

Class of 1972 Updates Archive

11/07

11/28/07 Moving To Papa: If I had known how much fun grandkids would be, I would never have had 'any' children and would have instead moved straight to the designation 'Papa' versus 'Daddy'. My grandkids actually look forward to seeing me and relish the 'wisdom' that the years have brought me. My kids on the other hand were always sure I didn't know anything and I in their minds I was clearly 'not with it'. The grandkids email and call me on the phone, but to talk to my children, I have to leave a message on their Blackberry or speak with their executive assistant. The grandkids are thrilled when I give them a \$20; the kids have talked with me seriously about estate planning and if they can count on me when I die for enough for those vacation homes in Mexico, Italy, or Oklahoma. In short, grandkids are the kids I always wanted. On the other hand, my daughters assure me that 'Papa' is the 'Daddy' they always wanted and never had...Go figure...

11/26/07 Back In The Saddle Again: I was away for about a week visiting with my oldest daughter Christina (Class of 1992) and two of my semi-beautiful grandchildren. I am wading through about 23 emails from this site or the AHAA site and will respond to them as quick as I can. Most of them have relevant alumni info that I will be posting, one of them wanted to know if it's true that Jimmy Hoffa may be in the foundation of the Arvin High School cafeteria expansion, and another wrote offering me various forms of medically-based anatomical assistance (I think an ex-girlfriend is behind that one). In any case, I will get it all sorted out by week's end...I hope you had a great holiday...

11/19/07 On The Road Again: I will be absent from these pages for the next seven days, so please be patient with reruns until I return. I will have email access, so feel free to write, but I do not have the program I update the web site with on my laptop and even if I did, the little hotel I stay at in Southern Oregon hasn't joined the 21st Century in terms of high-speed Internet access or being 'pet-friendly'. I am spending a few days with my oldest daughter, son-in-law, and two of my grandkids. I plan to look up an old AHS classmate or two as I travel up and down the Golden State as well. Be on the lookout for me...Please have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving and tune back in on the 26th for updates...Farrell

11/16/07 Back From The Dead: Many times I am writing here about how another one of our classmates has passed on. This time is different because I am writing about one of our classmates (who was incorrectly listed as dead) contacting me and wondering if I knew something he didn't...SAMMY CORRAL contacted me today and we had a nice chat. I kept listening to the voice, to be sure someone wasn't pulling my leg, but it was Sammy alright. Sammy lives in Bakersfield and works as a Facilities Manager. He wants all of you to know that he is still alive, doing well, and living in Bakersfield. I looked back at my support documents and the error crept in from an old reunion mailing contact list that had Sammy's name, no address, and the word 'deceased' next to it. I promised to buy Sammy a cup of coffee soon and he forgave me for killing him off prematurely...If any of the rest of you have been listed as deceased and are not...Please contact me so I can resurrect you ASAP!

11/15/07 Dropping The Ball: Back on October 23rd I noted that I had received an email from Wendy 'Reiswig' Bailey and I promised to post a piece on what she had to say. I just noticed today that I haven't posted anything about that email yet... Sorry Wendy...Wendy is a successful artist living on the Northern California coast with her contractor husband. I remember from her email that she has had several successful shows, but she seemed most excited about the one daughter she still has at home; ballet is that daughter's passion and Wendy is her 'costumer' and main fan at this point. Wendy said she doesn't hear from many people from Arvin other than her brother Randy (Class of 1970) and Margaret 'Mahoney' Dietsch (Class of 1972). Wendy can be emailed at kbailey@mcn.org Thanks for taking the time to touch base Wendy...

11/09/07 Months On Down The Road: When I launched this website two months ago, I entered the names of all the staff (i.e., administrators, cooks, custodians, nurses, secretaries, teachers, teacher aides, etc.) who were listed in the 69', 70', 71', and 72' Praeteritas. In some cases I have first initials and last names because I did not know the names, so if you can help out with names, send me an email farrellneeley@aol.com.

11/09/07 Looking For News I am reminded of that old Johnny Lee song, "looking for Love" when I start hunting around for updates on Class of 1972 members...Sometime I get information that I can't print; sometimes I get information that I could print, but am ashamed too; and sometimes I hear things that are so sad I choose not to pass them along. I pass along the best; you will have to imagine the others. We have classmates who are living the lifestyles of the Rich & Famous and we have classmates who are almost Homeless. We have classmates who are the picture of health and we have classmates who are struggling with mental and or physical challenges that would test Job...We have classmates who embody the American Dream and we have classmates in Lockup doing hard time. In short, we are a microcosm of humanity, which, by the way, is what I see in every other class that graduated from AHS. After all, as the AHAA Webmaster, I hear from classmates from the last 58+ years...

11/06/07 Millie Jo Collins: Millie sent an email today asking about Jackie Cissne? Do any of you know what became of her? Millie also mentioned wondering about ..."Other classmates who were good friends of mine include Julie Wernli, Marsha Leonard, Angela Ojeda, Ronnie Newton, Dwight Denney, David and Ron Frick, David Worley, Jackie Cissne and many others. If you have information on their whereabouts, contact Millie at mjcvallygirl@hotmail.com

11/06/07 Renewing Old Acquaintances: I got the chance yesterday to spend about a twenty minutes on the phone with Cleatus 'Clete' Doyal (Class of 1972). Some of you may even recall him as 'Skeeter'. In any event, today he is the Senior Pastor of First Christian Church of Santa Maria. Clete and I lived in houses that shared a common back fence when we were boys and we grew up in the same south side of Lamont neighborhood. His mother was active in the church I attended as a young man. Clete tells me that his wife Bonnie is still putting up with him after 34 years; they have three great kids and one granddaughter. If any of you want to see what he's up to, the church web site is www.fccsantamaria.org His email is clete.doyal@fccsantamaria.org