

The Arnold Sentinel

“Serving the South Loup River Valley”

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Is It One of a Kind?

Newest A.H.S. Alumni Directory Will Go To Press Soon

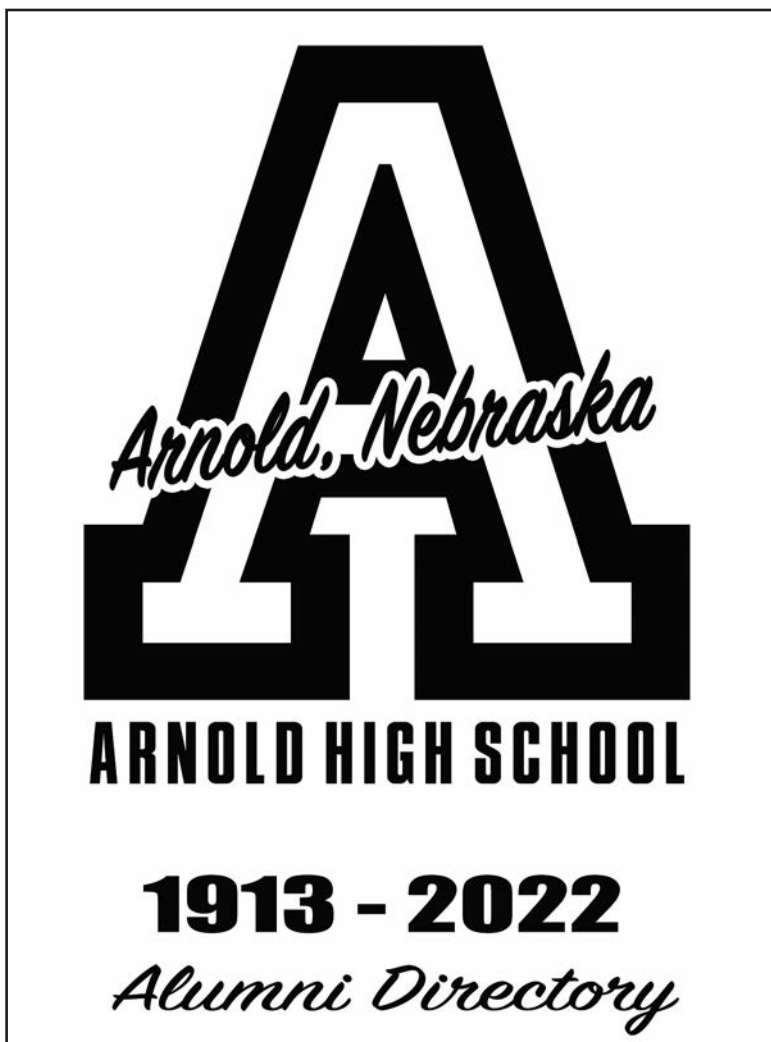
Where do they live now, did they marry, or have they passed on? Every five years, the A.H.S. Alumni Association creates a new directory that attempts to keep up with our graduates' ever-changing lives and eventual deaths.

It's no easy task. Darlene Rimpley, who has taken on this recurring challenge starting in the 1970s, is at it once again...combing through the Association's spreadsheets, making calls, and researching on the computer. After starting last summer she's just about there.

Class by class, the new directory lists the names of some 2,800 grads from the years 1913 to 2022. It also lists all those who have served as Association officers through the years and high school administrators and staff by school year.

Special recognition diploma holders, as well as Veterans Operation recognition diplomas are also listed.

And then there's the index, which Darlene describes as “long and tedious work.” Look



The newest edition of the A.H.S. Alumni directory will be available in early spring. The cover was designed was Julie Mohr.

up the graduate's name or married name, refer to the year of graduation, and then look back to that graduating class for more information.

It's all there. And how does Darlene get it

all accomplished? Well, this year she had help from Betty Cole and Mary Andre.

“They have been super and great help, and there's always other people helping who don't

meet with us,” said Darlene.

It all starts with contacting people in a given class, asking them if they know of any changes. Some of it is by word of mouth, through the *Sentinel*, and on the Internet.

Darlene added, “And thank goodness, a lot of people let the secretary know when they are changing addresses.”

As Darlene completes research on several classes, and sections, she turns the corrections into the *Sentinel* office where the next phase begins of making changes on the page templates for eventual printing. This process also takes many hours, as the changes – especially deaths – result in a different flow of the pages and their numbers. The pages are then uploaded and sent to a print company, where they are spiral bound into books.

Janet Larreau, who has been involved in the page layout process at the *Sentinel* since the 90s, said she is pretty amazed that the directory is still printed, and owes that to Darlene and her perseverance in getting the job done as a volunteer.

Darlene says as far as she knows, there's nothing like it out there.

“I've spoken with a number of spouses, and they say there's nothing like the Arnold Alumni Association's reunion where they live, let alone a directory,” she said.

