

Plattsmouth Alumni Association

Linking the Past with the Future

Published March 2012

HISTORIC MAIN STREET DISTRICT – NEW AND IMPROVED

If you are a traveler who takes the “not so traveled road” through Nebraska you will notice that many of the small towns you pass through have a billboard outside of town that indicates it is a “Historic” town or has a “Historic” main street or “Historic” bandstand or “Historic” soda fountain. The hope is that you will decide to slow down and stop for a visit. The trick is to look historic and not old and tired. The goal is to have a piece of history coupled with the comfort of modern amenities to draw you in. Plattsmouth is now living the dream of the perfect marriage of historic and modern. If you have been to Plattsmouth for the last two Alumni Banquets you have navigated the construction zone we called Main Street and wondered why you made that turn off the highway. We hope you will make the effort to visit Main Street during your reunion this year or make a special trip to check it out. If you can manage your timing to see it by night it will be worth your wait.

The renovation of Main Street was like renovating any old house. There were the questions of: Is it necessary, will it be marketable after we are done, what do we do first, how much money will we need, where does the money come from, will we be able to handle the surprises we find? The project actually started in 1983 with a Block Grant to study downtown revitalization. The study put into writing the fact that being close to Omaha and Lincoln is both a strength and a weakness. The pool of potential shoppers or visitors to Plattsmouth is great but the large shopping areas of Omaha and Lincoln are sometimes tempting to our residents and too much competition for our local business owners. The 1983 study reported that downtown Plattsmouth was not a “pedestrian friendly” place. The City of Plattsmouth wisely involved a diverse population in many different studies to formulate the best plan for Plattsmouth. They took advantage of federal funding opportunities by becoming a Certified Local Government through the Department of the Interior. Downtown Plattsmouth is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It became clear through all the planning that the place to start was with the infrastructure and bringing a better streetscape into the plan at the same time was just smart. Compliance with federally mandated improvements on the combined sanitary and storm sewers was the catalyst the city needed. The voters approved a city ½% sales tax increase to fund the project.



-Continued on page 2-

Let's look at what improvements you will see on your visit to Historic Main Street. The plan took the "pedestrian friendly" criticism seriously. Each corner has a "node", a rounded bump out of the corner. The node slows down the traffic, protects the adjacent on street parking, shortens the cross walk from 72 feet to 28 feet, and makes up the grade difference of the former street cross section so that all crosswalks are fully accessible. These pleasant little areas can now accommodate landscaping and seating. A Plaza has been created on 4th Street on the south side of Main, which also leads to an improved city parking lot. This beautiful area was designed with a portable performance stage on the East side. The street and sidewalk are the same level so the entire area is free from steps making it safer for public events. Drop in bollards are placed at the Main Street entrance of 4th Street to ensure safety. It is usually the details that make or break a restoration of a historic home. The lighting is certainly a reflection of that attention to detail and also connects the importance of modernization. The cobra-head streetlights are equipped with LED lights (first city in Nebraska to use LED lighting) and speakers for the city PA system. While the lantern accent lights and lighted bollards add to the historic charm of the street. Then there are the accessories to a restoration project, in this case it will be the benches, trees, and flowers added to the built in, irrigated planter boxes all along the street.

Were there problems along the restoration process, sure! The long process was difficult for the businesses along Main Street and the streets one block north and south. There were surprises along the way, such as finding bridge supports below grade at 4th and Main and irrigation pipe to the old 1940's median between 6th and 7th Streets.

There is a slogan in the seal that commemorates the 1854 founding of Plattsmouth which says, "Honor the Past, Plan for the Future." Change is inconvenient and sometimes hard to accept, however if the way to survive as a small "bedroom" town is to be noticeably charming or historic then we need to thank all those citizens and public officials who spent years working on the plan. At the very least you know the billboard that touts a "Historic Main Street" in Plattsmouth will deliver what it promises.

CLASS NOTICES

CLASS OF 1942

The Class of 1942 is planning a 70th Class Reunion in conjunction with the Annual Alumni Banquet. An afternoon gathering is also planned for May 26th at the Fitzgerald Hotel at 6th and Main at 3:00pm. Many of the remaining 33 members have indicated they will be in attendance. Further information can be obtained from Cary Marshall or Russ Nielsen.



CLASS OF 1947

There will be a "get-together" at Eagles on Friday, May 25, 2012, at 6:30pm. Appetizers and conversation will be the order of the day. Please note the reservation form for the Saturday, May 26, 2012, Alumni Banquet in this newsletter. See you there!

