

RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

MAY, 2011

Alumni Basketball Game

Marvin Meredith gymnasium lured several former basketball players back on the New Year's Day to revisit hoops memories and renew friendships. About a dozen former players participated in the men's game, bringing their offense to show that they still had game. As for the girls game, only Ima Noshow and Abby Sent were there and they are calling the girls out for next year's game. A big thank you to Sam Sparks and Merl Kidwell for organizing the game and to Bill Renzi and Keith Roark who served as alumni officials.



The former Red Devil hoopsters pose before battle in the annual alumni game.

Correction to last month's trivia regarding RHS football players at UK: Jim Bradley reported that Bob Bennett ('53) played football for UK from 53-57 and was a freshman on the last team coached by Bear Bryant at Kentucky.

ACADEMIC TEAM EARNS ANOTHER GOVERNORS CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

The Brainy Devils did it again! The RHS Academic Team captured its fifth Governor's Cup State Championship, outscoring and outworking larger schools for this most prestigious of academic competitions. Previously, the Devils had claimed the trophy in 1996, 1997, 2004, and 2006. Led by Coach Kirk Barnett and a host of assistants, the team found its victory in being strong in all areas.

RHS DANCE TEAM NINE -PEATS AS NATIONAL CHAMPION

RHS continues to waltz through the competition as it scored another national championship March 25-26 in Fort Worth, TX. The yearned an amazing thirteen titles in the competition. The JV squad also earned the champion's trophy in its first year of competition. The teams are coached by Tammy Jo Edge and Natalie Pence.

RMS WINS THIRD STRAIGHT STATE SCIENCE OLYMPIAD AND RHS PLACES SECOND AND THIRD.

Russell continued its great tradition of dominating regional and state Science Olympiad competition. The RMS team will now travel to Wisconsin to compete for the international championship.

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA FROM LAST ISSUE

TRIVIA

1. In the RHS gymnasium, who was the artist for the devil over the entrance? *Mike Prout, Class of '66*
2. When did the old Russell High School in downtown Russell open? *1922*
3. The "new" RHS? *1962*

TRIVIA

1. Who was the first girls tennis coach?
2. What was the name of the televised academic team contest that RHS competed in the early 70's?
3. What Alumni Association officer's mother was a member of the girls basketball team in 1924?

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MILESTONES	2
OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS	2
DEVILS UPDATE	3
REMEMBERING THE TEACHERS...	3
WHERE ARE THEY	3
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION	3
UPCOMING EVENTS	4

MILESTONES

Deaths

John Paul Powell ('53) 12/23/10
 Bruce Henry 12/27/10
 Jim Ward ('72) 12/29/10
 Pat Taylor 12/29/10
 Rev. Mann "Chip" Valentine
 12/30/10
 Ragan Arnold ('11) 1/1/11
 Minnie Mae Melvin Hoflich ('39)
 1/13/11
 Michael Franz ('69) 1/20/11
 Norma Burgess 1/13/11
 Robert Kimbrell ('46) 2/18/11
 Dr. Willis Potter ('43) 3/9/11
 Darrel Thomas 3/13/11
 Helen Ashworth 3/15/11
 Todd Walters ('80) 3/17/11
 Melinda Harris Isaac ('78) 3/20/11
 Hubert Dehart 3/21/11

Travis Roark ('08) 3/1/11
 Ted Wells 3/4/11
 Kathleen Dillow Maynard
 3/1/11
 Tammy Bryan Hall ('78) 3/27/11
 Roger Duty 4/2/11
 Johnny R. Clarke 4/3/11
 Willis Cline 4/4/11
 Robert White ('70) 4/6/11
 James Ross 4/7/11
 Mary Wyant Pratt ('57) 4/10/11
 Kenneth Holbrook ('67) 4/14/11
 Janet Sponaugle King ('62)
 4/19/11

Weddings

Francesco Rocco ('81)/David
 Bayes ('80) 6/18/11
 Lindsay Robinson ('96)/Billy
 Lane ('94) 6/11/11
 Heather Meek/Jeremy Laven-
 dar ('06) 6/11/11

Easter Bocook ('05)/John Pen-
 nington 7/10/10

Births

Lee Ann (Wyant) ('94) and
 Adam Justice —Addison
 Leigh 8/12/10
 Allison (Barker) ('00) and Jeff
 Johnson—Makayla Eve
 12/31/10
 Jill (Kendrick) ('96) and Jason
 Banks—Phoebe 4/11

Other

Doug ('60) and Brenda
 (Edwards) ('60) celebrated
 their 50th wedding anniver-
 sary 12/17/10

Eddie Prichard, band director,
 and Julia Moore, Gifted and
 Talented supervisor, are retir-
 ing at the end of the school
 year.

**At Russell High
 School, Tradition
 Never Graduates**

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Tate Dillow ('97) can be seen on the Domino's
 Pizza television ads. He is the corporate Chef in
 Research and Development for Dominos.

