

Arcola Alumni Association
Board of Directors Meeting
June 1, 2015

The Arcola Alumni Association Board of Directors met at the home of Dr. Robert Arrol at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 1st. Robert Arrol, Jack Fishel, John Fishel, Randy Rothrock, Judy Thomas and Sue Stout attended the meeting. President John Fishel opened the meeting and the minutes of the September 22, 2014 meeting were accepted as presented. Arrol reported the alumni association has \$4,531.81 in our account with Arcola Foundation at Arcola First Bank. The balance of our account at First-Mid was not available at the time of the meeting.

John Fishel accepted a note from Larry Bushu, thanking our group for our efforts at the 2014 Distinguished Alumni banquet.

The group addressed questions about membership with the Arcola Alumni Association. It is important that we stress any AHS graduate, anyone who ever attended AHS, as well as all friends are considered members of Arcola Alumni Association. We do not solicit dues, but welcome any donations to support our ongoing projects and banquets. Stout will ask Andy Walton to make that information available on our website.

Arrol reported Kenny Hostetler is constructing two more trophy cases for Arcola Alumni Association. The new cases will display Band and Chorus awards.

Stout reported new class photos are now available on our website for the AHS classes of 1924, 1931 and 2013. More old class photos have been located and will appear on the website at a later date. Stout will recognize LaVonne Smith, Class of 1935, in an upcoming Record-Herald article honoring our oldest alumni. Alma Grace Swick Harshbarger, Class of 1931, and Tom Blagg, Class of 1938, were recognized in April and May issues of the Record-Herald. The oldest alumni information is also available on our website.

Much discussion was given to the previous October 11, 2014 Distinguished Alumni banquet, including the financial report and suggestions to shorten this year's program time. The 2015 banquet will be held at Kaskaskia Country Club on Saturday, October 17th. Thomas will be responsible for reservations again this year. She and Stout will meet with country club management to plan the banquet dinner.

The 2015 Arcola Distinguished Alumni honorees will be announced in the June 11th Arcola Record-Herald and on our website. They are Edward Finfgeld (1920), Thomas Monahan (1927), Bob Curry (1957), Roger Shields (1961), Larry Rollings (1963), Karen Conlin Faler (1966), Don Portugal (1969) and Michael Clark (1972). Rothrock, Arrol, Emily Coombe and Stout will research, interview, write and present the biographies for this year's honorees.

The 1965 and 1990 classes will be recognized at the banquet as this year's 50 and 25-year graduating classes. Rothrock and John Fishel will contact representatives from the 1965 and 1990 classes, who will encourage their classmates to attend the October 17th banquet.

The board also discussed biography/photo deadlines, photo scanners, increased costs and the possibility of securing alumni sponsors to offset the costs of future banquets.

Stout questioned if our expense for the distinguished alumni plaques could be paid through the school to eliminate the need for our group to pay the state sales tax. Arrol and Rothrock will raise the question at an upcoming board of education meeting.

Two school projects were discussed as potential undertakings for our group. Thomas explained the benefits of adding two lanes to our current all-weather track and Jack Fishel expressed the need for better bleachers on the opponent side of the football field.

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The group also considered the addition of alumni and friends as new board members.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Stout, Recording Secretary