



By Joe Semones

Save the Date!

2024 Reunion

June 6-8

“At a certain age, our memories are more important than our aspirations.” -Lawrence Schovanec

“The older you get, the more you need the people who knew you when you were younger.” -Mary Schmidt

The 2024 Reunion will be held June 6-8. The emphasis will be on graduates from the 60s and 80s. If you know someone whom you'd like to see at the reunion next June, contact them and make plans to attend.

This most recent reunion left most of us wanting more time together, so we're tweaking the schedule a bit. We hope to have a get together Thursday evening and activities for the non-golfers on Friday morning.

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By Joe Semones

Supporting our Phillips Heritage

Phillips has a special meaning to each of us. Your specific meaning may be different from mine, but Phillips represents a special time, a special place, and many special, timeless friendships. Thoughts of our times at Phillips remind us of indelible memories created during what was, for most of us, our first escape from our parents' nest. Phillips was the place where we built our independence and, hopefully, became adults. The Phillips community, where family interconnections are deep and wide, played a critical role in forming each of us.

Imagine all the ways Phillips was a part of the meaning and memories for you. Picture in your mind the images of Phillips which are tied to your memories. For me, having been raised in Tulsa by Phillipians, we made countless trips into Enid from the East on Highway 64/412. We knew we were close when we could see the Marshall Building on the horizon. Even today, there's a feeling of elation when I see it. It's like coming home. Whether, like me, you spent as little time as possible in the Marshall Building, or you majored in Religion or were in the Graduate Seminary, nothing reminds us of Phillips like the Marshall Building. The Marshall Building is the icon of what was Phillips University. Nothing says "Phillips University was here" better than the Marshall Building.

Today, NOC-Enid provides office space to the Alumni Association in the Marshall Building at no financial cost to us. NOC-Enid has been gracious hosts since our agreement with them began in 2012. We experienced this hospitality at the reunion in June when we used *all* the spare tables and chairs in both the Marshall Building and in The Gantz Center. NOC-Enid staff set up the tables and chairs and provided technical assistance with the audio systems. They opened the campus buildings for those who wished to tour down memory lane.

At the reunion in June we learned the main entrance to Marshall Building is closed due to damage to the bell tower.

Continued on page 2

**Supporting our heritage,
continued.**

The initial cost estimates to make the repairs are substantial, perhaps beyond the scope of what our small community could underwrite. But as good neighbors and members of the NOC-Enid community, it's appropriate that we step up and do our part to keep the Phillips U campus alive, even if it is now known by another name. We encourage your support of NOC-Enid through PUAFA or directly. Since PUAFA is a non-profit corporation, you can make your tax-deductible gift to the Alumni Association with directions on how it should be distributed to the NOC Foundation. We'll collect them and make sure they are recognized as gifts from the Alumni community. If you have more significant amounts you'd like to give, e.g., transfers out of an IRA, you should work with your tax professional and work directly with the NOC Foundation.

You can make your gift through our website by using this link:
<https://phillipsalum.org/donate/>.

Make your gift before the end of the year if you want to claim the donation on this year's tax return

By Joe Semones

**Marshall Building Damaged by
June Storm.**

Phillips University alumni and friends who attended Vespers on Friday, June 23 were greeted by safety tape blocking the main entrance to the Marshall building.



Figure 1 Safety tape blocks main entrance to the Marshall Building. -Staff photographer



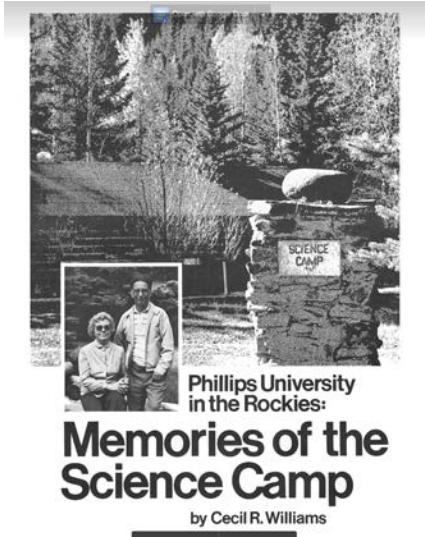
Figure 2-3 Damaged louvers on the Marshall Building bell tower, east view. -Staff photographer.

Earlier that week, a storm had damaged the bell tower, dislodging many slats from the louvers on each side of the tower. Northern Oklahoma College – Enid (NOC-Enid) mitigated the risk of injury from falling slats by closing the main entrance.

The building was built in 1950. Other repairs and renovations are needed to keep a 73-year-old building in good condition. NOC – Enid has received estimates indicating a repair cost in the range of \$200K-\$300K.

By Angela Kaufman -Executive Director of PULF

Memories of Science Camp



At the request of wonderful alumni, the Phillips University Legacy Foundation has just reprinted the beloved Science Camp book from 1985 by Cecil Williams entitled “Phillips University of the Rockies: Memories of Science Camp”. The book reprinting is now complete, and the books will arrive in their office for shipping in late December. They are available online for purchase at cost for \$14 (including shipping). A digital copy of the book is also available for viewing online at the Foundation website. View the book and/or order a hardcopy at the bottom of this page on the PULF website: <http://tinyurl.com/mwb4ztt6>.

