

LION ALUMNI NEWS



Winter 2006-07

Volume 9 Issue 1

Hahn '70, Parker '72 Named Alumni of the Year

Down in New Orleans—the 14th Annual Dinner & Auction is the occasion at which the 2006 Alumni of the Year awards are presented. LALHS is

honored to acknowledge Rev. Alfred Parker II '72 as Christian Servant Alumnus of the Year and Janice Hahn '70 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year.

CHRISTIAN SERVANT—*an alumnus who exemplifies Christian character and witness through outstanding service to the church, community, or society. ~ Philippians 2:4*

DISTINGUISHED—*an alumnus who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in his/her profession or special interest by utilizing the gifts and talents which God has provided. ~ 2 Timothy 1:7*

Janice Hahn '70 Distinguished Alumnus

By Dale Wolfgram

What would you expect from a person who jokingly describes herself as a C student? Would you expect great success? Accolades? Honor? All of that and more has come to Councilwoman Janice Hahn, our LALHS Distinguished Alumnus of the Year recipient. Janice, a 1970 graduate of Lutheran High, describes her years at Lutheran High with deep affection. As a matter of fact she describes them as four of the best years of her life; years that helped mould who she is and what she values. She made lasting friendship such as the one with her best friend Nelene Hiepler who strongly influenced her. She was very involved in school, participating in cheerleading, volleyball, basketball, track, and softball. She was popular enough to be selected as a Homecoming Princess her senior year. She was the epitome of involved.

Janice's interest in athletics led her to Abilene Christian College in Abilene, Texas where she majored in physical education and speech. The degree in speech would serve her well later when she entered the world



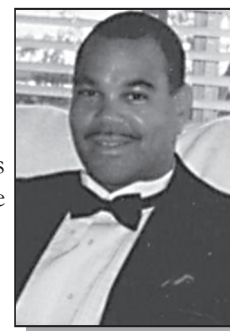
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Alfred Parker II '72 Christian Servant Alumnus

By Rochelle Johnson

Currently Pastor Parker's remarkable, uncompromising, anointed delivery of the Word of God has attracted thousands -changing lives and extending salvation - during his annual crusades throughout the world. The sweet fragrance of the Word of God lingers year after year in the established themes Pastor Parker initiates ("Atmosphere for Change" Nigeria, Africa); "Atmosphere for Recovery" (Ocho - Rios, Jamaica); "Atmosphere for Healing" (Rio de je Nero, Brazil) and "Atmosphere for Purpose" (Rosarito, Mexico). In addition, Pastor Parker is renowned for providing training to several hundred men and women in ministerial leadership as they prepare to pastor and/or fulfill their God given purpose on the earth.

Locally, Pastor Alfred E. Parker, II is affectionately known as Pastor Gene and is regarded as one of the founding Pastors of the Association of Zoe Christian Fellowship Ministries International. In 1996, he founded Zoe Christian Fellowship of the San Fernando Valley



(Continued on page 4)

Lines About Lions...

Richard Craven '64 and wife Marsha (Lewis) '64 live in Missouri. Richard taught social studies, religion and coached football, basketball and baseball from 1968 to 1975. He even served as Dean of Students for about five of those years. Marsha is a retired school teacher, after 27 years of teaching fourth grade. She now enjoys watching their four grandchildren. You may contact the Cravens at dcraven@fz.k12.mo.us.

Darlene Wanda (Hind) Ockerman '64 graduated from Valparaiso University in 1968, Valparaiso University School of Law in 1971; and the TED program at CSUDH in 1996. She has been teaching high school for 9 years in Torrance at West High School (Government, Economics and World History). Darlene is married to a registered nurse and has a son serving overseas in the US Navy .

Anita (Huebner) Elgin '66 returned to California in 2003 after spending eight years in Hawaii and thirteen years in Alaska. She teaches in the Saugus School District and resides in Canyon Country where her husband is pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church.

Joanne E (Scannell) Martell '73 has retired after fifteen years of service with the State of California and has moved to Missouri with her daughter Mary, a high school sophomore. They share their home with three cats and two dogs. Joanne is active in several ministries at First Lutheran, Neastto. She would like to hear from classmates at martellmanor@juno.com.

Mario Diaz '98 and Sandra Colchado were wed on September 15, 2006.

Gretchen Pikop '99 has served as a Foursquare missionary in Kristiansan, Norway for two years and looks forward to another two. She enjoys singing and playing piano on the worship team and working with the youth group. She would love to hear from you. Contact her at sisgretch@yahoo.com.

Ryan McDermott '02 graduated from Concordia

University in St. Paul, Minnesota in May 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Theology and World Languages. On August 12, 2006 Ryan and Emily Olson announced their engagement.

