



Crater Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2022 • Issue No. 79

ALUMNI FEATURE

LORI HIXON BIEDERMAN CONTINUES TO LEAD AN ACTIVE LIFE

Our featured alum for the Spring edition of the Crater Alumni Newsletter is 1964 Crater graduate, Lori Hixon Biederman. As is the usual case with our recognized alumni, Lori had an involved and active Crater life. She was an honor student, was on the Crater Rally Squad, was on the Crater Speech Team, and was a prom princess. Upon graduation from Crater, she enrolled at the University of Oregon where she was to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation Management in 1967.

With her degree in hand, her first job was in San Mateo, California where she became the Director of the San Mateo City Recreation Center, a position she held for one year, but it was an important year, because she met her future husband, Chuck Biederman, who was completing graduate school in preparation for a career as a high school teacher. They married in December 1968 and moved to Central Valley, California where Chuck started his teaching career, and Lori became the youth director at Beale Air Force Base. They remained there until 1970 when they relocated to McMinnville, Oregon where Chuck continued his teaching career, and Lori first worked as a physical education aide at an elementary school but eventually became a three-county liaison for the Girl Scouts. In 1973 their first child, Joel, was born.

With both Lori and Chuck having a strong sense of adventure, in 1975 they headed to Kobe, Japan where Chuck taught at the Canadian Academy International School and Lori experienced a host of jobs that included teaching conversational English to 33 businessmen at the Nippon Air Brake Company, instructing "Western Style Cooking" to two groups of ladies in her home, and even did a stint as a Home Economics teacher at a Kobe Catholic school. The wanderlust again took over, and they returned to McMinnville in 1977 where they welcomed their son, Kobe, to the family. Lori's diversified job experience continued when she took a part time job teaching Japanese Cooking at the community college. Her interest in teaching led her to head back to college, and in 1980 she received her Elementary Education degree at Linfield College. To balance her



work and motherhood she took a part-time third grade teaching position. When her boys graduated from high school, she started teaching full time, retiring, along with her husband in 2004.

While summer is a time for teachers to recharge, this was not the case for Lori and Chuck as she remembers, "From 1969 to 2007 we worked almost every summer as camp administrators at a Western Riding Camp in Arizona. Then for three summers, as a change of pace, we served as wranglers at a Christian camp near Mt. Hood. In addition to this, since Chuck was a United States History teacher, it seemed natural to lead groups of students on East Coast, history-centered trips. So, every two years, from 1982-2007, we led forty kids with the help of another couple on adventures lasting two weeks." This bi-annual event became so popular that parents and community members asked for "their turn" so they started smaller group tours for adults with the itinerary varying from Canada

to New England during the peak of fall leaves, to the Deep South, and many more memorable trips. "Eventually a core group of twenty accompanied us each time, and we finished our ten adult trips with a Texas adventure in 2017. It was a great way to continue teaching." The Biedermans now divide their year between homes in McMinnville and Cottonwood, Arizona. Hiking, swimming and camping are key hobbies. In addition, Lori enjoys watercolor painting. With their two sons and four grandchildren living close, they delight in seeing them often during their time in Arizona.

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2022 CRATER HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The annual Crater High School Hall of Fame induction was held on March 12th with approximately 120 people attending. The following are some of the highlights that each person has achieved. For more complete Bio's please go to the Crater Foundation web site at: www.craterfoundation.district6.org. Those inducted into the Achievement and Athletic Hall of Fame included:

Achievement Hall of Fame

DENNIS "CW" SMITH – Dennis "CW" Smith graduated from Crater High School in 1966, where he was elected as the student body vice-president. He earned a degree from Mount Hood Community College in Broadcast Journalism and served four years in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. CW was an officer for the Medford Police Department from 1973 until elected Jackson County Sheriff in 1982 at the young age of 35 and was re-elected sheriff and remained sheriff for a total of 12 years. Upon leaving the sheriff's department, CW served as interim City Manager for Lakeview, Oregon and as Police Chief for the City of Talent. In 2005, CW was elected Jackson County Commissioner where he served until his retirement in 2013. Dennis "CW" passed away in 2017.

