

Class Notes

The Old Bear is starting a new feature with this issue for our members. We would like members to inform us as to what they have been up to over the years. If you would like to be included, let us know. If you would like to be contacted by fellow alumni, you may include your address, telephone number or Email address. You must be a current paid up member to appear in Class Notes.

The 1930s

Lillian (Lindberg) Blake '34...worked for her late brother Walt ('37) as his assistant for many years.

Winnifred L. Olsen '34...received the first copy of her latest book *The Story Of My Life* from the mayor of Olympia at her 90th birthday attended by 143 friends on 7/29/06 at the Lacey Senior Center.

Virginia (McCoy) Britt '39...reunited with classmate, Dolores Stebbins. As widows they enjoy lunching, traveling together and reminiscing about double dating in high school.

Dolores Stebbins '39...received her BA in nursing at UW...married with three sons and one daughter...lived in Germany and practiced nursing in Spokane and Tacoma...currently living in University Place

The 1940s

Robert Fuller '43...enjoying retirement traveling all over the country and playing golf.

Don Hill '47...working on plans for OHS 60th reunion to be held 8-2 to 8-5 2007 at The Lucky Eagle...360-786-1191

Roy Lesh '49...states that he is taking one day at a time as he is on oxygen 24/7.

Brita (Skoog) Zimmerman '44...recently celebrated 58th wedding anniversary...tried living in a retirement facility, but moved into an apartment to be near their two children.

Catherine (Kynerd) Playter '49...enjoys camping, hunting, and family get togethers...having to endure many doctor visits.

The 1950s

Martin Denyer '50...retired living in Borrego Springs, California...was back in Olympia for a visit in summer of 2006.

Helen (Stewart) Pothier '51...stays busy with church activities, state retirees luncheon, and class of '51 reunion and scholarship drive. Interested classmates can call 943-2264 for more information.

G. Barbara (Sordahl) Amstatz '54...ran a 5 mile race for 70th birthday in 73 minutes after having had back surgery in 2005.

Dick Asimus '54...retired as city engineer in Fremont, California. He currently lives in San Roman, California.

Joyce (Johnson Asimus) '54...will celebrate 50th anniversary in 2007 with Dick...retired in 2003 as a nurse practitioner...volunteers at Pregnancy Choices.

Don Beatty '54...involved in "random acts of kindness"...travels during the winter and lives rest of year on Patterson Lake.

Ed Dorn '54...celebrated 70th birthday in July at Tacoma Elks with friends and family...plans to do more traveling.

Ruby (Farr) Lalley '54...retired after 29 years in education and has traveled the world since.

Robert (Bob) Smith '54...served in Navy in Korean War and in Pacific...graduated from WSU in '62 in Business...employment careers in management, accounting, trucking, security, sports, entertainment, and hospitality...had triple bypass surgery in 2006.

June (Hamley) Wilson '54...librarian of Reading Room and board member of First Church of Christ, Scientist in Eureka, California...Friends of the Library...Village Club Book Club member.

Muriel (Bryant) Swanson '54...retired from consulting and an Alaska based art business...enjoys traveling and attending musicals.

Barney Boe/Carole (Swanson) Boe '55...moved to California in 2000...will celebrate 50th anniversary in 2007...4 children and 8 grandchildren.

Mary Jane (Straight) Craig '55...retired in 2001...widowed in 2005...enjoys traveling, sewing, gardening, cooking and making jewelry and crazy quilts.

Enid (Culp Fuller) Roberts '55...taught in Clover Park District for 15 years...graduated from UPS in 1978...has traveled the world with husband, Harold...designs, decorates, paints, draws, sews, gardens, reads...two sons.

Maggie Wood '55...lives in Oregon

John "Ron" Backman '56...retired in 2000 after 35 years in Savings and Loan industry...retired Commander in United States Naval Reserve...recently traveled to Europe...two sons are graduates of OHS...volunteers at Madison School where he can see his old K-9 classes out the school window.

Richard Carr '57...spends summers on Hicks Lake and winters at Casa Grande, Arizona.

Clifford Cline '57... enjoying retirement in Connecticut

Richard Hedges '57...recently celebrated 15th wedding anniversary with wife, Nancy in Maui during the 6.7 earthquake...enjoys fly fishing.

