



Plainfield Alumni Association

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2007

Society Preserves PHS Memories of the Past...

Beanies...were Freshmen really required to wear them? Greased Pig Contests...were you ever a contestant? What year did Plainfield schools change their colors from maroon and white to green and white? Ever wonder about all of the traditions that make Plainfield High School so memorable? Ever wonder from where those traditions developed? Ever wonder about classmates from the past who shared your interests, activities and studies?

If you have misplaced your *Plainsman* yearbook and can't recall the details of a particular fond memory, check with the Plainfield Historical Society. If you can't recall who was on your Powder Puff team or who the male cheerleaders were, check out the Society's extensive collections.

Although you may no longer be able to walk the familiar halls of "ol' Plainfield High" (whether that was the old White School, the 1915 Red Brick school or the 1956 high school), the archives and collections at the Plainfield Historical Society may hold the answers. Following a lengthy renovation, the Plainfield Historical Society Main Street Museum (23836 West Main Street in front of the tall, white concrete grain elevator) is scheduled to re-open to the public in late April 2008. One of the numerous changes is the relocation and updating of the Plainfield schools exhibits. In order to display more photos and artifacts, the school displays have been moved to a larger, more accessible area.

Also, donations of artifacts pertaining to the history of Plainfield schools and the community are gratefully accepted by the Plainfield Historical Society. Additionally, the Society welcomes your alumni memories and stories which will be added to our archives.

The Society is operated by volunteers, and—once re-opened—the Main Street Museum can be visited during regular hours each week. Please call the Museum in advance to verify new hours or to schedule a private appointment for research. The Society phone number is 815/436-4073.

**The Plainfield Historical Society...preserving and sharing
the stories of our community for today and tomorrow.**

Attn: Graduates of the Great Class of 78!

This is an exciting year for us! We are looking forward to commemorating our 30th Class Reunion this year in style. Plans are underway to celebrate our 30 year reunion with a cocktail party reception including hors d'oeuvres and desserts at Louie's Chophouse (formally W.C. Flicks restaurant) in Shorewood, IL.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, September 27th 2008.

The PHS Homecoming Parade kicks off that morning at 9:00 am, and we plan to enter a Class of '78 float. Reunion invitations will go out at a later date, in the meantime you can keep your eyes open for your "Save the Date!" card which should be going out in early April.

Please contact 1978PHSReunion@gmail.com if you or others you may know of from our class, have an address change.

Attn: Class Of 1988, 20 year reunion

Yes, it's true! Twenty years already. It seems like only yesterday, we all had big hair, bright colored sweaters, and smaller waistlines. This time around we've put together a casual open house style event!

At this point in the planning we are still collecting addresses and putting together some committees. We will be accepting payment at the door; however, we are in need of funds, please prepay. If you would like to help, or need additional info, please contact Mike Phelps: mike@phelpslandscape.com, or Michelle Courtney (Smith): phsclass88@yahoo.com. There is also a MySpace page: www.myspace.com/plainfieldhighclassof88. We are still missing many people. Please go to the website to see if you have any information on those M.I.A..

The Changing Face of District 202

By Lauren McFarland

Remember when Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202 served just a few thousand students in a handful of schools? Now it is the fifth largest school district in Illinois, with 3,500 staff members serving 29,000 students in 28 schools.

The times, they have changed.

District 202 now comprises 16 elementary schools, seven middle schools, three high schools, one alternative school and an early childhood learning center. In fall 2008, the district will open its fourth high school, Plainfield East High School, and 17th elementary school, Bess Eichelberger Elementary School.

Three more elementary schools, one middle school and an addition to Plainfield East High School are scheduled for completion by 2011.

District 202 encompasses 64 square miles, serving all or parts of Bolingbrook, Crest Hill, Joliet, Lockport, Naperville, Plainfield, and Romeoville as well as unincorporated Will and Kendall counties. In the 2006-2007 school year, District 202 welcomed 2,512 new students, making it the fastest growing school district in Illinois. This year, enrollment grew by about 1,900 students.

The population growth has also brought a change in demographics. In 1990-1991, there were 3,324 students in the district -- 96.4 percent White, 2.6 percent Hispanic and 1 percent Asian. Less than 1 percent were low income or spoke limited English.

Today, 62.3 percent of the student population is White, 8.6 percent is Black, 19.9 percent is Hispanic, 5 percent is Asian, 4.2 percent is Multi-racial and slightly less than 1 percent is Native American. Now, 9.7 percent of District 202 students are low income and 7.1 percent do not speak English as their primary language. The diversity of staff and administrators has followed similar patterns.

In fact, 66 different languages are represented in District 202, and the number of students with English as a second language is growing. Spanish or some variation is the largest non-English language spoken, followed by Polish and Urdu.

Plainfield High School is now known as Plainfield High School-Central Campus. It has more than 1,500 teachers working with 2,800 students. In 1999, the Freshman Center was added to the building. It holds 600 students. With the Freshman Center, PHS-CC's capacity is 2,400 students.

Matthew T Wiley football scholarship:

Matthew touched so many lives on so many levels. He was literally loved by people all over the world. And he LOVED people! He was dedicated to his friends and family and also in his work ethics.

