

DUST IN THE WIND

A Class of '76 Newsletter

Volume 6

Issue 1

2010

NEW HOOVER DAM BRIDGE IN PHOTOS

Inside this
issue:

2

Association 3
Application

Ramblings 4
From Me

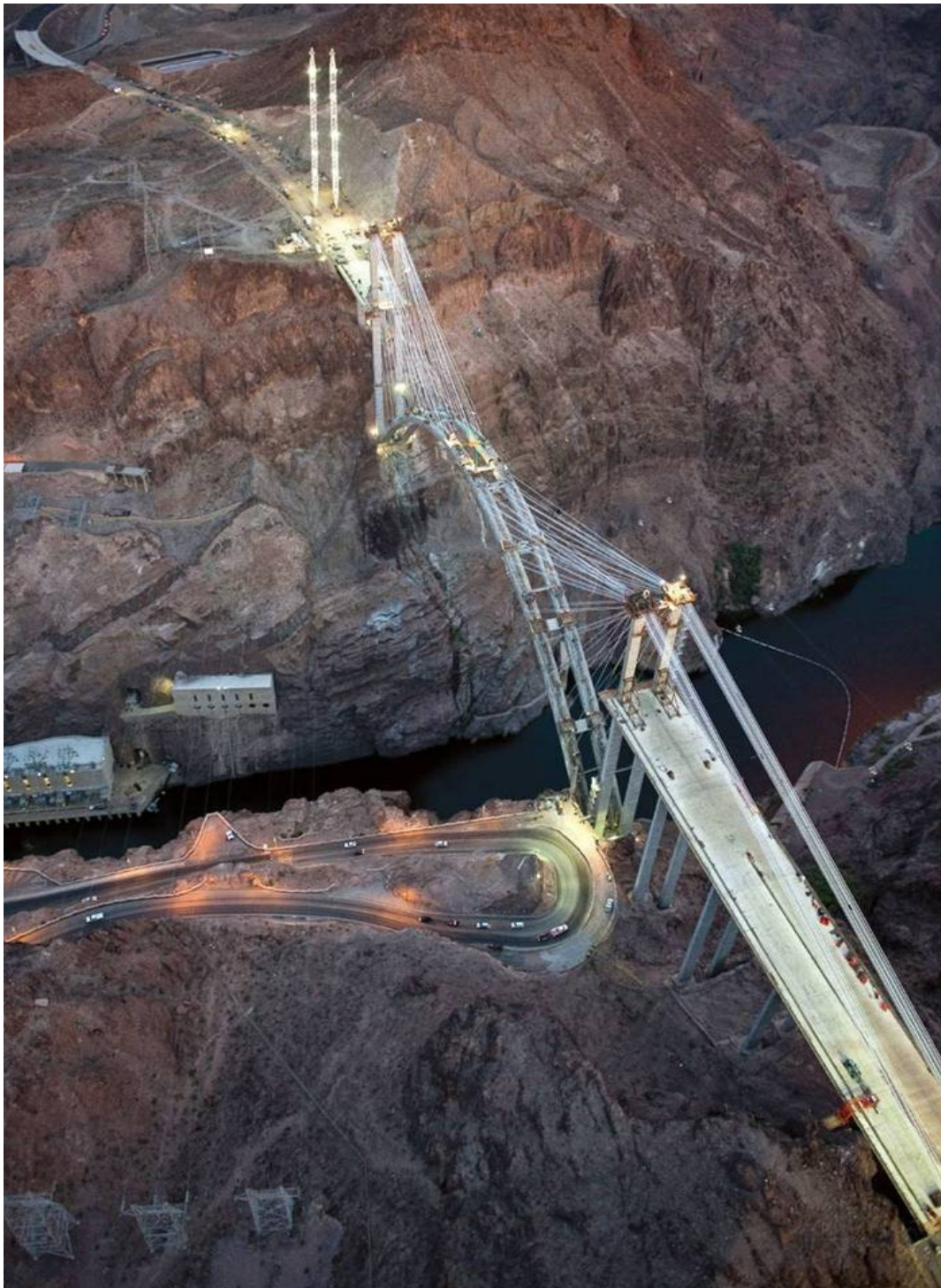
Hoover Dam 6
Photos

Note From The Editor:

Hello,

I am going to try running ads from classmates if they are interested. Display ads have to be e-mailed to me, ready for publication and classifieds can just be sent to me.