Elaine (Armstrong) Kennedy '57...currently working on organizing the 50 year class reunion for 2007

Keith McDonald '57...retired after 29 years at Olympia Brewery...16 years spent as firefighter, officer, EMT, and Fire Commissioner for East Olympia and volunteer with Thurston County Sheriff's Jee Patrol...married to Judy for 34 years...two new grandsons.

Morris Payne '57...retired...RV traveler...enjoys hunting and fishing.

Roger Pifer '57...has lived in San Jose, California since 1961...has three sons...now

retired and lives the good life.

Ileen (Richardson) Schumaker '57...lives full time in her RV with two Bichons...teaches craft classes at RV rallies throughout the West and Midwest...her two children live in Washington...surviving a rare form of cancer.

Marjorie (Stackhouse) McNaie '58...enjoys living on Whidby Island in Haida House which overlooks Dugalla Bay...plays the cello in Skagit Symphony and Rosario Sounds Ensemble...enjoys growing varieties of fruits and berries...visited sister-church in Kazan, Russia.

Byron Skaurud '58...1964 UW grad, BSME...1996 retired from Boeing after 31 years and moved back to Olympia...3 daughters and 10 grandchildren by 1st marriage and 1 child in current marriage of 29 years...active with class reunion.

Gary Troxel '58...enjoying retirement with wife (Jennifer Townsend '58)...taped a PBS special which will air in 2007 which will include such performers as Jackie DeShannon, Blood Sweat & Tears, Glen Campbell, The Browns, Kay Starr, Tony Martin, Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr., Roger Williams, We Five and Vanilla Fudge.

The 1960s

Barbara (Lisle) Fund '61...retired in 2006 after 31 years with the state...plans to travel, garden, remodel, and spend time with grandchildren.

Robert Harris '61...involved with yoga and sitting meditation.

Susan (Delanty Jones) '61...retired from law practice in 2006...married 43 years...lived in Chicago, Olympia and Seattle for past 25 years...one son and two grandchildren...enjoys traveling, choir singing, gardening, reading, politics, & church.

Dan Berschauer '62...retired in 2005 after 20 years as a Thurston County Superior Court Judge...now works as a private mediator and part time judge.

Dennis Duffy '62...retired in 2006 after a career working for state DOT.

C. Diane (Fluetsch) Duffy '62...recently celebrated four year wedding anniversary to classmate Dennis Duffy...they are planning to build their retirement home.

Judi (Kay) Foulkes '62...retired 12 years ago after working for the state for 31 years...one daughter and two grandsons...traveled to Australia, China, Hawaii...current reunion committee member for class of '62.

Michael T. Hannan '62...ASB Pres...still married to wonderful Pam...has taken up hiking and climbing as a new hobby which has taken him to Kilimanjaro (twice), Aconcagua (Argentina), Mt. Shasta, Mt. Hood, Mt. Elbert and many others.

Bob Herness '62...teaches two adult church history and scripture classes...spends part of year on Phillips Lake in Washington...lives in California rest of time...has 6 children and 16 grandchildren.

David C. Lindeblom '62...retired in 1998...part time clown since 2000...looking for a part time job.

Carolyn (Ogren) Smith '62...still awaiting retirement in California but spends summers in Washington...coordinates 24/7 medical emergency response team.

Bob Turcotte '62...retired in May 2006...doing the repairs and yard work.

The 1970s

John Christopherson '74...in floor business since high school...owns two businesses in Olympia and one in Anchorage...has 4 sons and 1 grandchild.

Dennis O'Connell '74...been in electrical trade for more than 30 years with wholesale distribution company in Lakewood with 18 employees...likes to travel, hunt and fish with two sons...member of Oly Yacht Club...single for last 6 years.

Susan Skillman '74...BA, Whitman College...MS Washington State University...currently Deputy Director of the Center for Health Workforce Studies and Rural Health Research Center at UW Department of Family Medicine.

Jim Fetterly '75...graduated from Lamar University in 1980...owns Eerie Entertainment, Inc. since 1988...married with two children in Woodlands, Texas.

Wilson "JR" Martin '75...teaches Junior High with wife in Los Angeles...lives with two children, three dogs, a lizard, and a corn snake.

Bart Zier '75...has opened 14,000 ft. Grand Holiday Ballroom in downtown Olympia. He will be happy to show facility to alumni members.

Steve Cantwell '76...looking forward to next reunion...working hard and trying to stay out of trouble.

Wayne Clare '76...helps father with work in Wenatchee...preparing for conversion to the Catholic Faith...likes to work out at the gym.

