

2008 NEWSLETTER

GREETING ALUMNUS:

I hope everyone survived this long winter? It was a "horrific" winter here in the old home town. The snow was over the alumni hall windows, the back of the building was totally covered. When the snow started to recede, it took a few rows of the siding on the back wall. Thanks to Jared Weston, that has been fixed. The Town Crew dug out our back kitchen door for us a few times, and our thanks to the town for that help. The big painted alumni sign has sustained some damage and should be replaced. We did have a successful Sled Dog Race again last year, and the card party "Old Faithfuls" weathered the storms and had their usual card parties.

Please pay close attention to the Treasurers report this year, in the 23 years we have been open the fuel costs and plowing costs really has done a number on our bank accounts. In my 26 years as treasurer I have never seen our savings and checking this low. I am wondering how we can possibly keep the building open next winter if things are the same as this year. If we could just get the membership paid up on the dues this year it is a good start to recouping our losses. Many thanks to all that have donated to the Alumni Park on the old high school site. I have heard from the Town that there has been a Grant for trees to be planted there this year. So that is a start, along with the Town donation that hasn't been used yet. Hopefully, there will be some physical changes made there this year. Our Scholarship money has had it's ups and downs with the Market, but we are still looking good. We are set as far as the scholarships are concerned for the rest of our lives, but the Memorial Building Fund can use some help.

We have regular meetings the first Monday of the month at 7pm at the hall. We would love to see more of the local alumni come to these meetings. We could use some fresh ideas. We close down from December to the end of April. We are still in the talking stages with the Penquis Valley Alumni, and some of them have joined out alumni. We just need to get a plan in action that will benefit both alumni's. Hopefully we can get some sort of action taken at the reunion meeting this summer. At least some things down on paper that we can take to them, and vice versa. If some of you have suggestions and are not going to be here, please send them in to us. This is a big step and we "all" want to do it right. If you have any questions or need more information, don't hesitate to either email us or call us.

We hope to see you all this summer, and also many things going on between Brownville Days and Junction General run by the Belvin Brothers.

2008 TREASURERS REPORT

April 30, 2008

\$ 1,126.64 Savings Account
 \$ 759.98 Checking Account
 \$ 52,526.86 BJHS Alumni Association scholarship account
 \$ 83,914.18 BJHS Margaret Law scholarship account

The figures in this report are from November and December 2007 to the end of April 2008.

Paid Out:	Received:	Snow Removal
\$ 412.13	\$ 614.24 January	\$ 120.00 December
\$ 880.20	\$ 394.75 February	\$ 90.00 January
\$ 910.33	\$ 398.00 March	\$ 180.00 February
\$ 943.05	\$ 242.00 April	\$ 90.00 March
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\$3,145.80	\$1,648.99	\$ 490.00 Total for 2008

Oil Bills:

\$ 1,000.00 Prepay on October 11, 2007
 \$ 89.16 January
 \$ 381.44 March
 \$ 429.20 April
 \$ 734.15 May

\$ 3,645.23 Total for winter bills

Bills for year:

Bangor Hydro (Approximately \$782.63 for 2007)

Town of Brownville Water (\$130.95 quarterly= \$523.80 a year)

Floor cleaning, supplies, raking once a year, copier and paper supplies, once a year clean & wax floors, salt for side walks, bottled gas for stove, building repairs.

\$ 2,034.00 Insurance a year

\$ 2,066.00 2007 Taxes on building and land

I will do a full report for the reunion this year and if anyone wants that report, please let me know and I will either email or send it to you if you aren't at the reunion. Thanks, Linda M. Coburn Treasurer 207-965-8421 , home phone Coburn3750@roadrunner.com

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Scholarship applications are available by contacting Susan Worcestor at fredsq@hughes.net , 207-965-8070, or by PO Box 717, Brownville, ME 04414. There are two forms of the application – one for high school seniors and one for students currently enrolled in college. In order to be considered, completed applications must be received by July 31st, BJHSAA dues from the parent / grandparent must be paid for the current year, and a copy of your most recent school transcript must be included.

Some changes were made at the last Alumni Assn. Meeting in the number and the amount of scholarships given. The exact amount of each scholarship is yet to be determined. It is hoped that the investment funds will allow us to increase each scholarship amount this year.