Dennis



FACEBOOK FRIENDS



The top photo is of Dave Aller. The middle photo is of Mark Sampson. The bottom photo is Patricia Hall-Stangarone. Each issue I will try to add more Facebook friends. If you know of someone from the Class of '76 on Facebook, let me know.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The mission of the **LAS VEGAS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** is to support Las Vegas High School by providing a connective link between all LVHS alumni. We will provide benevolent, charitable and educational undertakings for LVHS and its alumni, and serve as a resource to help alumni maintain contact with each other by providing opportunities for involvement in reunions and other activities. Our goals are to perpetuate friendships, scholastic and business opportunities for alumni, to raise funds to administer scholarship and charitable programs, to promote the historical significance of LVHS and to preserve LVHS historical documents and articles for future generations.

Name _____
First Last or Maiden Name Married Name

Spouse (if LVHS alumni) _____
First Last or Maiden Name Married Name

Address _____
Street City State Zip

E-Mail _____ Telephone _____

Class of _____	<u>Membership Level Desired</u>	
	_____ Individual	\$ 25 annually
Contact for your class:	_____ Couple (both LVHS alumni)	\$ 40 annually
Yes _____ No _____	_____ Individual Lifetime	\$ 300
	_____ Couple (both LVHS alumni)	\$ 500

If a school administrator or staff,
years worked: From _____ to _____ as _____
Occupation / Position

Would you like to be an LVHSAA officer, board member, trustee or volunteer? Yes ____ No ____

What would you be willing to help with? (Memorabilia membership, history, etc.)

Signature Date

Please make checks payable to: Las Vegas High School Alumni Association

Mail to: Patty Haack, Secretary/Treasurer
Las Vegas High School Alumni Association
1854 Taylorville Street
Las Vegas, NV 89135



RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

TIME SEEMS TO FLY WHEN YOU ARE BUSY...

Howdy,

It's been awhile since we had an issue. My boss as kept me busy with work which is a good thing. We closed 5 deals last month. Hopefully this is a good sign that the real estate market is improving. Got to attend the WILDCAT REUNION and spent time talking to Charisse Chiambrone. She had her daughter with her. The next reunion is scheduled for September 11, 2010 at Sam's Town. Would be nice to have a big group show up. Speaking of reunions, next year will be 35 years since we graduated. A lot of classes have started scheduling their class reunions around the WILDCAT REUNION. They are having no-host cocktails on Fridays or a meet and greet somewhere, then something during the day Saturday, dinner at the WILDCAT REUNION and maybe something Sunday morning. Maybe we could get something together for the 35th and tie it in with the all-class reunion in 2011. Since it is the 35th, maybe just meet at the WILDCAT REUNION and then head somewhere for drinks afterwards. Let me know what you think of this idea. I added a couple faces to the Facebook page. Received an e-mail from Lydia Duarte the other day. She said she stopped by and visited David Long a few months ago at BYU. The new LVHSAA newsletter Wildcat Tales is out. I will try to post it to the Myfamily web site after I get back from my trip to Laughlin. Feel free to send me items of interest for the newsletter and web site. I will be gearing up to do more Dust In The Winds this year now that I have a little more free time. Hope people mark off September 11 for the WILDCAT REUNION.

Dennis



CHARISSE AT THE WILDCAT REUNION



(From Wildcat Tales)

Let's all congratulate our **OLDEST LIVING LVHS ALUMNUS**, who will be **100 years old** on May 12, 2010. Violet graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1928 (82 years ago!) – before gambling was legal in Las Vegas and before Hoover (Boulder) Dam was built! Charisse Chiambrone is shown with Violet at last's Wildcat reunion.

Violet was born in Search-light, NV. Her parents moved there from Kansas in 1907 so her father could mine for gold and silver. When her mother died in 1915, Violet and her two sisters were cared for by Harry Reid's grandmother for a couple of days. They lived in Iowa for 3 years before her father moved them to Las Vegas in 1918. After working for the Union Pacific for a while, her father started the Oppedyk Dairy, one of the first in Las Vegas. Violet's favorite memories of early Las Vegas include when she and her girlfriends would pile into a car and drive by Block 16 (the early Las Vegas red-light district). They'd take turns driving, and the others would hide in the back seat and sneak peeks because they weren't supposed to be down there. She remembers watching Hoover (Boulder) Dam being built and going up on top of the hill by Railroad Pass to see the mushroom clouds from the atom bomb tests. She also remembers watching Our Gang movies at the Majestic movie house on Fremont Street, where the Golden Nugget now stands. She remembers the first Helldorado in 1935 and wearing western skirts that the wind would blow over your head if you weren't careful!