Mark Damitio '76...in Marines for 20 years...currently an air traffic controller for Department of Defense in Indiana...spent ten years overseas...married with four daughters, two attending Purdue University.

Leslie (Salisbury) Demich '76...started a new business called Storied Lives that captures the storied lives of people, families and pets. If interested call 360-705-3705.

Tom Morris '76...lives in Pasco and works for J.R. Simpson Co. as a crop advisor...married with two children ages 15 and 12.

Mary (O'Leary) Neill '76...married since 1978...has had own business Wes' Kitchens and Baths for 21 years...enjoys knitting, cooking, and family and friends.

Cheri (Duval) Tinney '76...has worked for the state for 27 years...one daughter with two grand daughters...provider of about 400 dictionaries to third graders for each of last four years.

The 1980s

Pam (Putnam) Folsom '82...lived in Olympia since graduating from Central Washington University in '86...owns Folsom Public Relations...two children 8 & 15.

OHS Alumni Association
Board of Directors

Charlie Kirry '76, President
Carole (Finger) Watson '69, 1st Vice President
Hon. Gerry Alexander '54, 2nd Vice President
Jane (Straight) Craig '55, Secretary
Dick Craig '57, Treasurer
Anna (Craig) Berry '75, Membership Chair
Bill Curtis '62, Faculty Representative
Winnifred (Castle) Olsen '34, Historian
Elizabeth (Dever) Halvorsen '67, Events
Jim Kainber '87, Communications
Dan Berschauer '62, Board Member at Large
Life Members of OHSAA

Bob Andrew '62
Judith Bushnell '62
Nancy (Farmer) Cullen '57
Denny Dickinson '54
Michael Harvey '76
Kristen (Lindskog) Jarvis '78
Charlie Kirry '76
Keith McDonald '57
Don Nelsen '61
Colleen (O'Brien) Nunn '55
Donald Olsen '55
Peter Overton '52
Sallie (Howe) Parr '64
Gary Pitcher '64
Diana (Afdem) Ramsey '54
Jay Rockey '45
Ileen (Richardson) Schumaker '57
Linda (Rood) Shirk '57

In Memoriam

Teri Bach '62
Helen (Writer) Brown '42
William Cahill '62
Dorothy (Castle) Curlett '34
Bob Davis '76
Jill (Esser) Frierson '62
Rev. Ermond Homan '34
Mary (Hurl) Irwin '34
Barbara (Olsen) Kerry '52
Jim Maguire '44
Jerry Swanson '53

**OHS Alumni Association
P.O. Box 402
Olympia WA 98507**



Enclose this form in the envelope provided in the newsletter

Any membership level, Blue and White Membership, receives a reserve copy of the new history book "Olympia High School" by Arcadia Publishing. All proceeds go to scholarships for OHS students.

Yes! I want to renew my membership now, and receive a signed copy of "Olympia High School"

\$1000 Friends of William Winlock Miller Membership (includes "Life" Membership)
 \$500 "Pepper's Circle" Membership (includes "Life" Membership)
 \$250 Chick Rockey "Life" Membership
 \$100 100 Years of Excellence Membership
 \$40 Blue and White Membership
 \$20 General Membership (*does not include book*)
 Other _____

I would like ____ additional copies of *Olympia High School* by Arcadia Publishing and have enclosed \$_____ (\$20 donation each, please.)

I do not choose to renew my membership at this time, but please send me _____ copies of *Olympia High School* by Arcadia Publishing, and I have enclosed \$_____ (\$20 donation each, please.)

Please contact me with information about bequests in my will.

Please contact me with information about establishing a scholarship fund for my class or in the name of a family member or friend.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City/State/Zip _____

All Contributions are Tax Deduction

OHS Alumni News



Calendar of Events

October

4 7:00 PM
Homecoming Rally & Bonfire
Ingersoll Field

5 5:30 PM
All Alumni Reception
Lobby of Chick Rockey

5 7:30 PM
OHS Homecoming
Football Game
Ingersoll Field

9 7:00 PM
Annual Meeting of the
OHSAA
OHS Counseling Center

30
Choir Concert
Performing Arts Center

November

1
Band Concert
Performing Arts Center

17 9:00-4:00
Bear-zaar

30
Drama Production
Performing Arts Center

December

8
Drama Production
Performing Arts Center

10-11
Christmas Concert
Performing Arts Center

Mailing Address:
OHS Alumni Association
PO Box 402,
Olympia, WA 98507

Emails:
President, Charlie Kirry
Charlie@wamedia.com
Newsletter, Jim Kainber
jim@kainber.com

To be added to our mailing list:
olympiaalumni@hotmail.com

William Winlock Miller/OHS 100th Anniversary Celebration Date Announced

The long awaited public celebration of Olympia High's 100th Anniversary will culminate this year with two days of events that coincide with the annual Homecoming game on October 5, 2007.

