

## October 2009 Updates

10/28/09 **Robert Laramee Alive & Well:** I ran into Bob Laramee on Friday night at a party I attended in Bakersfield. He was in apparent good health and good spirits and said he is enjoying his retirement immensely. I was surprised that when I told him my name he remembered me and some of the 'creativity' I was involved in back in my sophomore year; that would be almost 40 years back now. He was surprised that I recognized him, but he looked the same except older and grayer, just like the rest of us. If you run into one of our 'old' teachers, you better take a minute to speak to them, they aren't getting any younger and we lose a few more of them every year...

10/25/09 **Frank Barle Memorial Golf Tournament:** The Arvin High Alumni Association held it's 8th Annual Golf Tournament yesterday at Sycamore Canyon Golf Course and more than 144 golfers were out on the course. Representing the Class of 1972 in one way or another were Mike Abapo, Cynthia Blankenship, Pat Brantley, Jeff Campbell, Farrell Neeley, and James Williams. If any others were present, I apologize for missing you and if you'll drop me a line I'll correct the data accordingly [webmaster@arvinhigh1972.net](mailto:webmaster@arvinhigh1972.net). I would guess that Jeff Campbell and James Williams drove the farthest of any of our class members to be present coming in from Arizona and Colorado respectively. Pat Brantley drove down from the Sacramento area to be present. It was good to see all of you and if I missed anybody, I'm sorry. Let's do it again next year!

10/18/09 **Monthly Class of 1972 Golf & Luncheon:** As we head into the AHS 60th Anniversary Celebration and the holiday season, we will be suspending our monthly get togethers until January. Beginning in January, we will move them around to different venues (not just golf courses) in the Greater Bakersfield area so that more of you get a chance to attend. Check back here in December for the January location and make a New Year's resolution to take part in 2010.

10/18/09 **Dustbowl Festival Recap:** Once again this annual event commemorating the 'Okie' migration to California from the Dustbowl region of the mid-west was a big success and well attended by both locals and folks from out of the area. There were arts, crafts, food, speeches, presentations, square dance demonstrations, tours, and oral histories throughout the day. If you have never attended the event, make plans now to be there next year and bring your kids and grandkids so they can have a taste of what living through the largest migration in American History was actually like. Check out their website throughout the year for updates at [www.weedpatchcamp.com](http://www.weedpatchcamp.com)

10/11/09 **Rest In Peace Mr. Dolan:** I know that by now many of you will be aware of the death of Mr. Dolan. Like many of you, I was a student of his in Spanish class. I never did learn to speak Spanish well, but I did get the pleasure of having him for a teacher. Mr. Dolan was a retired Undersheriff when he went into education as a second career. That past experience seemed to have shaped him into the gentle person he was by the time most of us knew him. I was well out of high school when I saw in a national magazine that he had once been involved in solving a very famous case during his detective days. For all the braggarts we had who tried to teach us, Bill stood out as someone who'd had a real series of adventures in his life and yet he rarely spoke of them to us, much less bragged about events that were actually quite noteworthy. The last time I saw him was at the 50th Reunion Dance; he was out on the floor with his two canes and two young women, dancing up a storm. Bill died this last Sunday at the age of 97 after giving a scripture reading at his church and sitting down. RIP Mr. Dolan...

10/02/09 **Catch Up On Past Class of 1972 Updates:** If you are just now finding our Arvin High School Class of 1972 website, you can still go back to September of 2007 when we first kicked off the pages and see what has been going on ever since. We have just celebrated the 2nd anniversary of our website and we look forward to many more. All the blue dates at the top of this page are live links to archived months of past class updates. To find a month, just click on the appropriate link and it will take you to a pdf. If you don't have Adobe Reader, click on the link at the top of this page to get a free download. This way, you can catch up quick or go back and make sure you recalled something correctly the first time. Any updates within the last 90 days are still on this page; just scroll down. Happy reading...