She graduated from Las Vegas Grammar School in May, 1924. At LVHS, she was Vice President of her Junior class and President of her Senior Class. After graduation, she was hired in Sandy Valley to teach its seven children. She says "they learned from each other, and it was all I could do to keep up with them". She married Dewitt Tracht (LVHS Class of 1921) in 1930 and they moved into a home at 305 N. 7th Street that was built by the LVHS shop class with materials from the Ed Von Tobel Lumber Company.

THE WIDER VIEW:

Taking shape, the new bridge at the Hoover Dam

(Contributed By Deb Respass)

Creeping closer inch by inch, 900 feet above the mighty Colorado River, the two sides of a \$160 million bridge at the Hoover Dam slowly take shape.

The bridge will carry a new section of US Route 93 past the bottleneck of the old road which can be seen twisting and winding around and across the dam itself.

When complete, it will provide a new link between the states of Nevada and Arizona . In an incredible feat of engineering, the road will be supported on the two massive concrete arches which jut out of the rock face.

The arches are made up of 53 individual sections each 24 feet long which have been cast on-site and are being lifted into place using an improvised high-wire crane strung between temporary steel pylons.







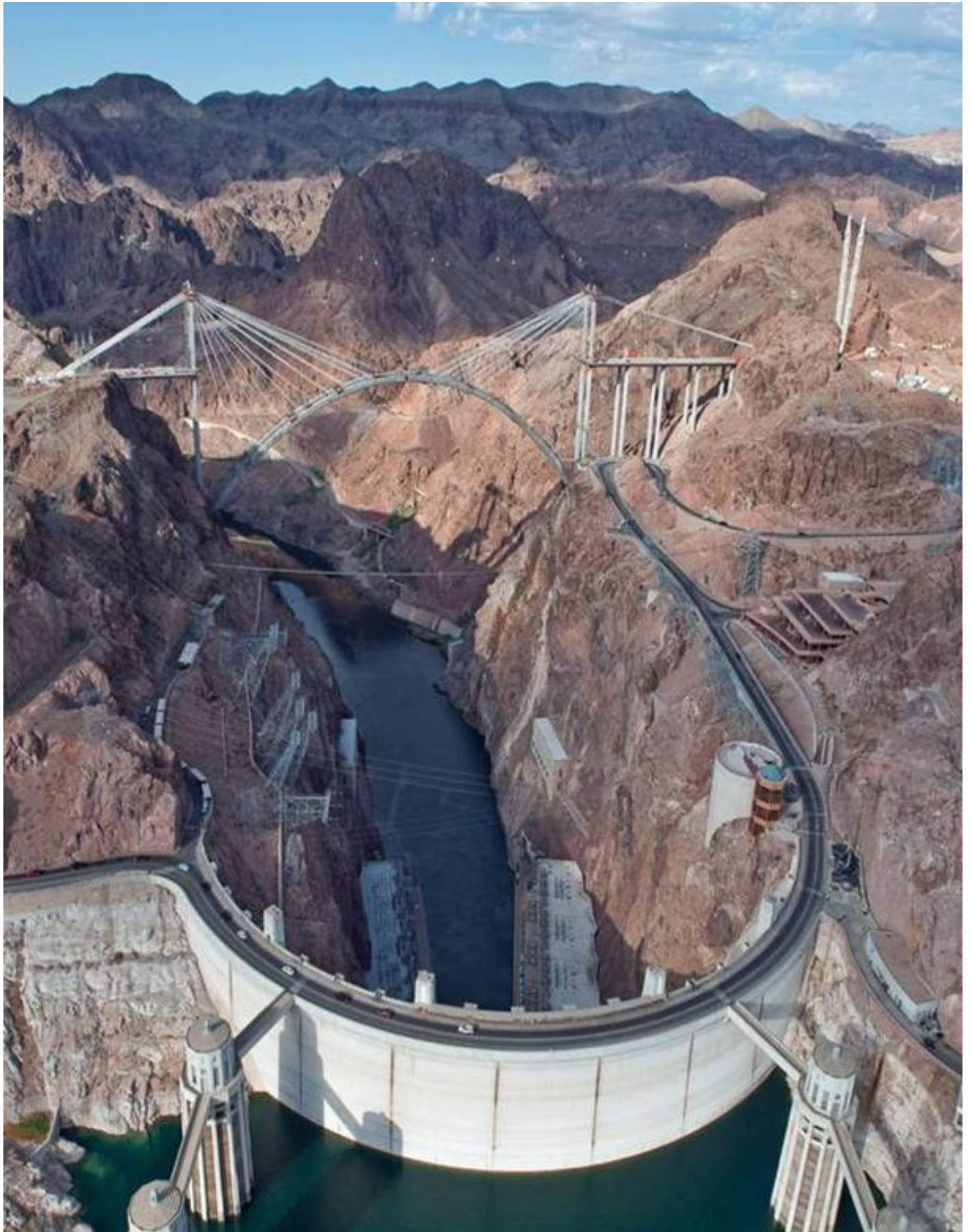
The arches will eventually measure more than 1,000 feet across. At the moment, the structure looks like a traditional suspension bridge. But once the arches are complete, the suspending cables on each side will be removed. Extra vertical columns will then be installed on the arches to carry the road.

