

To: The Traveler  
Arkansas City, KS

Letter to the Editor: (these have to get printed whenever they get sent in, right???)

Dear Editor,

Attention: ACHS Class of 1971 - 40th Class Reunion Attendees

LISTEN UP, this is your Pep Club President speaking. Yes, the quiet, soft spoken one that somehow won the dubious title of Loudest Mouth of the Senior Class (and I still don't know how that happened). Fortunately, for me around the time that I received the invite to the Reunion, I found out that I have a friendly contact within the structure of the local Ark City newspaper, my old college roommate. (Love ya, Syd!) During my two hour drive home on Sunday, I realized that I wanted to continue the conversations from the previous two evenings. So I decided to turn on the home computer (purchased along with my first cell phone in 2010 thus plunging myself into the 21st century) and reach out yet again.

Let's begin.....**Disclaimer:** releases everyone else from getting into any trouble relating to the personal utterings of one, Connie L. Cellers, former resident of Arkansas City, Kansas, member of the ACHS graduating class of 1971, and a recent attendee of the 40th Class Reunion. (Rod, I'll give you a \$1.00 just in case, bill me!!!!)

First, let me personally thank all of you that helped make it possible for us to enjoy each other's company on Oct. 28th and Oct. 29th of 2011. Listing: Jimmy, (sorry "JIM"), Peggy, Jeannie, Leanna, Robert E., Debbie S. (did you all realize how many Debbie's we had???), Velta.....( Oh, I know that some of the blanks are getting filled in below, sorry....), and most certainly, year after year, Scott Cranford. We loved hearing your voice, but would really have enjoyed being able to see your face, too. We all appreciate you keeping a line open so the rest of us old farts can keep in touch. Thank you and Robert for maintaining the Website. (And, I'm sure someone else helps, too.....use more blanks below....sorry!)

Side Bar.....is that correct, Rod?? With the help of my high school yearbook, and as much as senility allows, I will attempt to drop as many names as possible



wonderful pictures you drew for me when we were supposed to be paying attention in class.

Let's not forget the winners table, and no it was NOT rigged, raise a mug Debbie D., nice shirt Vickie A., tip a cap to her hubby, and we all know that I love my clock!!! And, add a proud mention to another school bud, Teresa E., whose "clients" can't fool her, not even a little bit!!! Hey, I bet you guys didn't know that Annie S and I were almost sisters-in-law by marriage, but luck showed her another, much better path with Glenn.

As we viewed the CD, and as the quiet came over the group, we saw those no longer with us. I must admit there were several that I was not aware of, even though my family and Robin have tried to keep me informed. In my mind's eye I still see David Musson & Jimmy Hartman, and remember how they could make me laugh. When "Baby Begay" dropped by I could see my friend Bobby shining behind her smile. And I miss the others that I didn't know as well. They are not forgotten, but tucked away in our memories. I hope they know that we will always remember them.

Oh, by the way, several of us need to thank Mark R. for the daily "fiber" that we received at the end of the evening. I'm sure that it will come in handy.

As my bedtime approaches, I guess that it's time for "The Footnote", you know that part that you *had* to put at the end of all those required papers but was only important to the teacher, just a few words from **me** to a few of those who missed "our" 40th Class Reunion. V.P., I missed your laugh and your smile, B.B., I missed my big, bear hug, and T.D., missed seeing ya. So, that's enough of that.

In closing, from my heart I send a lot of love and want to thank you all for the memories, even though I wish you'd forget some of them. Again, let me apologize if I missed acknowledging anyone. And, would someone tell Marvin how much we appreciate that he had the courage to navigate all the table legs, chair legs, and bar stools to join us at our 40th. Hope to see all of you again in 2016, at age 63, just two short years from Social Security.

Thanks for the good times.....*Connie.*