Former ASB Presidents, Principals, School Board leaders, and Homecoming Queens, will descent upon the campus for a bonfire, alumni reception and for the half-time show during the game.

The public is invited to view the presentation of the 2007-2008 Homecoming Court at the student assembly at 2:00 pm in Chick Rockey Gymnasium. Seating is limited, and most seats available to the public are located in the upper levels, so arrive early, and be prepared to walk up several steps.

The first All-Alumni Reception will be 5:30-7:15 pm on Friday, October 5, before the game, and it will be an opportunity to mingle with the pep staff, hear the pep band up close and personal, as well as have a light snack and beverage donated by local merchants before the game.

All alums are invited to join any or all of the following events:

Thursday, October 4

8:00 pm

Welcome and Rally,
Bonfire at Dusk
Ingersoll Stadium

Friday, October 5

2:00 pm

Homecoming
Student Assembly
Chick Rockey Gym

5:30-7:15 pm

All-Alumni Reception
Lobby of
Chick Rockey Gym

7:30 pm

Homecoming Game
Half time show
Ingersoll Stadium

Post-game Show
Ingersoll Stadium



Historic Photo of the Quarter

First ever Olympia High School Homecoming Queen,
Donna Voegelin,
shown here during the football game in 1949,
will join in the 100th Anniversary Celebration at
half time as the Grand Marshal of the event.

OHS Reception Desk Agrees to Receive Donations

Mrs. Bev Frost, the school receptionist has agreed to receive donations for the permanent archive of OHS memorabilia. Over the past year donated items such as: yearbooks, school newspapers, student scrapbooks, posters, game programs, dance programs, sports memorabilia and many other items have been donated to the OHSAA/OHS ASB archive. A committee of students, alums and staff are working with local historical preservation experts to collect and permanently archive these important documents for posterity. If you have items to donate, please take them to the front desk or office off the North Street entrance to the school.

Bequests a Great Way to Support Education at Olympia High School

The Olympia High School Alumni Association is now accepting last will and testament bequests, which are posthumous donations to the Alumni Association, or funds directed to create a scholarship fund in the name of a family member, classmate or friend. A \$20,000 bequest would permanently endow a named scholarship of \$1000 each year for an exceptional OHS student in perpetuity. But gifts of any amount, greater or smaller would be appreciated. If you are interested in more information about bequests, please check the appropriate box on the membership/book order form or the renewal envelope enclosed in this newsletter.

Membership has its Benefits

As a member in good standing of the Olympia High School Alumni Association, you are welcome to submit short updates to your classmates in friends to be published in the Class Notes section of the Old Bear Alumni News. You can email mail them to us on separate sheet of paper in the enclosed envelope.

The Hall of fame Committee is looking to give recognition to a Olympia High School graduate who has given outstanding service or achievement to the local, state, national, or international community. If someone would like to nominate a worthy candidate, please send the name of the nominee, that person's address, telephone number, email address (if known), and a brief statement explaining why the individual is being nominated. The nominator should include his/her contact information.

Information regarding the nomination should be sent to William Curtis at Olympia High School, 1302 North Street, Olympia, Washington 98501 or email at bcurtis@osd.wednet.edu

New Book Details OHS History from 1907-2007

Olympia High School, a new book by OHSAA Board member Jim Kainber, printed by Arcadia Publishing, the nation's largest publisher of history books, will be released on November 12, 2007. It will be available at all major national as well as local booksellers and a number of area businesses. Copies may be pre-ordered through the Alumni Association (see response form inset.)

Kainber has established a scholarship fund with the OHSAA and all of the proceeds will go to scholarships. The retail price will be about \$20.00 – but OHSAA members who renew their memberships at any level from \$40 to \$1000 will receive a complimentary copy of the book mailed to them upon its publication.