Erich Zorr '63 lives in San Felipe, Mexico eight months out of the year. Currently working as Rotary Club president, Erich spends much of his time seeking matching grant partners in Rotary districts around the world who will work with them to elevate the standard of life in San Felipe. During the summer months he lives in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. Erich looks forward to attending this year's auction November 11th and hopes to see other '63 grads that evening. You can reach him at ez5150pdg@yahoo.com.

College Wall of Fame additions! Thank you to Erich Zorr '63 for sending us pennants for our *College Wall of Fame* from the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh and from Golden Gate University. Whether you graduated in the 50's or are still in college, we'd love to have a pennant from your alma mater to add to our collection. Send us your pennant along with an update on you and your family or drop your pennant by the school office and visit us in person.

Former Faculty Update—Don Taebel, former band director, science and religion teacher from 1959 to 1969, is retired and lives with his wife Alleane in Waynesboro, Virginia. He serves at Bethany Lutheran Church as a member of the Church Council, the choir and teaches adult Bible classes. You may contact him at dontaebel@earthlink.net.

Any **Class of 1960** members interested in a 50 Year Reunion in the L.A. area in 2010? Contact Dennis Warden at 760-564-9866 or dpwarden@aol.com.

The **Class of 1962** 45th Class Reunion is Sept. 7-9, 2007 in Paso Robles, CA . Organizers are Richann (Chapman) Robinson (ronandrich@earthlink.net), Linda (Armstrong) Hansen (tnhansen@sbcglobal.net), and Don Mohr (dmohr@tcsn.net). Check out the Web Site <http://home.earthlink.net/~lhs40>.

Lines about Lions Alumni News and Updates: Tell us about your accomplishments, proudest moments, etc. We welcome your news items and photos and will include them as space permits. Change of address and other information that helps to keep our data base current is appreciated. Please mail this form to LINES ABOUT LIONS, LALHS, 13570 Eldridge Avenue, Sylmar, CA 91342, fax: (818) 367-0043 or E-mail: lalhsoffice@yahoo.com.

Change of Address 

Name _____ Year of Graduation _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

News: _____

Dr. Alfred Freitag Remembered

By Gerald Brommer, LHS instructor from 1954 to 1975 and renowned artist.

I had a call from Al Freitag (Friday) several months ago. He just wanted to chat for a while, and we talked not so much about Lutheran High School, but about what each of us planned to do in the next few weeks. That's the kind of person he has always been – looking forward. He told me about the congregation he was shepherding and about the progress of his own family.

I can remember many of his questions while I was teaching at LHS. What can we do to make our school better? What new or innovative courses could we introduce? What special activities can we look forward to in the art department? Do you need more room for the art classes? How can we accomplish this? (We actually knocked a door-sized hole in the wall to expand into another room).

When I was teaching, I always enjoyed talking with Friday about what the art department was doing and where we were headed. He always rejoiced in the progress that we were making and was constantly encouraging us to do more. At one point, it was his idea to add a second art teacher (Roland Sylwester) to the faculty – a phenomenal step for-

ward for such a small high school.

Dr. Freitag always encouraged faculty input, and often on a personal basis (just like his calling me to chat a short time ago). Many school decisions were made in such one-on-one meetings. He was always open to suggestions that would benefit the school. And the school grew in the best possible ways under his shepherd-like direction. After both he and I left Lutheran High to search for new horizons, we would often get together for lunch. He liked to talk about each of our steps in new directions – but the conversations inevitably turned to our days at Lutheran High. Those were warmly remembered and wonderful chats about a God-blessed school and its varied activities – and its people.

We both loved the school, the faculty, and the young people who came to learn from us. Dr. Freitag initially provided the opportunity for students and faculty to work in absolutely wonderful harmony. I will always cherish my own teaching days at LHS – and my fond memories of Al Freitag – Friday.

By Jack Ledbetter, LHS Instructor 1962-1964 and 1966-1977

Sometimes he was just Al. More often we called him Dr. Freitag. He looked like he should be called Sir! He was a big man, smiled a lot, clapped you on the back for no reason other than he liked you, wanted you to like him. He was a complex man (who isn't?) who wanted to succeed making LHS succeed. He did both. One could not ask for a better man to lead, prod, cajole and drive. All these things were needed in the early years, and Rev. Dr. Al Freitag had them in spades.

Looking back, one can always see the warts, hear the place cracking, see the smoke rising from the ruins of LHS in this or that place. It's always easy to see from a distance. But one also sees the mountain top sticking through the clouds and remembers the glorious paths to the top. And LHS was the top for us, faculty and students. What a place! Who could have asked for a better place to teach or to

study? Who knew we were making some kind of history? Who could have guessed at the friendships, the trophies, the "Drag-a-Bag Days" could be such fun? Is life supposed to be fun?

