

Class of 1972 Update Archive 12_09

12/31/09 **2010 New Year's Resolutions:** A few of years back I decided that I wanted to make a point of seeing more of my old friends and classmates while they were still breathing. To that end, I have gone out of my way (and that's what you'll have to do) to find people, call people, email people, and pigeon hole them if I see them out and about. As a result, I've gotten to see a couple of folks for the last time while they could still talk with me and we could enjoy one another's company. On average we are 55 years old as a cohort. If you are a statistician, you know that the curve for increased mortality starts to kick in around here. That means the rate of there being fewer of us will increase over the next 15-45 years until it only includes the centenarians among us.

I'm not sure why we 'hide out' more the older we get, but if you make no effort to look up old friends or even be with them when an opportunity presents itself (e.g., informal gatherings, reunions, etc.), the loss is everybody's and not just yours. Consider resolving as you go into 2010 to make a point to look up old friends, gather with classmates, mend any broken old fences, and heal any old rifts. We'll be having our monthly lunches again starting on **January 22, 2010** and we have a class get together at Marlene 'Leary' Baughman's house on **June 12, 2010**. Why not start making plans now to attend one or more of these events in 2010. Not everybody has time to get to everything we do, but if you come by once in a while, it's a great way to stay in touch. Keep checking our calendar for monthly dates.

12/22/09 **Happy 37th Wedding Anniversary:** Congratulations go out today to our Class of 1972 Classmates, Gary Jeffers and Patty 'Duffel' Jeffers, who are celebrating their 37th wedding anniversary today. Gary and Patty live these days in Round Mountain, Nevada...

12/21/09 **Steve Hallum Continues To Recuperate:** Our Classmate James Williams spoke with Steve's wife this week and she told him that Steve is continuing to make progress back to health. He will no doubt need some time to recuperate and rehabilitate in the coming weeks. When I was at the hospital on Tuesday, I spoke with Steve's wife and she mentioned that if folks came by to visit they need to remember that Steve will tire easily because he wants to interact with his visitors. Please be considerate of our classmate and the fragility of his health right now. When you visit don't wear him out by forcing him to use energy he needs to use to heal. Flowers can be sent to San Joaquin Community Hospital, Fourth Floor.

12/15/09 **Get Well Soon Steve Hallum:** Our classmate, Steve Hallum, suffered a serious stroke on Sunday. He remains hospitalized in Bakersfield at this time. Our prayers and best wishes go out for Steve and his family. Steve has been a positive and generous influence in Arvin for over 30 years and can always be counted on to support Arvin High School, Arvin High Alumni, and Arvin High Class of 1972 efforts. Get well soon Steve...

12/13/09 **Christmas Lunch/Dinner:** While Lynda 'Denny' Del Rio is in town for the Holidays, we are going to try to get a small lunch or dinner together for members of our class in the Bakersfield area. If you would like to be part of this informal gathering, drop me an email at farrellneeley@aol.com and I'll keep you posted on the time and place. For some of you, the coming week will see you heading out to be with family and friends in other states. Travel safely and have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

12/13/09 **Our Condolences:** I noticed in today's *Bakersfield Californian* that Carolyn 'Newton' Beavers had passed away this last week. Carolyn was a member of the Arvin High Class of 1961. The reason I note her passing here on the Class of 1972 website is that she is also the older sister of our classmate Ronnie Newton. Our hearts go out to Ron and all his extended family at this time.

12/01/09 **Become A Facebook Fan of The Arvin High School Class of 1972:** For the past six months we have been building our class page on **Facebook** and want you to drop by whenever you are there. It's 'Arvin High Class of 1972' and we want you to become a fan so you can receive updates as soon as they post here on our website. Be sure to let other classmates and other AHS alums know about it because it's such a good way to stay connected.

If you haven't already joined **Facebook**, you should at least consider it. It's fun, it's free, and it's a great way to keep up with old classmates, their kids, and grandkids. Currently there are about 1,700 active Arvin High School alumni on Facebook and about 22 of those are from our class. The number creeps up a few each month. We have been adding about one or two about every two weeks and we need to pick up that pace. If you find you don't like Facebook after you try it, you can always disconnect... www.facebook.com