"The book was a lot of fun to write, but I could never have done it without the help of some key OHS Alums, including Alumni Association President, Charlie Kirry, as well as members of the Board; Bill Curtis, Winnifred Castle Olsen, Jane Straight Craig and Anna Berry. "Kainber also had a lot of help from alums from 1930s, '40s, '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s, as well as carte blanche to access the Olympia High School archives. "The office staff at the school were incredible, and Principal Matt Grant, Dean of Students Bill Maguire, as well as school secretaries Mrs. Seeley and Mrs.

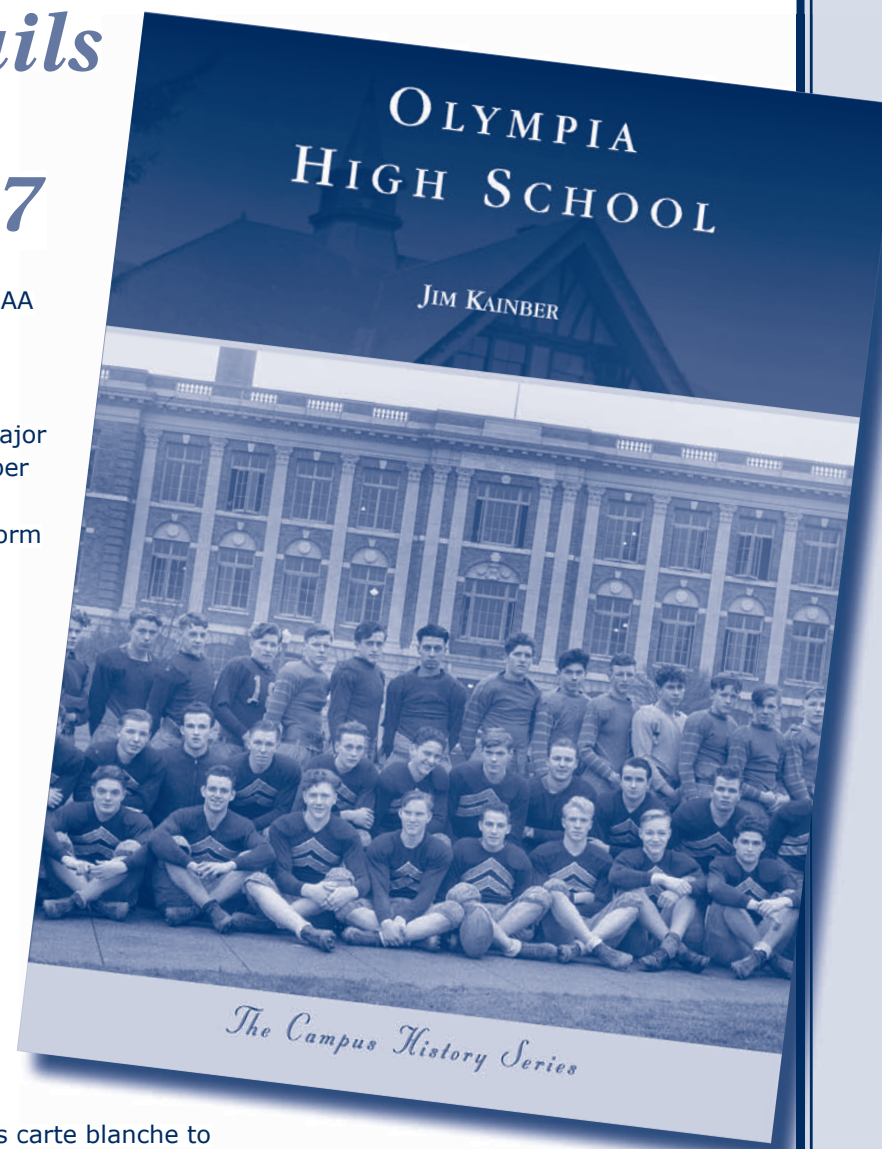
Pedersen bent over backwards to make it work out for me during the research phase."

"The book was a lot of fun to write, but I could never have done it without the help of some key OHS Alums..."

— Jim Kainber

"The nice thing about writing a book that connects our school today with it's history and that it gives students of all generations a sense of their place in the school's history," said Kainber, "The bad thing about it is that I had to leave out so many things due to space constraints or the fact that the information wasn't readily available. Hopefully people who have information I missed will get it to me, so that future editions will be even more thorough."

The timing of the book's release makes it a perfect holiday gift for the OHS graduate or parent, or anyone in the area who has an interest in local history. An order form in this issue of The Old Bear may be returned in the enclosed remittance envelope.



