GLEN ALPINE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1960

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This 1960 Class Newsletter is an attempt to keep in contact with our classmates and update their happenings in life.

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YEARLY LUNCHEON
CLASS OF 1960

Many had asked for some type of yearly or at least a more frequent get-together of the GAHS of 1960.

Well you asked and it came to pass. We met at Friday Friends Restaurant on May 18, 2012. High noon was the agreed upon time. I never saw so much hugging and love that was shown at the luncheon. Every one was glad to see each other. Just look at the pictures, you don’t see an unhappy face in the bunch.

To Page 6 Lena Taylor

Lena Taylor
English teacher

We had the pleasure of having Mrs. Lena Taylor, our high school English teacher from good ole GAHS to have lunch with us. I invited her to join us, but did not let the classmates know she was attending. It was a surprise to all, a good surprise by the way.

I remember her suggestion to me along about the 11th or 12th grade on writing an essay or letter.

Go to Page 6 Lena Taylor

To Page 6 Luncheon

Please send me any news you may have and your email address for faster updates.

A few days after the GAHS Class of 1960 Luncheon I had a chance to sit down with Oliver to see what has been happening in his life since Glen Alpine.

As you may know Oliver was raised on the Conley Road out of Glen Alpine where his family moved in 1945. Oliver was born 02/25/1941. Didn’t finish high school at Glen Alpine but moved to Maryland in 1961 where he acquired his high school diploma.

To Page 4 - Oliver

Photo by Dewey Fox

Lilly Flower

Mountain Laurels
“We all gathered together”
CONTINUED HAPPENINGS AND MESSAGES FROM CLASSMATES OF 1960
Obituaries

Ruby Beck Justice, 88, of Paddy’s Creek Rd., died Sunday, March 4, 2012. She was born July 5, 1923 in Morganton. Ruby moved to the South Mountain Institute (now South Mountain Children and Family Services) in 1936 as a student, which began an association with that home which lasted for over 65 years. She considered South Mountain her home and spoke fondly of it all her life. She worked there in various capacities until her health required her to retire. Ruby served as a community 4-H leader for over 30 years and served as director for the Kiwanis Fresh Air Camp for a number of years. She was a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church where she was the oldest active member until her health prevented her from going to church. She served as a Sunday school teacher for over 40 years. Ruby was also a member of the Longtown Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary. Ruby, along with her husband, Clarence Stinson Justice, owned and operated the Hungry Horse Ranch riding stables where hundreds of Burke, McDowell, and Catawba youngsters first learned to ride horses. They also provided camp horses for summer camps in western North Carolina. Left to cherish her with fond memories are sons, Ed and his wife, Lynn, Dave and his wife, Kay, and Wynn; grandchildren, Captain Todd Justice (U.S. Army), Jeff Stevens and his wife, Angie, Sheila Parks and her husband, Dr. David Parks, Robin Stouffer and her husband, Major Mark Stouffer (U.S. Army), Rebecca Mathews and her husband, Darren, and Amber Lynne Justice and her fiance’ William Reynolds; and great-grandchildren, Samantha Stouffer, Joe Stouffer, Riley Parks, Holden Parks, Sullivan Stevens, Lucas Matthews, Aubrey Matthews, Tristan Smith, Levi Smith, Victoria Helton, and Anthony Helton; and other extended family. In addition to her parents, Ruby was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence Stinson Justice; a son, Phillip Lynn Justice; and sisters, Callie Elizabeth Beck and other extended family. The family would like to thank the staff at Grace Heights Rehabilitation and Burke Hospice House for the excellent care and kindness shown to Mother during her final days. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, March 9, at Oak Grove Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Gyles Widener officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center. Memorial contributions may be made to Oak Grove Baptist Church, 1065 Paddy’s Creek Rd., Nebo, NC 28761, or to Burke Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc., 1721 Enon Rd., Valdese, NC 28690. Condolences may be made online at sossomanfuneralservice.com.Ed Justice mother

50 Years Ago in Burke County

• “The Glen Alpine Ruritan club is sponsoring a benefit donkey basketball game. A feature of the event will be women taking part in the game. All funds derived from the game will be used for the benefit of the Glen Alpine community.

Taken from The News Herald, March 12, 2012.

• “Congratulations are extended to Miss Kaye Stewart, senior at Glen Alpine High School, who was recently chosen as “Miss WSVM” in a beauty contest in Valdese. She was selected over other contestants from high schools in the county.”

Taken from The News Herald, March 12, 2012.

In case anyone doesn’t know Kaye is the sister of our Janice STEWARD Hancock and WSVM is the local radio station in Valdese.

