwestern League and earned a state play-in game, hosting West Albany. They defeated West Albany 54 – 30. As we go to press the Lady Comets are advancing to the 8 team State Tournament and will be facing Churchill in the first round.

The Comets Boys' Basketball Team finished 2nd in the Midwestern League and earned a state play-in game hosting La Salle Prep. They defeated La Salle Prep 57 – 30 to advance to the 8 team State Tournament. As we go to press they will open the first round facing South Albany.

The Crater Girls Swim Team did not place swimmers into the state meet.

The Crater Boys Swim Team crowned a STATE CHAMPION for the second time in school history. Sophomore, Marcus Reyes-Gentry was state champion for the second time as he won the 200 yard freestyle held at the Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center in Beaverton.

The Crater Boys Bowling Team finished in 7th place at the state bowling tourney.

The Crater Girls Bowling Team finished in 6th place at the state bowling tourney.

SCHOLARSHIP DESSERT/AUCTION

The 25th annual Crater Foundation Dessert/Auction was held Saturday, December 7, 2019. To celebrate this 25th year event many changes were made to the delight of a crowd of more than 475 people! The event was moved from the high school to the Olsrud Pavilion at the Jackson County EXPO. A dinner was provided by a donation from D.A. Davidson. Table and chairs were rented and table decorations and settings were provided. It was a party atmosphere with people competing for many silent auction items and there was spirited bidding for more than 40 oral auction items. People attending had a great and enjoyable time while having the opportunity to support a great cause, "furthering education for our young people".

In addition, people raised paddles to contribute to scholarships for Crater graduates who have completed at least 1 year of college. These scholarships are to be named after the late Bill Russell. More than \$102,000 was raised at this year's gala event with all money raised going to scholarships for Crater High School graduates! Those graduates say, "Thank You!"

As always, every penny helps enable dreams to become reality. Everyone who attended can walk away and know that they helped make a difference in a young person's life. If you would like further information on how you can help, please contact us at craterfoundation@district6.org or phone 541-494-6308. Next year's auction will be held Saturday, December 5, 2020.

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 Foundation and include information about yourself

Please return to: Wileen 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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1980
40 year reunion
 July 28th



**CRATER HIGH SPRING
 SPORTS HOME SCHEDULES**

VARSITY HOME SCHEDULE



BASEBALL

March	16	Crater Jamboree
March	24	Spring Tourney
March	25	Spring Tourney
March	26	Spring Tourney
April	1	Willamette
April	11	Churchill
April	21	Klamath
May	8	Thurston
May	21	Ashland

TRACK

April	14	Ashland/Eagle Point
April	24	Crater Twilight

GIRLS GOLF

April	23	@Eagle Point CC
May	5	@ District - Eagle Point GC
May	6	@ District - Eagle Point GC
February	25	Churchill

SOFTBALL

April	1	Willamette
April	4	Sheldon
April	11	Churchill
April	23	South Medford
May	8	Thurston
May	19	North Medford
May	21	Ashland

BOYS GOLF

April	23	@Eagle Point CC
May	5	@ District - Eagle Point GC
May	6	@ District - Eagle Point GC
February	25	Churchill

CRATER FOUNDATION INFORMATION

Web Site: craterfoundation.district6.org
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 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/craterfoundation>
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