By Joe Semones
Beth Murphy

July 21, 1925 – June 28, 2023



On June 29th we learned of the passing of Dr Beth Murphy. She had arrived at The Gantz Center for the Reunion luncheon on Saturday and fell on her way into the building. Dr Murphy, lovingly called “Barracuda Beth” had been encouraged to attend this Reunion by former faculty colleagues and by her former students. All of us looked forward to greeting her and thanking her for all she’d done for her students and for Phillips University. For more of Beth’s story, see the interview here <http://tinyurl.com/bp9fm5a4> on the PULF website.

Link to her obituary in the Enid News & Eagle: <http://tinyurl.com/4tt62zrp>.

By Catherine Quinlan and Joe Semones
Reunion Recap

In June we had a FANTASTIC reunion thanks to all who came and all who helped. Special thanks to Misty Hood-Overfelt, Reunion Chair; Fernando Fernandez, Jr. and a special THANKS to Sandy King who rallied the troops to push our attendance to over 300. A big THANK YOU to NOC Enid for once again allowing us to enjoy our campus.

Did you see lots of friends and relive lots of memories? Maybe reconnected with friends from college days?

Help us plan the next reunion to keep these cherished memories alive.

2023 Reunion Attendance*

Total Attendance	318
Online registrations	242
Mail-in registrations	52
Registrations on arrival	24

Class Era	Count
1941-1950	1
1951-1960	9
1960-1965	11
1965-1970	49
1970-1980	149
1980-1985	18
1985-1990	5
1990-1999	22

At the top of page 3 there are links to three videos from the reunion, courtesy of Varsity Club.

Reunion Video Links

Saturday Opening:

<http://tinyurl.com/5f77usxy>

Music Montage:

<http://tinyurl.com/4j52pe9c>

Saturday Program:

<http://tinyurl.com/mryu69sh>

Report from the Phillips
Independent News Service

PGA Chairman Resigns!

Steve Whitfill, Commissioner of the Phillips Golf Association, resigned today. He reported that while he enjoyed his brief tenure as PGA Commissioner, he said it's time to move on. When pressed, he admitted the recent hazing was over the top. "I never expected heckling from the cheer girls," he complained. "Linda Record and Sandy King were supposed to be on my side! I mean, I hired them for Chrissakes! What's up with that?!"

Steve agreed to, if compelled, provide the new commissioner any helpful guidance to help plan next year's golf tournament, including tournament rules, course contact information and startup costs.

PUAFA's Board has commenced a search committee to quickly select a new PGA Commissioner. They'll be big shoes to fill, even though Steve wears a size 7.

Contact Catherine Quinlan or Joe Semones if you're interested in succeeding Mr. Whitfill.

By Jason Williams

General Assembly Report

Phillips University was well represented at the 2023 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) held in Louisville, KY on July 29-Aug 1. This year we partnered with the Phillips University Legacy Foundation for a shared booth and were adjacent to Phillips Theological Seminary. The Phillips University Alumni and Friends Association brought memorabilia such as digital yearbooks and banners for our alumni to look at and reminisce. Many of our alumni and other friends of our school stopped by our booth and were able to connect with long-lost friends and roommates. Many hours were spent laughing and remembering together. The amazing thing about Phillips is that it does not matter when we graduated but rather that the friends we made transcend time. We may have attended in different years, but our stories could have come in any decade. Our friends and professors made our time at Phillips special.

Once again, we sold out of space as fifty Phillipians gathered for our Assembly luncheon.

Many memories of our time in Enid were shared. The laughter and conversation poured out of the banquet room well after the allotted time expired.

One of the best moments was singing Alma Mater with Phillipians from across the decades. We truly sang from our hearts as we remembered our school.

Continued in next column

Phillipians are still making a difference all over the world. We look back at our time at Phillips with great fondness. Whenever we gather, we recall the good times and education we received at this wonderful institution. It was so good to connect with alumni from all over the United States.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Memphis in 2025.

PUAFA Officers

Joe Semones '74 Chairman
Catherine Quinlan FS, Vice-Chair
Leslie Klamm '89 Secretary
Erik Herring, '89 Treasurer

MEMBERS

Jenny Shafer Wade '69 *
Janet Sears Gingrich '66
Carla Gibbs Kelman '82
Kathryn Penland '98
Misty Hood Overfelt '98 *
Pam Shields '85
Mike McIlwee '75
Marge Hollembaek Graham '75
Elly Sharp '98
Fernando Fernandez, Jr '98
Jason Williams '98
Mandy Williams '98 *
Lynde Nash '78
Rich Brookhart '98
Dana Higeons '79
Chuck Waldrip '92
Leilani Hook '85
Jerry Galbreath '61
Marj Campbell '75

Tom Walker '68 President of PUAFA

* At large members of Executive Committee

By Joe Semones

PhillipsAlum.org Upgraded

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Your Alumni Board, with the assistance of Brian Byrne, has been at work updating our website to serve you better.

What do you want to see in our newsletter? Do you have news to share? Stories to tell? Please send your suggestions to our organization's email address: info.pualum@gmail.com.

We have already improved the website security, and strong passwords are required.

We have just implemented a secure payment system which, eventually, will allow you to easily pay for your memorabilia, membership dues, and reunion registrations using a credit card.

As new features are added, we will encourage you to create a user account on our website, which will enhance your interactions with us. We might be able to provide an online alumni directory for those who'd like to opt-in and share that information.

All the improvements we'd like to see are resource constrained, so improvements will be gradual and rolled out when and as they're ready. If you'd like to contribute your expertise, please contact Joe Semones: jcsemones@gmail.com.