DON BIEGLER – Don began his professional career in 1967 when he accepted a job teaching band at Central Point Junior High, later Scenic Junior High School. Don taught band at Scenic for 13 years and during that time his bands marched in numerous parades throughout Oregon. In 1980 Don became the band instructor of the concert, jazz, marching and pep bands at Crater High School. Don was also an itinerant music teacher at Richardson, Jewett and Sams Valley elementary schools and band at Hanby Junior High. He retired after 30 years in the District and now spends ½ year in Puerto Vallarta and ½ year in the Rogue Valley.

Don was a founding member of the Rogue Valley Symphonic Band; a musician and current board member. He currently is a volunteer for the Holly Theatre restoration project. In addition to all those activities, Don is the Director of the Ashland City Band, a position he has held for the past 21 years.

DR. BRION BENNINGER – A 1979 Crater graduate, All-Conference and All State football player and graduate from Chico State University. He attended medical school at Leicester University in England earning degrees in chemistry and exercise physiology. Brion was a Staff physician and lecturer of anatomy at Guy's Hospital in London, then received a graduate degree in sports medicine from the University of Nottingham. Brian remained in England for a number of years where he had an exciting life and varied career. With his training in sports medicine, Brion became a physician to both professional and amateur athletes and was a member of the British Olympic Team of Physicians.

In 2000 Brion moved to Portland, Oregon and became part of the medical staff at Oregon Health and Science University responsible for teaching clinical anatomy to surgical residents, medical, dental, physician assistant students and undergraduate students. He is a Member of the Department of Surgery, Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation, Department of Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Department of Integrative Biosciences at OHSU.

Brion is also Professor and Executive Director of the Medical Anatomy Center at Western University of Health Sciences, Lebanon, Oregon. Brion has taught Medical, Dental, and Allied Healthcare professionals in Britain, USA, China, Korea, Philippines, New Zealand, Australia, South America and the Caribbean.

CARLOS VELAZQUEZ - A 1992 Crater graduate, Carlos attended Oregon State University, graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering. Soon after receiving his degree he took an idea that had been formulating in his mind for some time, and created Epic Scan, a premier 3D laser scanning company that provides services for the architectural, engineering and construction industries. As president of Epic Scan, Carlos has developed and implemented laser scanning systems on hundreds of projects around the world. Carlos has made more than 100 keynote and educational presentations at 3D technology conferences over the past 23 years.

In 2019, after 19 years, Carlos sold his business and began work for Stockpile Reports. He worked for Stockpile Reports for 3 years and in 2021 he left Stockpile Reports and created his own business once again, named EveryPoint.

Athletic Hall of Fame

JOHN BURNS – A 1959 Crater graduate, John participated in football, basketball, track, drama and honor society while at Crater. Following graduation, he enrolled at the University of Oregon and was a member of the University of Oregon 1962 National NCAA Championship Track and Field team. In 1963 he placed 5th in the NCAA Championships in the javelin and set a University of Oregon school record in the javelin at 206'. He was a member of United States Olympic training team in 1964 and set a world record of 266'1". He placed 5th in the finals at the Olympic Trials. He placed fourth in the 1966 National AAU Championships Meet. John has won six national titles competing in Masters Athletes (over 40 of age). John received a degree from University of Oregon Dental School in 1967 and ultimately owned his own Dental Clinic in Oakland, California. Now retired, John was a dentist for more than 45 years.

JILL SALMON MORSE – A 1998 Crater graduate, Jill was an active student athlete participating in Cross Country, Basketball and Track. While at Crater, she was awarded the Best Cross Country Award and the Top Female Runner Track Award. Her senior year, she received the Crater Athlete of the Year award and was named Junior Olympic Cross-Country All-American. She placed 4th in the hurdles at the 1998 state Track and Field meet and was a state participant four consecutive years. Jill still holds the school record in the 300 intermediate hurdles. Attending Western Oregon University, Jill was a two time Division II Nationals Track Participant. In 2002 she was named a Division II Track All-American placing 8th in the Steeple Chase. Also in 2002 she was named to the Great Northwest Athletic Conference All-Conference Cross Country team finishing in 8th place and was the GNAC Conference Champion in the steeple chase. In 2003 she was an All-Conference Academic Student Athlete and was the GNAC Conference Runner-Up in the steeple chase. Jill graduated with a B.S. degree in Sociology from Western Oregon University in 2003.