CLASS OF 1957

The Class of 1957 is planning a reunion that starts with a Storm Chaser Ball Game on Friday, July 13th. On July 14th they will gather at the Plattsmouth Country Club and on Sunday, July 15th at Rieke's Wacanda Lake house. Letters will follow soon, please contact Sandra Young Allgeier with questions. We encourage you also to go to the annual PHS Alumni Banquet on May 26th as we will be recognized for our 55th anniversary of graduation.

CLASS OF 1962

PHS Class of 1962 is planning to attend the 2012 Alumni Banquet to celebrate their 50th Reunion. They will also meet for dinner on Friday, May 25 at the Fairways Restaurant in Murray, Nebraska. Contact Linda Todd for more information at 402-935-4450 or LTodd2244@aol.com

CLASS OF 1967

The 45th reunion of the Class of 1967 will be held on June 22nd and 23rd. Details will follow soon. Contact Suzanne Solomon Wilson at 402-296-4752 or swbabyrn@yahoo.com for more information.



**Plattsmouth
Alumni Association**

ALUM OF THE YEAR



Serving Plattsmouth and the surrounding communities for over 100 years.

Plattsmouth State Bank is pleased to employ the following Plattsmouth High School Alumni:

- Janice McKinney-Carnes – '62
- Carol Smith-Wehrbein – '63
- Debi Barnard-Tilson – '74
- Lori Schneider – '77
- Scott Frazier – '78
- David Schneider – '81
- Greg Schneider – '83
- Kari Algya Drake – '84
- Craig Wehrbein – '86
- Kiley Parsons-Smith – '89
- Kristina Calabro – '04
- John Winters – '04

Member FDIC 402-296-2194
www.plattsmouthbank.com

The Plattsmouth Alumni Association is seeking Nominations for the 2012 ALUM OF THE YEAR.

Nominations will be accepted until April 15, 2012.

Please submit nominations to: Plattsmouth Alumni Association
Attn: Alum of the Year Committee P.O. Box 283 Plattsmouth, NE 68048

This award will be given annually in recognition of outstanding contributions that a PHS Alum has given to his or her community. The recipient will be selected based on the following.

- Individual must be a PHS ALUM
- Contributions the individual has made to the betterment of his/her community.

The nominator should submit a biographical statement of the nominee, to include a brief family history and accomplishments the individual has made during their life since graduation (please state year of graduation). The nominator must submit a brief statement explaining why they have nominated this individual.

Previous recipients of this award include:

- 2006 ~ Sharon Ramage Smith – Class of 1957
- 2007 ~ Carl Glup – Class of 1966
- 2008 ~ Frank Bierl – Class of 1934
- 2009 ~ Dean Meisinger ~ Class of 1951
- 2010 ~ Mary Evers Skalak ~ Class of 1945
- 2011 – Flora Belle Mead Wehrbein ~ Class of 1938

THE PERFECT GIFT:



- FOR YOUR GRADUATE
- AS A MEMORIAL
- AS A REMEMBRANCE OF PHS DAYS

The PHS Hall of Fame is funded by the sale of embossed bricks set in the school's entrances.

\$50.00 - one personalized brick

Contact Shaun Brothers - PHS Athletic Director
296-3322

(We are in the process of having the existing bricks cleaned and resealed.

We look forward to adding your brick to the fresh entrance.)



KERNS EXCAVATING CO.
2507 Smith Avenue. Box 357
402-296-6227

Charlie Kerns '54 Terry Kerns '78

RISHEL & PFEIFER, P.C.

Certified Public Accountants
2380 8th Avenue, Suite 7
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048

Office – 402-296-4631 Steven E. Rishel, CPA – '71
Fax – 402-296-4148 Roxanne Pfeifer, CPA – '77

Keep up-to-date on the latest in Cass County

Cassgram

Cass County's Weekday News Source
News • Weather • Sports • Events • Funeral Notices

Cassgram Available at 2pm Daily Online
www.cassgram.com

Steve Warga – '76

13th Annual Plattsmouth Alumni Association Celebration – May 26, 2012

Make plans to attend the 13th Annual Alumni Association All School Banquet. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. It is held at the new Plattsmouth High School located at 1916 East Hwy 34 at 6:00 P.M., on Saturday May 26, 2012. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Return the reservation form found in this newsletter on or before May 18, 2012. Don't forget, it is also that time of year to pay your dues! Make checks payable to: Plattsmouth Alumni Association and send them to P.O. Box 283 in Plattsmouth, NE 68048. Any questions regarding the 2012 Plattsmouth Alumni CELEBRATION may be directed to Sandy McKnight 298-8513 or mom14509@yahoo.com.

Banquet Details

5:30 – 6:00 P.M. – Social Time
6:00 P.M. – Dinner

DINNER RESERVATION

Dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. at the New High School, cost is \$20.00 per person.