From Page 1—Oliver— Oliver and his family moved back to Burke County for a few years back in the mid 70’s and then back to Maryland. He has two sons by his first wife who he divorced in 1980. He remarried again in 1987.

His first job in Maryland was working on and servicing foreign sports cars. From there he worked with REA Express, keeping everything running. Later he was a truck mechanic for Avis. And then to Star News servicing their fleet of trucks. Then for a short period of time he was a self-employed trucker.

For the last of his 28 year career he worked for Giant Foods as a shop foreman.

Oliver has two sons, Richard who is living in Valdese and Randy who is living in Franklin, N. C. One granddaughter—Alemia, age 16. He has five sisters, Oliver was the only boy. He was born in the middle of the pack, two younger and three older sisters.

Published in The News Herald March 7, 2012

For my comments see Page 5
The contract for construction of the Glen Alpine High School was signed April 16, 1934. A Hickory firm was awarded the contract for $38,965.15. Thirty percent of the amount required was contributed by Public Works Administration. The building was to include a principal's office, six class rooms, reading room and library, home economics department and an auditorium and balcony with a seating capacity of 825.

Chardon, Ohio, a suburb of Cleveland made the news this week when a student began shooting classmates, killing three and injuring two more.

There’s a strange irony in this. This is the 50th anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court ruling which banned prayer in public schools. In June 1962, in Engel v. Vitale, the Supreme Court ruled that schools could not officially participate in prayer.

Specifically, the High Court banned this seemingly innocuous prayer: “Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessing upon us, our parents, our teachers and our country.” At that time, only one Supreme Court Justice dissented (and Byron White, new to the court, didn’t vote). “I think this decision is wrong,” said the dissenter, Justice Potter Stewart.

Stewart said he couldn’t see how “an official religion” is established by letting those who want to say a prayer to say it. Citing several examples of U. S. Institutions that invoke prayer (including the Supreme Court itself, which opens with the words, “God save the United States and this honorable Court”), the Ohio jurist summed up his attitude with a line from a ten year old Court decision (Zorach v. Clauson): “We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being.”

Has anyone noticed that there were never school shootings when prayer was in school? Nothing even remotely like it. But now, for the most part, God has been thrown out of our public schools, and replaced with a metal detector. How’s that working for us?

More on Page 6
From Page 1—Lena Taylor— “When writing, write as if you were talking to someone.” Mrs. Taylor I have tried, but seem to have trouble with both my speaking and writing English. I’m Limited! We all love you!

From Page 1—Class Luncheon— It felt good. I think we all realize now, that we are not immortal.

In the business part of the luncheon, the group decided to have a class luncheon on the 3rd Friday of each May and to plan a larger reunion every five years. The next yearly luncheon will be planned for May 17, 2013 and our next five year reunion will be in the year of our Lord 2015.— Will be 55 years.

It’s amazing how we were in high school together and then we all went our own separate ways and now, we are ending up together again. But, oh, isn’t it wonderful to live those olden golden days of youth.

Oliver Owens traveled the farthest to be with us, 480 miles, all the way from Maryland.

Many of the attendees were celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary or close to the 50th.

Richard and Brenda Penley—50 years June 22, 2012
Charles and Rhonda Mathis—48 years
Pauline FOREMAN and Worth Searcy—51 yrs June
Judie ARROWOOD and Joe Eddie Roper—50 years
Martha HOLLAND and Charles Gettys—51 years
Letha PRITCH. and Louie Hawkins—50 yrs Oct 2012

Congratulations to all and thanks for coming.

From Page 5—Replace God with a ……….

One of the most insightful comments was made by Bill Bennett, author of The Book of Virtues. He is quoted as saying, “Does anybody really have a worry that the United States is becoming overly pious? That our young people are dedicating too much of their lives to prayer and to reflection? That teenagers in this country are preoccupied with thoughts of eternity and their own readiness for eternity?”

My guess is that the boy who pulled the trigger taking the lives of three classmates had little connection to a church. What if he had been? What if he had been raised by an intact family that taught religious values to their son? What if he had been taught from childhood that murder was wrong?

The Supreme Court was there to remove God from the school. Where was it to defend the victims at Chardon High School?

Until next time,
Jim O’Brien

The above article was taken by permission from the weekly email newsletter of the Church of God.

I couldn’t agree with Mr. O’Brien more! Morals of this generation of this society are going downhill fast. It’s like a run-away car going down-hill and the further down-hill it gets the faster it is going, it continues to pick-up speed as it goes down the hill. Knowing all the time what will happen, we know it; it will crash and burn! This is the path we are on and only a few people has the discernment to realize it and are doing anything about it. Please pray to the only answer to