One Historic OHS Marker Approved

Site of William Winlock Miller High School 1919-1960 (Olympia High School)



MARY McFADDEN MILLER
(1840-1927)

Mary Margaret McFadden was born in Pennsylvania in 1840 and moved to the Washington Territory with her family in 1853 when her father, O.B. McFadden, was appointed a justice of the Territorial Supreme Court. McFadden married William Winlock Miller in 1867 and had two sons, Winlock and Percussion. After the death of her husband in 1876, Mary successfully carried on and expanded the family businesses and remained active in philanthropic and social activities until her death in 1927. In 1927, she donated land for the first Olympia high school building. The second high school was built here in 1919.

The current high school is located on North Street in south Olympia. Each of these schools was named in memory of Mr. Miller, although they are almost always referred to as Olympia High School.

Photo courtesy of Foundation & Elizabeth Miller Charitable Foundation



(1919-1960)

Built on this site in 1919, the second William Winlock Miller High School was designed by architect Joseph Wohleb. An auditorium, gymnasium, and additional classrooms were added in 1926. This school was attended by over 17,000 students. It became the hub of urban interaction, staging plays and symphony performances attended by both students and surrounding communities. These activities were attended by the school mascot, Pepper, a black bear, and throngs of cheering students in the school colors of blue and white.

As the student population and needs of the capitol campus grew, further expansion was not practical on this site. This led to the relocation of the high school to North Street.

Photo courtesy of Susan Parish Collection, Washington State Archives



WILLIAM WINLOCK MILLER
(1822-1876)

Arriving in Olympia from Illinois in 1851, William Winlock Miller became one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in the Washington Territory. A successful businessman, Miller was also active in politics, serving in the territorial legislature. During the 1855-56 Native American uprising, he became a staff officer to territorial governor Isaac Stevens. He was later named Superintendent of Indian Affairs and was also elected mayor of Olympia.

Photo courtesy of Foundation & Elizabeth Miller Charitable Foundation



(1907-1919)

Built in 1907, across the street from this site and just east of the Sunken Garden on the west capitol campus, this school was built of heavy masonry at the cost of \$28,545. One of the earliest public secondary schools in the state, the building was destroyed by fire in 1918. With the relocation of the capitol grounds, a new site was selected for the second William Winlock Miller High School on the ground where you are now standing.

Washington State Historical Society photo



(1961-today)

The current Olympia High School was dedicated in 1961 on the former Cloverfield Farm in south Olympia. The 40 acre property was originally owned by General Hazard Stevens, a Civil War hero and son of the first territorial governor, Isaac Stevens, who was a close friend and political ally of William Winlock Miller. Percussion Miller, grandson of Mr. Miller, purchased it and exchanged with the Stevens family so that the Millers could once again donate the property for a new school. Extensively renovated in 2005, the present structure is considered one of the outstanding high schools in the state.

Olympia High School stood on the corner of 12th Avenue and Capitol way from 1919 until it was demolished in 1961, but it will soon occupy this space again, though in a far smaller version. Led by the Class of 1955, a beautiful marker is in the final stages of design and production that will be placed upon the site of the building right across Capitol Way from the Tivoli Fountain on the Capitol Campus. Scheduled to be cast by the local firm Winsdor Fireform, the baked enamel historical marker will include brief biographies and photos of Mr. & Mrs. William Winlock Miller, and photos of the first, second and current OHS buildings.

While still under final content review, the final product will likely to strongly resemble the photo shown here. Approval of the marker to replace the one that is missing from the first OHS is under consideration by the Department of General Administration which has control over the affairs of the Capitol Campus, but a response from GA is expected by early October.

Proposed By Law Changes & Elections to be Held at Annual Meeting October 9, 2007

The annual meeting of the OHSAA membership will be on October 9, 2007 at 7:00 pm at counseling center at Olympia High School. Below are a few proposed amendments to the By-laws of the organization that are being proposed. If you would like a full copy of the By-laws, please put a note in the enclosed envelope and mail it to the OHSAA.

Article II = change heading "Mission Statement" to "Purpose"

Article IV = section 5; change from "six" members to "seven"

Article VII = add "Section 11 - Webmaster" a - the webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining and updating the OHSAA website

Article XI = switch order to become Article X

Article XII = switch order to become Article XI

Article X = switch to become Article XII

Elections for the following officers will be held:

Secretary
Faculty Representative
Member at Large
Webmaster