Matt's passion for playing football showed by the many awards he received in high school. He had the 'energizer bunny' attitude that helped to keep 'the team' going strong. Although he didn't play football his junior year because of a knee injury, he made up for lost time his senior year. In his senior year in 2000 'the team' went 9-0 and took the conference. They advanced to the quarterfinals losing to Glenbard North high school. That was a very exciting season!

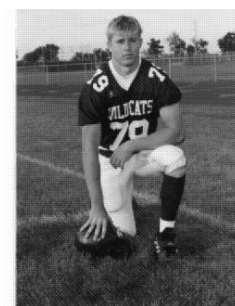
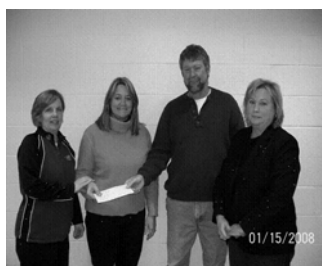
The Beacon and The Star newspaper voted Matt in to their 'All Area' football team and The Joliet Herald voted him in to their 'All Area' runner up team. He also received the "All Conference" offensive lineman award. And last but not least winning the Jeff Hiller award along with Nick Turvey for 'best offensive' linemen was the award he treasured the most.

Matt received a football scholarship to McKendree College and played for 1 season. After attending 2 years of college Matt decided to join the Army and was stationed in Korea. When he got out of the Army, he became a certified B class EMT and a volunteer firefighter for the Plainfield fire department while working as a union laborer. His life ended due to injuries sustained in a car accident at the age of 24.

Because of Matt's love for the game of football, his family has set up a football scholarship in his honor and memory.

This scholarship will be awarded to a college bound Plainfield Central High School football player in his/her senior year that shows the same passion and drive that Matt had for the game.

The Wiley Family



Go Wildcats!!!

PLAINFIELD WILDCATS ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

CANDLELIGHT BOWL and Silent Auction

Back by Popular
Demand!

PIONEER LANES in Plainfield

Saturday, May 10th

Registration 6:15-6:45, Bowl 7:00pm. – 10:00pm.

\$50.00 per couple

Includes: 3 games and shoes

3 couples per lane (Get a group together!)

Bring an appetizer or dessert in a disposable container to pass.

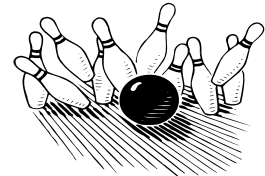
50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes

Registration Deadline: March 31



CONTACT Jane Curtin 815/436-2827 or
jmcsold@comcast.net

Sorry, No tickets sold at the door. Must be at least
18 years old and graduated high school to attend.



PHS Class Reunions ...

Class of 1958-Celebrating 50 Years

Contact: Karen (Bombasaro) Hamilton
pbrham@sbcglobal.net

Class of 1963-Celebrating 45 Years

Contact: Sue Hasenyager
Contact: Renee Geistler
shasenya@learningcommunity202.org

Class of 1973-Celebrating 35 Years

Contact: LuAnn (Davis) Stepina
pshalumniassoc@comcast.net

Class of 1978-Celebrating 30 Years

Contact: Jennie (Ceranski) Watkins
pvillejennie19@comcast.net

Class of 1993-Celebrating 15 Years

Contact: Kristen Fry
Kfry@learningcommunity202.org

Class of 1968-Celebrating 40 Years

Contact

Class of 1983-Celebrating 25 Years

Contact

Class of 1988-Celebrating 20 Years

Contact: Mike Phelps: mike@phelpslandscape.com,
Michelle Courtney (Smith): pshclass88@yahoo.com

Class of 2003-Celebrating 5 Years

Contact: Corinne Olsen
olsence@gmail.com

We are looking for the people working on these
reunions. If anyone has information
please send it to:

pshalumniassoc@comcast.net
along with any class lists that you might have.

PHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 406
Plainfield, IL 60544

Phone: 815-436-7300

Fax: 815-436-1840

Homecoming Hotline: 815-577-4433

Email: phsalumniassoc@comcast.net

PHS Alumni Association will be holding elections in the near future. If you are interested in running for an office or becoming a chairman of a committee, contact us at:

phsalumniassoc@comcast.net

*Or call our hotline number
815-577-4433*

Mark your Calendar

Homecoming Weekend: 2008

Sept 26- 7pm PowderPuff' Game
PHS Stadium
Bon Fire to follow
Sept 27-9am 57th Annual Homecoming Parade
Downtown Plainfield
11am Alumni Tea - PHS Main Cafeteria
Band Boosters BBQ Luncheon
in the Field House
12pm Sophomore Football Game
2pm Varsity Football Game
Alumni "Pack the Stands" section
that evening Various Reunions

Homecoming Hotline ... 815-577-4433

Next meeting date: April 15, 2008

Alumni Website...

Hello Fellow Wildcats,

Well, our new alumni association website is out of construction. Please check it out. Any and all input will be appreciated. We will be updating it with reunion information shortly so keep it coming in!!

www.plainfieldhighschoolalumni.org

Wine and Cheese Tasting Event

Come one, come all alumni...

April 29th, 2008 at 7:30 pm

\$10.00 per ticket

Raffles and evening of fun!!

Please R.S.V.P. to the wine store at
815-436-3499 or email
wineandcheesebytcc@yahoo.com



Space is limited...
Bring a friend or two!