CHRIS DEARMON – A 2002 Crater graduate, Chris was an All-Conference football player and the first athlete in Oregon class 4A state history to win a wrestling and track and field championship the same year. He was the 2002 heavyweight wrestling champion and was the 2002 state shot put champion with a throw of 58'2". The previous week he set a Southern Oregon Conference record and a Crater High School record in the shot put with a throw of 60'11". Chris attended the University of Oregon on a track and wrestling scholarship. He also played on the 2003 – 2004 Oregon football team and 2004 -2007 Oregon wrestling team. He was the Oregon wrestling team captain during the 2006 – 2007 year. Chris earned varsity letters at University of Oregon in football, wrestling and track. Chris graduated with a B.S. degree in Sociology from University of Oregon in 2007.

JENNI BITTLE GOODHEART – A 2004 Crater graduate, Jenni was a Southern Oregon Conference All-Conference softball pitcher. Attending Northwest Christian College she became an All-Conference pitcher in 2005 and was selected as the United States Collegiate Athletic Association Most Valuable Pitcher. Transferring to Oregon Institute of Technology, she became an All-Conference pitcher. In 2006, Jenni played for the International USA Athletes and placed 2nd in the London Cup. At Oregon Tech, Jenni was a pitcher/designated player and was voted Cascade Collegiate Conference 2008 Player of the Year by a vote of the conference softball coaches. Jenni led the Owls to the 2008 Cascade Collegiate Conference (CCC) regular-season crown by hitting .397 for the year. As a batter, Jenni led the CCC in both hits (56) and runs scored (43). As a pitcher, Jenni had 17 wins and had an ERA of 1.81. Jenni was named All Conference pitcher for the OIT softball team and was named to the Cascade Collegiate All Conference Team three consecutive years. She was selected as an All American in 2008 and Academic All Conference in 2007 and 2008. Jenni graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Oregon Health & Science University.

KAYLEIGH TYERMAN TOBIAS - A 2009 Crater graduate, Kayleigh was an outstanding cross country runner and track distance runner. Kayleigh holds the school record in the 800 meters, the 1500 meters and is 2nd in the 3000 meters. She finished 2nd in the 5A state meet in cross country in 2007 and 2008. She attended Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and then Florida State University where she was a multi-time Second-Team All-American (2012, 2013) and All-ACC recipient (2011, 2012, 2013). She was a member of a Top-3 Nationally ranked Division 1 Cross-Country and Track and Field team. She was an NCAA Academic All-American (2011, 2012, 2013). Kayleigh earned a degree in psychology and child development from Florida State University and a Master of Science Education at Johns Hopkins University. Currently Kayleigh is a special education teacher at Century High School in Beaverton, Oregon.

Teacher feature



This Teacher/Administrator Feature is John Dimick, a long time teacher and FFA advisor in School District #6. A 1966 graduate of West Linn High School, John Dimick has become an icon in the world of high school agriculture education in Oregon and in the world of Future Farmers of America throughout the United States.

Following his high school graduation, John attended Oregon State University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture and a teaching degree. His first

job in 1970 was teaching agriculture at Phoenix High School. In 1978-79 John worked on the Crawford Ranches in Burns, Oregon. In 1979 John accepted a teaching position at Crater High School teaching agriculture and becoming the advisor of the FFA program. John spent the next 24 years at Crater High where he developed the agriculture program into a state and nationally recognized program. Today, John and his wife, Aleta own and operate the Bar Five Ranch in Eagle Point.

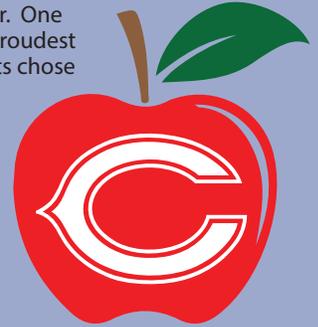
Community involvement: Jackson Co Stockmen's Assn., Jackson Co. Fair Board, Oregon County Fair Commission, Oregon FFA Foundation, Jackson Co. 4H and FFA Junior Livestock Auctions, Inc., Jackson Co. Friends of the Fair Foundation, Grange Co-op Board of Directors, Crater

Foundation, Jackson Co. Fire District 3 Board of Directors and Central Point Rotary.