She has the very first directory printed in 1957. In part, it reads: “This directory has been prepared for members to help them keep in touch.” It's very similar to the present directory,

but there are only about 50 pages. This year's directory has grown to what is expected to be 155 pages when it's all finished.

The Class of '52 grad, who is no doubt one of the leading experts in who has ever graduated from A.H.S., likes to add things up. For instance, there are the married couples that both graduated from Arnold High. At least 82 of those are still living, at least 24 where both are now deceased, and 20-plus where one spouse is still living.

The surname Smith holds the record for the most common name listed in the directory. She counts 53 and 20 of those grads are from the Mynor and Cecil Smith family. The name Anderson is next with 49 listed and Geiser follows with 40. This list includes those who have married into the name and are not always related.

Alumni are scattered all over. The only states where a quick scan shows no alumni are: Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Alumni live in Canada and Mexico, and over the years a number of grads lived in other countries.

In 2017, 200 directories were printed and sold out fast. This year, that number has been increased to 275. Alumni postcards were mailed out this week and will include information on the price and postage if mailed. It will be early spring when the directories are available.

“If you want one, it would be wise to order early,” said Darlene.

Junior Chamber Members Ready and Willing to Help Their Community



Courtesy photo

New Junior Chamber members are: (back, l-r) Eli Rogers, Delaney Rogers, Lance Jones, Anna Tullis, and (front, l-r) Walter Bierman, Riata Remund, Faith Bierman, and Evalynn Wonch. Not pictured are: Piper Strasburg and Ella Cool.

Ten Arnold students have been attending the monthly Chamber meetings since November, 2021, listening, learning, and sometimes giving their input.

The idea of having students join Chamber had been considered for quite some time, but Becky Dailey took charge and made it happen.

“We wanted Junior Chamber members so we can show young adults how a community works, how businesses work, and how we all should support our local businesses. We also want to hear their ideas for our community and encourage them to volunteer during events. With their involvement, it also gets the school involved,” said Becky.

Being a Junior Chamber member is an honor. To be-

come a member, students were asked to fill out and submit an application. Chamber members then selected students from Grades 7-12.

Accepted for membership were: Piper Strasburg, Walter Bierman, Evalynn Wonch, Eli Rogers, Anna Tullis, Ella Cool, Riata Remund, Delaney Rogers, Lance Jones, and Faith Bierman.

As expected, all of the students who joined are involved in many activities in and out of school.

In his application, 7th grader Walter Bierman wrote: “I want to be a Junior Chamber member because I would like to help and be part of the community. I have always loved helping people move stuff and carry their groceries and fix something if it's wrong. I love giving new ideas and have always

dreamed about having a lake cleanup.”

EvaLynn Wonch, 7th grade, had an unusual reason for wanting to be a member, saying, “Anybody can be a part of a number of activities, especially in a small community. The reason behind wanting to be involved is what matters. My last volleyball game, one of my church members came down to watch me play. She didn't have to sit in the uncomfortable stands watching me play. This is what community should be about and this is why I want to learn to be part of a community.”

Another 7th grader, Piper Strasburg said she loves being a part of things in the community and is willing to take on a challenge and willing to have a big responsibility.

“To be a Chamber member would be very honorable to me because I have some ideas for the town and I would love to have a bigger part in the community,” said Piper.

Eighth grader Eli Rogers said he thinks being a member will help him in the future with skills that he picks up and help him with promoting the town and to strive for greatness.

Ninth grader Anna Tullis said becoming a member is a very unique and special experience that most people won't get, and it is a good opportunity for many reasons. She wants to learn more about how the community works and all the people that are involved behind the scenes. She also thinks the experience will help her think more about opportunities in her future.

Ninth grader Ella Cool said becoming a member would give her the opportunity to serve her community in a positive way. She described it as an “enriching” experience.

“I would like to learn more about our small businesses and how our youth can have a voice and make a difference in the lives of our community members,” said Ella.

Another 9th grader, Riata Remund, said she believes that being a Junior Chamber member is not only good for her, but also a way for her to be a better part of her community.

In part, she wrote, “I can bring young ideas to Chamber and represent my class and school.”

Tenth grader Delaney Rogers said she loves all things community and really likes volunteering around town. She hopes to own a business when she's older.

“Whether that be in Arnold or not (hopefully, it is), I'd like to be a part of Chamber or something like it,” she said.

Eleventh grader Lance Jones wrote, “It would be a great learning experience to see how our Chamber helps to further the interests of our small businesses. I would provide great incite from a high school student's perspective to answer questions; whether it is how to get more kids to be more involved, or just getting kids to support the different businesses.”

Twelfth grader Faith Bierman said that she wants to gain more experiences about how the community works.

“I think it would be interesting to see what goes into planning all of the activities that Chamber supports,” she said. “As a senior filling out lots of resumes, I would personally benefit from the Chamber as an organization that is not affiliated with the school. I am president of the NHS chapter and I think I could bring good ideas and teamwork skills.”

Becky said the kids are required to attend the meetings, and they've had good attendance so far from those who aren't in athletics.