The bridge has become known as the Hoover Dam bypass, although it is officially called the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge, after a former governor of Nevada and an American Football player from Arizona who joined the US Army and was killed in Afghanistan.

Work on the bridge started in 2005 and should finish next year. An estimated 17,000 cars and trucks will cross it every day.

The dam was started in 1931 and *used enough concrete to build a road from New York to San Francisco*. The stretch of water it created, Lake Mead, is 110 miles long and took six years to fill. The original road was opened at the same time as the famous dam in 1936.

An extra note: The top of the white band of rock in Lake Mead is the old waterline prior to the drought and development in the Las Vegas area. It is over 100 feet above the current water level.



LVHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS AND NEWS FROM OTHER CLASSES

ANNUAL WILDCAT REUNION

We had record attendance last year! Plans are now underway for the annual Wildcat Reunion which will be held at Sam's Town on September 11th. Invitations will be sent out in early July.

This year's committee members include Krissy Ayon ('79), Rollie Gibbs ('54), Patty Haack ('56), Carmella Harris Chris ('56), Carole Inghram Montalto ('56), Kae Jones Bogdanovich ('56), Nancy Murray Harkess ('60), Jack Milligan ('51), Miriam O'Donnell Pemberton ('55), Sandra Pettit Backus ('65), Michele Rebar ('64), and Dave Williams ('72). If you'd like to participate in the planning, or have any suggestions, please contact any of the committee members. We are currently looking for donations to be used for the raffle (proceeds go to the LVHSAA Scholarship Fund), so if any of you have anything to offer, or can obtain donated gift cards from your favorite store or restaurant, let us know! We hope to see all of you there, and hope that this year's event will be even bigger and better!

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

We awarded our first two annual scholarships last year to 2009 graduates **Jazmin Perez** and **Rigoberto Rangel**. At the end of the current school year we will be awarding four scholarships. If you'd like to donate to our Scholarship Fund, please send your check, payable to: LVHSAA, to Patty Haack, 1854 Taylorville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89135.

Alumni Stories Wanted

Hi all,

We are looking for good, upbeat alumni stories to post on the website. It can be about anything or anyone as long as it has to do with the subject of the story and Las Vegas high school. We have a couple but would love to add many more to fill the site with memories. Check it out www.lvhsaa.com and if you want to share email either myself or Patty and we will accommodate you. We would also like bios on any notable alumni either living or deceased.

cheers,

Dave Williams
class of 1972

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ON FACEBOOK

If you would like to get in touch with former alumni we now have an alumni association. There is a Facebook group devoted to Las Vegas High School alumnus well as a webpage www.lvhsaa.com which has pages of history, deceased alumni, notables etc. There is also information on reunions as well as the all alumni Wildcat reunion. The Facebook pages are great and everyone who has signed up has had good luck in finding not only lost high school friends but friends from all walks of life. For information on the alumni association, how to join, to get involved please see the website. Give it a look you'll be glad you did.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The LVHSAA currently has 270 members in good standing (grads from 1928 through 2009), including 213 paid annual members, 40 lifetime members, two 2008 graduates that joined, eleven 2009 graduates, and 4 honorary lifetime members. There is a list of all current members at the end of this newsletter.

If you received this newsletter and haven't yet joined the LVHSAA, *please consider doing so now!* A membership application is available on our website, or give us a call at 702/876-6660 and we'll send you one.