

Alice Warner is deserving of a 2023 Newport Alumni Hall of Fame Award for numerous reasons (and probably many more reasons that I am not even aware of). Below, while reading, you will get a taste of her spirited-personality, her community involvement, her contributions not only to the Newport School District but to the entire area. Alice is an incREDible lady. She puts the RED in the Red and Black of Newport High School. She is a proud Grizzly throughout and also extremely proud of the community she spent the majority of her life living in. She touched the lives of 1000's of kids.

Alice is a wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Alice's husband, Frank, passed away in 2015. He was involved in many local civic entities and as any wife knows, this means Alice, along with all her involvements, was also involved in-part in Frank's activities, too. Some of these were the: Newport Kiwanis Club, Boy Scouts, Citizens Advisory Committee, Newport Planning Commission and the Volunteer Fire Department. Alice and Frank owned an upholstery shop in Newport located behind their historic (Dr. Schlotthauer) home on Spokane Avenue and 3rd in Newport.

Alice is the mother of two sons, Daryl (whom she lives with in South Carolina) and Frank Jr. (who passed away in 1973). She is also the step-mother to Doc Warner and Brooke Warner (passed away in 2012).

One project that is so important to the Newport School District and its Alumni is that Alice (along with Larry Shaw) spent an entire summer scanning all the Newport High School yearbooks/annuals, that were known to exist at the time. These scans were then placed on the Newport School District website for all to enjoy. This was quite a gift that Alice gave to Newport Alumni and a reference to all. How many people do you know that would have given so much of

their time and positivity to do this?

While searching old Newport Miners for additional information about Alice, items found were her birth announcement from 1933, a photo of 13-year-old Alice dancing with other youngsters in the Moose Hall, and a 1954 mention of Alice writing her parents from Europe, again from Paris, and later from England and Scotland. Later photos from her trip were published. Her engagement announcement, marriage license and wedding photos (2 consecutive weeks) were all published, as was done at the time. A photo of Alice and Frank at Pend Oreille Bank was published during a time in the 90's when the bank chose "outstanding" customers and published their photos.

Alice's 50th wedding anniversary photo appeared in 2001 and a photo of her and Frank at the Pend Oreille County Historical Society with a toy train later that same year. In 2003, Alice was photographed eating pizza at the Big Wheel Pizza restaurant. Now her 60th wedding anniversary, Alice and Frank were in the paper again. In 2016, Alice was acknowledged for having the same post office box (Crysler-Warner family) for 90 years.

Alice has a love for history. Her family were early Newport settlers. To preserve the Crysler family history, she authored an incredible 16-page story in the 2012 Big Smoke (annual publication of the Pend Oreille County Historical Society written about and/or for pioneers of the area), documenting the early pioneer life of many of her family members in Newport. She rarely notes herself, as she focused on each of her family members with details and photos. Again, this demonstrates a dedication of time and effort to preserve a story very important to the community. With this writing, she leaves another huge gift. In her story, Alice gives details about the early ways of Newport, the interactions of the community and uses a

keen descriptive manner which is so important in documenting local history. This is another incredible gift to the community via Alice Warner. As is said in the auditing world, if it's not documented, it didn't happen. Alice wrote about how her grandparents arrived in Newport in 1908 from Michigan. They immediately bought lots on Newport Avenue to build on and established a barber shop. Alice shared how lucky she felt to have 4 grandparents while growing up. As a youngster, Alice grew strawberries and sold them to Kimmel Drug Store in exchange for sundaes at the soda fountain. Alice and many others from the Crysler family are noted in other Big Smoke publications and the family's civic involvements. Alice also assisted with the compilation/writing of the Ellersick family Big Smoke Story.

Alice volunteered for the Museum in Newport and continues to support the Historical Society even though she is no longer residing in Newport. She is one of those people that knows how history is intertwined with people, their relatives, events, buildings...and can tie it all together. Numerous historical photographs of Newport and the surrounding area are in the Museum archives, thanks to Alice passing them along to ensure they are retained for future use.

For years, Alice collected Newport School District memorabilia and documentation. She organized these clippings, photos, stories... in binders and boxes. I can vouch for her efforts because I am in safe possession of all these 30-plus boxes filled-to-the top of Newport School District history. Upon leaving Newport to move to South Carolina, she gave this important collection of documentation to the Pend Oreille County Historical Society so it can be kept and used for further education.

In the 1970's, Mr. Hansen (teacher at the middle school), asked Alice to help in his large class. Later a place was made for her as an assistant classified person. That lasted for several years in varying classrooms. One year, Mrs. Hahn (teacher) was the librarian of the K-8th grades. The following year, after Mrs. Hahn returned to teaching, Alice saw a need to keep the library going. She asked for help to organize a volunteer system to keep the library going. She was given the "green light". Then, all the school assistants were laid off. When the school resumed hiring the assistants back, Alice got a job with Mrs. Beulah Noble in the high school library. Mrs. Noble taught Alice about organizing a library.

Alice then ended up back at the middle school as the library paraprofessional. That meant that for this classification, Alice needed additional training. The Newport public librarian suggested that all county and school library personnel form a group for training. The Spokane Community Colleges provided a teacher. Alice was one of about 12 being taught. The class completed that degree in 1993. Alice was in the first class to graduate from Newport's College. Alice had graduated from WSC-now WSU (GO COUGS) in 1954 with a degree in child development.

After Alice received her SCC degree, Mrs. Bourassa assigned Alice as a paraprofessional in the middle school. This was at the time that the move to the new School (Stratton Elementary) was happening. Mrs. Bourassa asked Alice to continue at the new school and be on a committee participating in designing "things and ways". Alice had now reached 70 years old and in October of that year, she left a profession and job she loved dearly. To this day, she considers her time at the Newport schools, as with the best and most-loved people in her life, which are those that love and

nurture children. She misses each one of these folks with whom she forged friendship's and yes, even those who opposed.

My brother Tom shared that during the summer fires (sometime in the 1990's), our other brother (Rod) at Owen Grocery & Deli, was supplying meals to the Forest Service for the firefighters. Rod was working day and night. It was a "prescriptive menu" and everything had to be exact, such as a pickle wrapped separately, a packet of mayonnaise, a dry turkey sandwich, chocolate chip cookie-only, etc. Tom arrived in Newport one night and was surprised to see Alice at the store, with an apron on, making sandwiches in the deli and assembling the lunches. She knew it was all-hands-on-deck and jumped in that week to make it happen.

Alice now continues using her teaching skills as she lives in South Carolina and assists with home-schooling her great grandchildren. The school is called Classical Conversation. She shared that there are 11 of them living in one home where the kids learn Latin, a lot of history, reading and math. She does miss Newport and we miss seeing her drive around town in her ice blue Volkswagen Beetle!