_____ Number of Guests attending. TOTAL \$ _____

Names of those Attending:

Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____
 Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____
 Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____
 Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____

MEMBERSHIP

Please help us keep our membership records current, provide us with your current address even if you do not plan to attend the annual banquet.

Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____
 Name (Maiden Name) _____ Graduation year _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

- Enclosed is my Annual Membership fee of \$5.00 per person for the Plattsmouth Alumni Association
- Enclosed is my Lifetime Membership Fee of \$125.00 per person.
- Enclosed is my donation to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund \$ _____
- Enclosed is my donation to the Alumni Association General Fund \$ _____

I would like to be a member of:
 The Alumni Association Benefactor Club
 _____ Platinum - \$10,000 and above
 _____ Gold - \$5,000 to \$9,999
 _____ Silver - \$1,000 to \$4,999
 _____ Bronze - \$500 to \$999

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Plattsmouth Alumni Association
 P.O. Box 283 – Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048**



REMINDER

The following Classes will be honored with pins at the 2012 Celebration!

75 Years – Class of 1937
 70 Years – Class of 1942
 65 Years – Class of 1947
 60 Years – Class of 1952
 55 Years – Class of 1957
 50 Years – Class of 1962
 25 Years – Class of 1987

If you are a member of one of these classes please make plans to attend and receive your special recognition.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL OR WEB!

E-MAIL

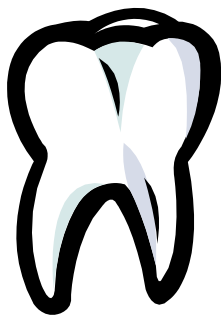
Would you like to receive the newsletter via e-mail? The newsletter is also available on the Plattsmouth Community Schools web site. We require your permission to use your e-mail address instead of just transferring your address to the new site.

We have set up a new e-mail site for just this purpose. If you would like to be a part of this new adventure, please send your e-mail address to: plattsmouthalum@yahoo.com

WEBSITE

All Alumni Newsletters are posted on the Plattsmouth Community Schools Website. In order to access the newsletters visit www.plattsmouthschools.org. On the main page click on "Foundation/Alumni" then click on "Alumni Newsletters", click on "Newsletters." A list of current and past Alumni Newsletters will be available for viewing.

McKnight Family Dental



Dr. James A. McKnight, '70
Dr. Douglas J. McKnight, '98

Linda (Bowman) Glup, '66
Bonnie (Pletan) Kennedy, '77

2302 W 8th Ave, Suite 2
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-296-2818

www.mcknightfamilydental.com


Brian P.
Harvey
FUNERAL HOME
Family Owned and Operated

Brian '94 and Tina (Wooters) '96 Harvey

306 North 7th Street
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-296-4445

www.bpharveyfuneralhome.com

BENEFACTOR RECOGNITION

The Plattsmouth Alumni Association in conjunction with the POPS Foundation is pleased to introduce the BENEFACTORS CLUB. Through your charitable contributions both organizations are able to provide scholarship funds, educational programs and other activities for the Plattsmouth Community Schools.

The POPS Foundation an organization designed to "Provide Opportunities for Plattsmouth Schools" is recognized by the State of Nebraska as a 501c3 Corporation. This status allows all charitable donations to be fully tax deductible to the individual donor. It is through the relationship with the POPS Foundation that the donations given to the Plattsmouth Alumni Association are also tax deductible.

The Benefactors Club has been established to honor those of you who would like to make a charitable donation that would help improve the education process in Plattsmouth Community Schools. A permanent display for the Benefactors Club is currently in the design phase and will be introduced to you in a future newsletter.

Charitable donation in the following amounts will be recognized through the Benefactors Club:

Platinum Level - \$10,000 and above

Gold Level - \$5,000 to \$9,999

Silver Level - \$1,000 to \$4,999

Bronze Level - \$500 to \$999

If you have any questions, please contact Sandy McKnight, Executive Director at 402-298-8513.



PHS HALL OF FAME NOMINATION INFORMATION

"Honoring the Past to Challenge the Future"

Eligibility Requirement: A prospective inductee will become eligible for admission 15 years after graduation. Administrators, coaches, and community members are eligible at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

We need:

1. Name and contact information of candidate
2. A narrative about why you think this person is a good candidate
3. Your name and contact information
4. We will contact the candidate, explaining that he/she has been nominated and will be considered for induction if he/she so wishes and provides us with necessary information.

Send information by April 1, 2012 to:
Hall of Fame, Sandra Allgeier, 1416 So 15th St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048, sallgeier@windstream.net

Plattsmouth Alumni Association
P.O. Box 283
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PLATTSMOUTH, NE
PERMIT NO. 90

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE RESERVATIONS
TODAY FOR THE**

**13th Annual Plattsmouth Alumni Association
Celebration - May 26, 2012**

(DETAILS INSIDE)