Honors/awards/recognition: Honorary Oregon State FFA Degree, 1982, Honorary American FFA Degree, 1988, Oregon Agriculture Teacher of the Year, 1984 and 2001, Coached 4 National Champion FFA Livestock Teams and 12 State Champion Teams, 3 State Champion Horse Teams and an Agricultural Sales Team, Oregon Fairs Assn. Distinguished Service Award, 2010, Crater Foundation Hall of Fame for 1995 Nat'l Champion Livestock Team Coach, Oregon Agriculture Teachers Assn. Lifetime Professional Service Award, 2017 and Friends of the Fair Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award, 2019. In 2019 John was inducted into the Crater High School Achievement Hall of Fame.

George Washington said that "Agriculture is the most healthful, most useful and most noble employment of man." John tells, "I was indeed fortunate to spend my career teaching students about that agriculture industry, but also as important was to give them the skills they need to be successful in life and in their chosen careers. Serving as a teacher, mentor and role model is a major responsibility with life changing power and I'm indeed proud of the many students, now friends that are involved in their communities, with their families, making an impact for the better. One of the accomplishments of which I am proudest is knowing that 17 of my former students chose to follow my career path of teaching agriculture and that 14 of them, in 6 different states are still in the field of education."

We applaud John as another in a long line of outstanding retired educators from School District #6 who have made a difference in countless young people's lives.



SCHOLARSHIP DESSERT AUCTION

The annual Crater Foundation Scholarship Auction was held Saturday, December 4, 2021 after a one year hiatus because of the pandemic. This was the 26th year the event has been held and 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 Seven Feather Event Center at the Jackson County EXPO. A dinner was provided, tables and chairs were rented and table decorations and settings were also 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, "scholarships for our young people". In addition to scholarships for graduating seniors, people raised paddles to contribute to scholarships for Crater graduates who have completed at least 1 year of college. More than \$172,000 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 3, 2022.

WINTER Athletic Results 5A-3 Midwestern League

The Midwestern League now consists of Ashland, Churchill, Crater, Eagle Point, North Bend, North Eugene, South Eugene, Springfield, Thurston and Willamette

Winter results

Comets wrestling team were Midwestern League district runner up qualifying 11 wrestlers for the state tourney. At the State Tournament the Comets finished seventh in the 5A State Tournament. They were led by freshman, Elijah Bayne (112 lbs) as a state champion. They had one 3rd place finisher, two 4th place finisher and one 5th place finisher. Of the 11 wrestlers that qualified for the state tourney, 9 scored team points.

The Comets girls' basketball team finished tied for 2nd in the Midwestern League and earned a state playoff game. The Lady Comets were defeated by Putnam 45 - 39 to bring their season to an end. Their season record was 19 - 7.

The Comets boys' basketball team finished 2nd in the Midwestern League thus earning a state playoff berth. The Comet boys' defeated Corvallis 72 - 38 to earn a place in the eight team 5A state boys' basketball tournament. At the state tournament the Comets lost to Wilsonville 64 - 58. They then defeated Eagle Point 58 - 53 and defeated Ashland 50 - 45 to finish the tournament in fourth place. Their season record is 23 - 6.

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

The Crater boys swim team. Senior, Marcus Gentry was state champion in the 100 yd. backstroke and the 200 yd. Individual Medley (butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle). His time in the 100 yd. backstroke set a new state record.

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

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
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**CRATER HIGH SCHOOL
 WINTER SPORTS
 HOME SCHEDULES**

BASEBALL

March	14	Crater Jamboree
March	23	Spring Tourney
March	24	Spring Tourney
March	29	Spring Tourney
March	30	Willamette
April	5	Mazama
April	8	Churchill
May	6	Thurston
May	19	Ashland
May	20	Ashland

SOFTBALL

March	30	Willamette
April	2	Sheldon
April	5	South Medford
April	9	Churchill
May	7	Thurston
May	18	North Medford
May	19	Ashland
May	20	Ashland

TRACK

March	17	Crater Twilight
April	12	Ashland/Eagle Point

GIRLS GOLF

April	19	@Stoneridge
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BOYS GOLF

April	19	@Stoneridge
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**Crater Foundation
 Information**

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