Here's to you, Al, brother, leader, teacher, mentor, taskmaster, Principal! May LHS continue to flourish in your shadow, and out of your shadow. It's all one. You are clapping the backs of angels now, urging better flights, cleaner clouds, more involvement with all the constituent bands of angels in order that the band you belong to grows, adds, helps the entire chorus. What a voice you had in our behalf. Al. Dr. Freitag. Rev. Doc. Sir. We remember you as we remember each other, as other teachers and other students and other staffs will remember other leaders. But you were ours. What luck you had us, teachers and students and staffs. What good fortune we had you. What a LHS! Thanks, Al.

Janice Hahn '70 *(Continued from page 1)*

of politics. Upon graduation she taught for five years before leaving education to raise a family. When she left the working world of full-time mother to re-enter the business world, she worked in utilities, waste management, and investment banking. These experiences have proven very helpful in her current position as city councilwoman. While working in these various positions, Janice felt drawn

to the world of politics. Maybe it was heredity or maybe it was watching her father have an impact on the lives of people in his community; none-the-less she felt politics were where she was designed to work. Christian author Max Lucado calls this finding your sweet spot, the spot God designed for you to fill. However, God's timing was not

(Continued on page 4)



Annual Alumni Basketball Game Dec. 16, 2006

Against the current Lion varsity basketball teams, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Gymnasium in North Hollywood (5200 Tujunga.) If you have questions please contact Lutheran High office (818) 362-5861 or lalhsoffice@yahoo.com.

Janice Hahn '70 Hahn *(Continued from page 3)*

hers as she proceeded to lose her first two elections. The persistence and skill that won her Athlete of the Year honors at Lutheran High paid off as she won the council district position on her third attempt.

I first met Janice at a Rotary Luncheon downtown. Her enthusiasm, charm, and knowledge of the issues were so evident I thought she was born to be a politician. When I spoke with her for this article, she affirmed that she was in her sweet spot. She loves what she is doing. She loves helping people and having a positive impact on those she serves. When I heard her speak, she was talking about issues at the port in San Pedro. In response to constituent concerns about truck traffic, she coordinated an incentive program for moving

the traffic to off peak periods. This was a monumental task that involved bringing together truckers, dock workers, transportation and customs officials, unions, and more. In less than two years over 35% of the traffic has moved to off peak times. Janice also helped to establish the now successful program of Neighborhood Councils which brings government closer to ordinary working people.

Today Janice is living her dream and serving in a position she loves. She enjoys spending time with her three wonderful children and three awesome grandchildren. She is making a difference in the lives of those around her.

Alfred Parker '72 *(Continued from page 1)*

where the Mission Statement is: Leading people from disappointment into purposeful breakthrough in Christ Jesus. The ministries include Together Forever Marriage, Inner healing, Youth & Children's, Singles, Women's Sister Friends, Men of Distinction, etc... To develop people for the work of the kingdom (discovering their purpose). He has also received numerous community leadership awards – including Commendations from The California Legislative Assembly, The City of Los Angeles, The City of Inglewood, The Third District Council Member of Reseda, California, and the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission.

Classmates from Lutheran High School may remember Pastor Gene (affectionately known as "Alfred") for his recognition in sports – recipient of All CIF in track and field for the 100- yard dash, the 220 and 440 relays and long jump. He was also voted "best dressed" by his classmates in his senior year - a reputation he continues to live up to. After attending Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington where he studied Kinesiology and Theology, he continued his education with Bible-based Faith Institutions such as Southern California School of Ministry, Zoe Leadership Training Institute and Biola University Masters Program in Organizational Leadership.

From 1976 thru 1991, Pastor Gene worked in corporate America as an Oil Executive for Union Oil of California, Account Executive for Los Angeles Lakers and Kings and Business Analyst for Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. In 1991, Pastor Parker was called into full time ministry as the Youth Minister at Zoe Christian Fellowship of Los Angeles. He expanded the ministry within a year from a mere 10 to 500 youth from the inner city and developed youth camps, college prep programs, and powerful youth rallies. He also spearheaded a cultural awareness program among Korean, White and African American youth after the 1992 riots. In 2003, Pastor Parker founded Operation Life Corporation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization servicing the community needs of the homeless, families and children. Over 300 families are fed per week through the Zoe emergency shelter and pantry.

Pastor Parker has been married to his lovely wife, Sheila M. Parker for 30 years. They have three children: Alex, Alfred III, and Karly (Parker) Ferguson. He is the proud grandfather of 3-year-old Shelia Nila Ferguson, and is expecting his second grandchild in April 2007. His Christian character as a devoted man of God and leadership ability has demonstrated credibility in every aspect of his life – as husband, father and pastor. He is most deserving of this year's Christian Servant Alumnus Award!

LION ALUMNI NEWS is a quarterly publication produced by the LALHS Development Office to provide information about, for, and of interest to LALHS alumni. Participation and input from alumni is welcomed and encouraged.

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