Matt Potter military display opens at Highland
 Museum

France Peterson's daughter Susan Locke of
 Dublin, Oh will appear on Wheel of Fortune in
 June

Mandy Hayes Spencer ('98) has a series of
 books "The CrantszChronicles" that will be re-
 leased beginning in late 2011

Michael Mayne ('04) writer and illustrator of a
 digital comic book "Bonnie Lass-The Legend" at
 Shawnee State University

Terry Gayhart ('74) plays guitar and bass for
 Jonestown, PA band Shift Seven

Tim Hanner ('78) Superintendent of Kenton Co
 Schools, retired after a highly career in education
 and had kidney transplant surgery

Sara Waggoner ('96) is a full time litigator with
 the firm of Getty and Childers in Lexington

Steve Holt's fourth book *Earthbound* can be pur-
 chased for \$12 by e-mailing Robin Clay, RHS
 Media Specialist, at
robin.clay@russellind.kyschools.us

Billy Ray Cyrus ('79) will perform at Summer
 Motion July 4

Diana Brubaker Patterson ('91) wrote a book
 about family and love *Reach With Your Heart*

Ross Turner ('07) graduated from UK after lead-
 ing the teams as the mascot and enrolled in phar-
 macy school

Warren and Claudia French ('96) are now serv-
 ing Connersville Christian Church in Cynthiana

WINTER WITH THE DEVILS

Red Devil Basketball 2010-11 was a growing year. With very few seniors, both boys and girls programs look to the future. The boys team had an excellent year and finished as 63rd District runner-up before losing to a strong Ashland team in the regional Tournament. The girls team showed progress during the year and should be a force next season.

The RHS Band had a great season and recently earned

Distinguished from KMEA

College Signings

Jessica Frisby (Soccer) Morehead

Alyssa Thompson (Golf) Transylvania

Kelsey Hensley (Tennis) University of Charleston

Zac Bailey (Football) KCU

Elizabeth Floyd (Soccer) Morehead (Dad watched the signing from Iraq through Skype)

KEEP IN TOUCH

The following are dealing with health related issues and might enjoy a card or call:

Phillip Fields ('68), 113 Cardinal Rd, Russell, KY 41169

Dorothy Lester, Morning Pointe, 1000 Addington Dr., Russell, KY 41169

Ron Irwin, Oakmont Manor, 1100 Grandview Dr, Flatwoods, KY 41139

Phyllis Coffee Stewart ('64) 113 Gesling Rd, Russell, KY 41169

ANNUAL MEETING with election of officers was held April 13. The following are elected officers:

PRES MARY ROBINSON
 V-P HARRIET JONES
 SEC BILL VALLANCE
 TREAS BETTY VALLANCE
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
 NINETTE AMIS, LIZ CREMEANS,
 CAROLYN FANNIN, ROCKY
 LANE, PHYLLIS MCCOY, ANNA
 CHAFFIN, JACK FANNIN
 NON-ALUMNI REP JOHN JONES

SENIOR DISCOUNT

Anyone age 65 or older can enjoy a lifetime membership in the alumni association for only \$25

FOOTPRINTS—REMEMBERING OUR PAST

Since our last Alumni Newsletter, two familiar faces have passed away. Minnie Mae Hoflich passed away January 13. She enriched the lives of many student during her tenure as Russell High School Home Economics teacher. Her quiet, professional demeanor provided a shining example for her students and colleagues, and those same qualities allowed her to make an impact through community service as well. She is a member of

the RHS Hall of Fame. Another familiar face that will be missed was often seen through the other side of the window as she worked for nearly sixty years cleaning the buildings and taking care of the students and staff. Charlotte Ison passed away on May 11, a little over a year after retiring from the Russell Schools. These two exemplify the quality of Russell staff, quietly and selflessly going about the job every day to make Russell schools a better place—mission accomplished!

This feature highlights Russell teachers and staff that have special places in our memories. Short written essays can be submitted by mail or e-mail for this feature. Please consider remembering those special educators from our past.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT—WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Kyle Dixon, RHS

Class of '96, and a graduate of Morehead State, has been a freelance scenic artist/designer in New York for over eight years. From stage to showrooms, he has worked across Manhattan, as well as various theatres in the Southeast. Recent favorite designs include *Angelina Ballerina*, *The Musical*, *Growing Up 70's*, *Aspern Papers*, *South Pacific*, *Shakespeare and Love*, *The Crucible*, *Zombie Prom*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Bat Boy*. His scenic artwork may be seen across the country from the stage of *The Lost Colony* on Roanoke Island, NC to the Bellagio Conservatory in

Las Vegas. Kyle is currently the staff scenic/technical director for Hunter College High School in Manhattan. He is also a Vital Teaching Artist with Vital Theatre at PS166, the Richard Rogers School of Arts and Technology. Along with several shows currently in progress, Kyle is the proud designer of *Winter Lights: Grande Illumination*, a ten-acre holiday premier exhibit for the Elizabethan Gardens, a popular historic vacation destination in the Outer Banks. More about Kyle at his website www.KyleDixonDesigns.com



RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL
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ONCE A DEVIL, ALWAYS A DEVIL

Having Class Reunions this summer? Send information to the Alumni Association Newsletter. The Alumni Newsletter is now available on the Russell Schools Website

RIS 2011 IMPORTANT DATES

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| May 12 Choir Concert 6pm
Band Concert 7pm | May 26-28 State Track Meet at Louisville |
| May 13 RHS Prom | May 26-28 State Tennis Tournament at Lexington |
| May 14 Track Regional at Ashland | May 27 RMS Track and Field Day |
| May 16, 18, 19 Tennis Regional | May 30 No School Memorial Day |
| May 17 Orchestra Concerts at PAC | May 30-June 4 Regional Softball and Baseball Tournaments |
| May 18, 19 RPS Track and Field Day | June 1 Last Day for students |
| May 20 RMIS Track and Field Day | June 2 RHS Graduation 8:00pm |
| May 21 Tennis Sectional | June 10-11 State Softball Tournament |
| May 23-28 District Softball and Baseball Tournaments | June 13-18 State Baseball Tournament |
| May 24 RHS Academic Team Banquet | Aug 10 Opening Day for Students |
| May 25 RHS Senior Breakfast | |
| May 26 Senior Award Night | |