# **Plans continue for 2014** alumni reunion event

# **By Karen Krien**

karen.k@nwkansas.com With the St. Francis Community High School alumni reunion only about four months away, 20 alumni met at the high school on Feb. 10 to try to make some decisions. Shirley Zweygardt, who had coordinated the alumni reunion for 29 years, had turned in her resignation at the 2013 reunion. She had single-handedly taken care of organizing classes, finding representatives for honor classes, and sending out letters, to lining up the banquet, putting up and taking down tables, and numerous other jobs no one had given her credit for.

Now, it was time for reorganization. The Feb. 10 meeting was the second meeting for alumni to try to set some plans.

There was discussion on when the event should be held. Some thought it should be held during the fair but, it was pointed out that it was a busy time, people who lived in town had jobs to keep the carnival going, and kids participating in 4-H – who would organize times for honor class meetings?

Another suggestion was having it during homecoming. This idea was pretty much shot down because there is no set time for homecoming. Alumni, one person said, often make their vacation plans a year in advance and it would be impossible to schedule .

Homecoming did bring a suggestion. Since the school is going to 8-man football teams, maybe an alumni reunion of 11man team players could be held during one of the home games. No plans were made.

It came down to the fact that, since 19??, the alumni reunion had been held the weekend of Father's Day. People planned for that weekend. In fact, it had become a tradition. Several years ago, Ms. Zweygardt had surveyed alumni classes and classmates in a to see if they wanted a different notebook. Susan Dinkel agreed that committee.

June

Where to have the banquet and meeting? Again, there was a great deal of discussion as the event has been held in different places through the years. Years ago, it had been held in the gym, but when the air conditioned cafeteria in the high school had been renovated, the banquet was moved to the cafeteria and the meeting with class photos was held in the gym. However, some of the planners were unhappy, as some classes were unable to eat together

because they didn't stay together after the photos were taken. They briefly talked about meeting in the auditorium, and then classes being dismissed.

That led to going back to the park. Some of those present thought that if it were at the park, and not such a formal setting, more of the younger classes, who had forgone the banquet for their own parties on Saturday evening, might be more apt to attend the banquet in the park.

But, would the older classes want a beer garden and eat hot dogs and hamburgers? Most of them thought it wouldn't make any difference whether it was hot dogs or a sit-down dinner. One of the alumni present suggested box suppers containing finger food to be eaten at the park.

Financing the event was another issue. Tickets were sold for the banquet with the dance thrown in. Some people didn't want to pay for the dance, which followed the banquet, but it was impossible to sell tickets for an open dance held in the bandshell.

It was suggested that dues be collected. But, there were still questions. How would the food and band be paid for, to say nothing about other expenses.

Shirley had organized the

date, and the survey came back to put the contents of the book on with the Father's Day weekend in digital contact database. Classes, especially honor classes (this year, all classes graduating with a "9" or a "4" at the end of their year) should turn in updated addresses (email, mailing) and phone numbers to Mrs. Dinkel.

There were so many issues concerning the alumni reunion that it was decided to form committees. Committees included: Entertainment, food, communication and advertising, and reorganization. Rather than elect officers and-or a board, those present appointed Tom Keller to head the group, calling meetings. The rest of the group would be the board. This arrangement would stand until the reunion on June 21, when an election will be held.

### Next meeting

Anyone wanting to serve on one of the following committee are welcome to volunteer by calling the head of the committee, one of the members, or Mr. Keller. The next reorganizational meeting has been set for 7 p.m. on Monday, March 10, at the high school cafeteria. Everyone is welcome and urged to attend.

### Committees

Food Committee: Raedell Winston, head; Keith Dankenbring, Sally Wieck, Daryl Loyd, Ronda Born and Eddie Brunk.

Entertainment: Susan Dinkel, head; Jana LaBarge, Janet Carman, Kenny Bracelin and Teresa Porter.

Restructuring: Kyle Buffington, head; Lyle Cook, Mickey Graves, Elton Keller, Pat Confer and Karen Krien.

Advertising and communication: Tom Keller, head; Penny Raile.

Because there will undoubtedly be a need for strong people to move and set up tables and chairs, Kyle Buffington, head football coach, was appointed to head

# Theme for next year's fair -'From Cowboys to Cadillacs'

## **By Amanda Miller** amiller@nwkansas.com

The Chevenne County Fair Board met as regularly scheduled on Thursday, Feb. 6, at the Cheyenne County Courthouse commissioners room. Marty Fear, extension agent, reported to the fair board. In addition, the fair board will be reissuing all uncashed checks.

## **Extension agent report**

Mr. Fear presented the 4-H club submissions for the 2014 fair theme. After some discussion, the board decided to use "From Cowboys to Cadillacs" as the theme. The winner of the submission was the Bird City Go-Getters, who will be rewarded with a pizza party.

Mr. Fear reported that the Spring Show will be on Saturday, May 24. President Dick Bursch noted that the fair board will need to be thinking of a spring workday before that show.

The fair book will be sent to Manhattan to be printed and assembled. The board discussed selling ads for the book. After some discussion, it was moved that the 2014 ads sell for \$30, rather than \$40 like last year. The board hopes to sell more ads this year with the decrease in cost.

Finally, Marty asked if the fair board wanted to continue with the fair posters as they have done in the past years. Teri Richardson has designed and printed them. The board agreed to continue making posters with Mrs. Richardson.

**Uncashed checks** 

Treasurer Sarah Kinzer reported that there is still \$6,000 in outstanding checks from the 2013 fair. She will be contacting all parties who have not cashed those checks.

The Cheyenne County auditor Jack Eldridge has retired, and the county commissioners have not reappointed a replacement yet, said President Bursch. The concern is that when the new auditor does take over, he can tell the fair board to reissue all the uncashed check's balances to the state, without notice. This would remove the money from Cheyenne County and give it to the state instead. There are several uncashed checks from the 2011 and 2012 fair.

President Bursch appointed Mrs.

checks at this time and issue a letter ev is given to the 4-H'ers after the of explanation, in hopes to keep the money in county.

#### New business

Danielle Holzwarth, with the Conservation District, asked the board if she could reserve the show arena and livestock barn for the delivery of conservation trees. She will test, coordinator of the event, Brent need the area April 6-20.

There was some discussion on if the board would like to change how the 2014 premium sale is set up. Members of the board said they will discuss with businesses if they

Kinzer to reissue all the uncashed would like to change how the monsale. The check cashing issue could possibly be resolved by changing the premium sale. No decision was made, however the board continues to discuss the best way to handle the situation.

> After the Coyote Calling Con-Rueb, said that he would like to donate additional tables and chairs to the building. President Bursch said he would contact Mr. Rueb about the donation.



Cheyenne County's "Sweetheart Gouples"



Bill and Neala Carmichael receive an arrangement from The Classic Rose



Walter and Fern Forsythe receive an arrangement from The Flower Shop





**Bird City Times** The Saint Francis Herald 310 W. Washington 📽 St. Francis 📽 785-332-3162



113 E. Washington 📽 St. Francis 📽 785-332-2411



105 W. Washington • St. Francis • 785-332-3400