High school students are eligible to apply for the Allen B. Lente, Eleanor Rosebush, and Annie & Henry Graves scholarships. Current college/technical school students are also eligible for the Eleanor Rosebush and Annie & Henry Graves scholarships. The Greta Connors scholarship is available to students enrolled in a 4 year college/university program. The Margaret Law scholarship will be awarded to a student majoring in the medical field.

Applicants will be notified **ONE** time, if the materials received are not complete. Remember, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of alumni members are eligible for these scholarships.

Memorial List for 2007-2008

1933 Mary Graves Heath	1943 Isabelle Livingstone Mathiew
1955 Duane Coburn	1942 Jeannette Marsh Crandall
1953 Hugh Hamlin	1934 Bessie Hatton Searles
1933 Doris Ross Harris	1955 Lucille Farrar Ireland
1927 Olive Graves Gallagher	

If we have missed anyone, member or non member, please let us know, thanks.

DOWN MEMORY LANE AND UP THE CREEK

As a kid I remember the excitement of those warm early evenings when the Alumni Association would hold its banquet at the YMCA. Since there were steps leading to the first floor of the “Y” to accommodate the bowling alley underneath, that meant when the Alumni crowd was all inside, and you wanted to peek in the first floor windows, you had to get a boost up or find something to stand on. We did both, of course.

You were told it wasn't polite to gawk, so during their arrival we'd pretend to be playing in the playground across the street to watch the women arrive in their evening gowns and glitter and the men in their suits. Later, the music would be floating out the open windows (no AC in those days!) while they danced late into the night. You thought about being grown up and attending that special occasion some day.

Later, when the Alumni Association met at the Gerry Company, I smiled to myself when I saw some local kids outside, circling on their bikes and watching us arrive. Were they, too, thinking they would like to be a part of this special event someday? They, at least, knew it was something special to the town as we danced, still, until the wee hours.

With a wonderful new Alumni building, the last great effort I recall to get the crowd to dance was made by Hugh Hamlin, Pat Begin, and Margaret Tanguay (Class of 1953). Maybe we don't dance anymore, but our gathering is still special to our town. As our former principal, Ralph Richards, said, he'd never seen anything like our building anywhere in the State of Maine.

As our numbers dwindle, yet with the hope of new blood from Penquis Valley Alumni, we need to think seriously about ways to maintain our special organization. Two suggestions are offered here for a motion at our business meeting in August. First, we email the newsletter to all members who have furnished us with their email address (AND keep us posted when their address changes!) Secondly, we email receipts to those members who would be willing to receive theirs this way. This would represent a big savings on postage. With some of that savings, we could send the newsletter to non-member graduates who don't receive our newsletter now and who might want to become members.

See you in August and let's dance around these issues!

An Old Paddler

BJHS ALUMNI OFFICERS
2007-2008

President: 1958 June Weston Marsh
V. President: 1957 Berton Lockhart
Secretary: 1954 Carol Barnes Horne
Treasurer: 1960 Linda McKinnon Coburn
Scholarship Chair: Honorary Susan Worcestor
Historian: 1964 William Sawtell

BOARD MEMBERS 2007-2008

5 Year: 1956 Joseph Davis
4 Year: Florence Lockhart, Associate Member
3 Year: 1955 Lorraine Smith Fitzpatrick
2 Year: 1998 Seth Barden
2 Year: 1957 Raymond Butterfield
1 Year: 1957 Berton Lockhart
1 Year: 1958 Patricia Vickers Petrie

Two Board Members are elected each year at the annual meeting. A 5 year member and a 2 year member. The first Board was the building Committee of 7 members. (Henry Graves, Ed Weston, Jerome Chase, Marvel Harshaw, Linda Coburn, Jim Bryant & Tony Kindamo)

How it works: this year one 5 year member will drop to 4 year member, (hence the one 5 year member needed) the four year member will drop to 3 year, the three year member will drop 2 year, (hence a 2 year member needed) and the two year member(s) will drop to 1 year, with the 1 year members getting done. So the question will arise at the annual meeting we will need 2 volunteers to fill these positions. If anyone would like to volunteer when you send in your dues, we will make a note of it.

