

Hellooooo Brookfield !!!!!

By Bill Thudium

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bill@smithmotor.com

1968 Class Reunion- My 50th BHS class reunion was held during the July Alumni Weekend. Following numerous reunion failures in terms of turnout it was wonderful to see such a nice turnout for our half century celebration. What made it even more fun was that so many were really here to party, many folks we had not seen in 50ty years!! We kicked our weekend off during the day on Friday with a float construction Party. I must say our class was notorious in high school for starting off with great plans for our homecoming class floats only to see them sizzle down to mediocre efforts, at best!! For our 50th we actually created a chicken wire, napkin stuffed skirting for two trailers, created several banners and all dressed in a shade of blue shirts. Our theme was “50 Shades of Blue Pride”!! Many hours went into stuffing those napkins and it was so much fun to see my former classmates working together, talking and laughing up a storm and having just having a ball doing it. 36 of us attended the Hall of Fame Banquet and that was a record class attendance for the Banquet! Those of us who worked on putting together our 50th reunion were so proud of our Class for turning out in such good numbers. We truly had a great time!

2018 Alumni Weekend – The Friday night “Party in the Park”, Alumni Parade and Hall of Fame Banquet were all extra special this year. 17 classes set up tents in the Park on Friday night and that may have been a record number. The weather couldn’t have been nicer for the Party in the Park! There were at least as many entries in this year’s Alumni Parade as there were tents in the Park and if you missed it you wouldn’t believe how much work so many of the classes put into the class floats. We had folks who really promoted the Parade this year

and their work led to some extraordinary efforts by several classes. The parade was lengthy and great fun!

Our class in particular was so proud of our float and then astounded at many other classes who had gone far and beyond our efforts! Some even created performances with music and dance for when they passed the Judge's stand. Hope many of you have seen the hundreds of pictures of the floats on Facebook and other social media. Truly a good time! It is hard to name names when it comes to thanking folks for creating a great time like this because it takes a lot of people to make it happen, however I would like to particularly name and thank Doug Gray and Marcia Cunningham for promoting and pulling off our very best (by far!) Alumni Parade. I think everyone is looking forward to what is coming down the pike next year!

Bulldog Football – BHS football got underway on Aug. 24 against the Palmyra Panthers in Palmyra. Palmyra was named the favorite to win the Clarence Cannon Conference this year but the Bulldog had something else in mind. After a dreadful 2-7 season last year not many pundits were giving Brookfield any chance of beating Palmyra in our season opener. With a just a break or two we would have won the game. As it turned out the two teams played to a 0-0 standstill until Palmyra broke a 25 yard run off for a TD & extra point with 58 seconds left in the game. We were heartbroken after controlling most of the game up until then but the Dogs still had a shot and took full advantage of it as they hit on a lengthy pass inside Palmyra's 15 yard line and then hit a receiver in the end zone for a TD with 7 seconds left in the game. After taking a time out to decide whether to kick or go for two it was decided to go for a game tying kick. Sadly our kick was wide of the goal post. It was a heart breaker but our efforts against a very worthy opponent has given players and fans plenty of confidence that this can be a very good season for the Bulldogs. Monroe City comes to town this Friday night and that will be another tough out. Monroe was the Clarence Cannon Conference and Class 1 State Champion last year. They will be tough to handle but I think we will be tough to handle too! The Bell Game is slated for September 7th in Marceline. I like our chances of regaining the Bell!

Hope many of you will be able to follow the Bulldogs this year in person or on the radio!

Update on New Construction – Progress is coming well along on the new Dollar General Store that is being built on South Main next to McDonalds. The building itself is completed on the outside, exterior doors installed and crews are working quickly to finish the inside. They have also completed concreting a sizable parking lot along the front and north side of the new building. Next door to them north is a new building under construction for Apex Plastics. Workers are putting up the steel structure right now and it won't be long before they begin closing the new building in. We are still waiting to hear from Apex about how this new building will be used and how it may positively affect their employment. Good News all the way around!

42nd Annual Balloon Derby – the Pershing Balloon Derby is this upcoming weekend. Interestingly ours is the longest running continuous sanctioned balloon event in the United States! This is a tribute to a core group of volunteers, many of whom have been involved from the very beginning, and of course a loyal group of businesses and private individuals who sponsor the balloons each year. Weather is always a big question when it comes to this event and this weekend's forecast looks like a go! Make your plans now to come and enjoy another full weekend of fun in Brookfield!

Birthdays – Aug. 26th, Shawn Kearns, Mary Almond, Ray Bennett, Chretien Dixon, Katie Eggerman, Britney Beach, Garrett Roe, Aug. 27th, Madison Spath, Nina Bingham, Larry Ellison, Tully Reed, Kevin DeVoy, Aug. 28th, Lilly Ann Lindsay, JoAnne Horton, Lois Johnson, Austin Potter, Robert Greene, Leslie Helton, Sonja Gillespie, Darlene Gordon, Aug. 29th, Rick Standley, Aug. 30th, Chas Gamblin, Jake Ball, Cora Kaye, Ron Snyder, Brittany Standley, Dena Still, Martha Montgomery, Aug. 31st, Jack Gillespie, **RJ Staddie (our son in law), Breckin Thudium (our granddaughter)**, Paula Hamilton, Monty Clunn, Sept. 1, Gayle Wilson Johnson, Nic Matheny, Art Rhodes, Larry McCurry, Sept. 2nd, Jena White, Susan Hicks, Troy Dunkin, Sept. 3rd, Evan Fay, Pam Harper, Tiffany Samm, Caleb Galloway, Tyler Gordon, Sept. 4th, Mary Stuver, Scottie

Clawson, John Peyton Hamilton, Marlene Watkins, Drew Hane, Gerrit Hane, Zach McMains, Thomas Coons, Ashley McCann, Johnie McGraw, Ryan Palmer, Sept. 5th, Beau Harrington, Almira Stevens, Gage Ham, Jane Walgren, Nancie Saccaro, Jeremy McCann, Kevin Golden, Sept. 6th, Rhonda McKenzie, Charlee Reese, Abby Trentham, Olivia McCurry, Brendam Ham, Sept. 7th, Will Lincoln, Alex Moore, Gina Smith, Rachel Stauffer, Ed Dobzenski, Janine Crist, Amanda Parker, Sept. 8th, Dave Hane, Ed Walsworth, Kyle Stahl, Sept. 9th, Elijah Beach, Stacey Bragg, Brittany Harrington, Linda Shaw, Natalie Bennett, Jim Stewart, Mike Stufflebean, Sept. 10th, Jeanette Packham, Toni Fay, Melinda McCormick, Debbie Smith, Chris Waugh, Matthew Anderson, Jake Edgar, Carson Wilkerson, David Minich, Kelli Alexander, Sept. 11th, Kathy Falconer, Grant Rodriguez, Amy Montgomery Stark, Kode Kauzlarich, Evangilina Gonzalez, Sept. 12th, Jerod Gillman, Shawn Moore, Bob Roe, Chris Ham, Andrew Reed, Galen Hicks, Justin White, Sept. 13th, Alberta Gibson, Pam Spath, Jody Graff, Susie Overton, Joy Munsterman, Blaine Wilkerson, Sept. 14th, Luke Carmichal, Katelin Dickson, Jerry Gall, Pam Kimbrough, Dana Melton, Trey Cunningham, Mel Green, Andrew Hoyt, Alyssa Elson, Sept. 15th, Ruth Holtel, Sherri Elliott, Jordon Hamilton, Laurie Knowles, Rhonda Palmer, Sept. 16th, Chris Clark, Tricia Cleveland, Greg Wilson, Suzanne Rhodes, Matt Cunningham, Samuel Robinson, Sept. 17th, Rick Butterfield, Janet Guyer, Jim Lumsden, Sept. 18th, Jinny Moore, Adam Walters, Sept. 19th, Judi Kirkpatrick, Kailee Cowan, Greg Crafton, Blayke Ellison, Robert Robinson, Greg Buckallew, Sept. 20th, Samantha Kirkpatrick, Victoria Kirkpatrick, Jennifer Almond, Amy Botts, Jared Shouse, Gracie Dickson, Shalena Bradley.

Anniversaries – Aug. 26th, Jim & Audra Clawson, Russ & Nelda Nickerson, Aug. 27, Kevin & Brenda DeVoy, Aug. 29th, Shawn & Jinny Moore, Aug. 31st, Stanley & Janet Knowles Casady, Sept. 1st, Rick & Cheryl Butterfield, Pat & Freda Clark, Sept. 2nd, Ronnie & Carolee Hall, Burnie & Jennifer Hicks, Tom & Trudy Smith, Sept. 4th, Eugene & Bonnie Seaboldt, Sept. 5th, Herb & Julie Sensenich, Sept. 10th, Randy & Toni Fay, Sept. 11th, John & Shirley Guilford, Gary & Wendy O’Toole, Sept. 13th, Danny & Jewell Phillips, Sept. 14th, Terry & Michelle Brosmer, Sept. 15th, Jack & Marsha Ogden, Caley & Megan Woods, Jim & Nanci Saccaro, Sept.

16th, Chad & Rebecca Cantrall, Sept. 17th, Gene & Debbie Taylor, Sept. 19th, Terry & Linda Collins.

Thanks as always for reading [Hellooooo Brookfield!!!!!!](#). Please remember to shop Linn County first and don't forget to let me know when you have Good News and Interesting stories to share!