



## 2012 PSD Reunion Committee Newsletter - November 2011

### Message from Chairlady of the 2012 PSD Reunion Committee:

I would like to share with you all about the upcoming Reunion at Skytop Lodge in Canadensis, PA which will be held on November 1 to 4, 2012.

Skytop Lodge is the place that will take us down memory lane with so many memories of our former home (PSD). It is very spacious and has plenty of accessibilities for the handicapped. Plenty of space for everyone to roam around inside as there are so many rooms and there's a bar room, game rooms, stores, pool plus many more. Outside is beautiful for its views as there's plenty to see. The Lodge has many ideas for activities.

During the 2012 Reunion at Skytop, it will not only be celebrated by one event but two. In the year of 2012, it also marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since the PSD Reunion has been formed by James and Cecelia Schooley as founders with the help of their Committees. You all need to know that James and Cecelia Schooley simply planted the seed but it was YOU who made it grow along with them. This is something we should be proud of ourselves for being the ones who helped keep it growing all those years.

\*I would like to clarify some issues regarding our Reunion at Skytop Lodge. Been receiving complaints and negative remarks regarding the costs of the 2012 Reunion at Skytop. I would like to apologize to all on behalf of this matter and get this out in the opening. The first letter, you have received about Skytop and its costs should have been marked as **"Rough Draft"** in the first place. The costs were at that time, the locked prices from the year 2010 and will not increase.

\*\*I would like for you brothers and sisters to reconsider this carefully and maybe give it another thought before you decide whether to attend or not. Many of those who live afar do attend without complaints and knowing they spend more than the locals do. Meaning they spend more on flights, hotels, rentals but yet they come cuz they want to see their brothers and sisters of PSD who they have not seen for long time. Can't we see the difference here??

Anyway, want you to know that not only I but my Team Leaders and the Reunion Committees have been constantly working hard to raise funds for a good cause. **Our fund-raising is the purposes to help us reduce the costs for all who want to attend Skytop.** We, the 2012 Reunion Committees are doing this for our brothers and sisters cuz we want you to come and enjoy yourselves.

Who knows if this might be the last of the PSD Reunion if we can't have your continuing support as a FAMILY?

The Reunions are the purposes of bringing us together throughout our lives before we close our eyes. The Reunions are the only way, to keep our memories alive in our lives and hearts. We all got to make a choice to support the PSD Reunion Society, Inc. to continue having the Reunion Committees every three (3) years. The Reunion Committees try so hard to bring us together and to keep it growing, so the **choice is yours to make if you want it to continue to grow.**

**My Team Leaders are:** Sue Beidleman, Treasurer, Marla E. Gunning, Secretary, Carol Yuknis, Team Leader and Hotel Coordinator, and Betty Montrella, Event Editor and Photographer.

**Our Reunion Committees:** Denise Brown, Ruth Chanitz, Debbie Custer, Sharon Palmenta, Judy Schmitt, Jeanette Boice, Terri Grill, Louis Tucci, Greta Thomson, and Donna Shinton.

Also, the **PSD Reunion Society, Inc.** **Officers** are involved with the Committees are: Nelson Boyer, Janet Rader and Becky Fedio.

**Floaters:** RuthAnn Davis, Darlene Sadowy, John Sadowy, Lorraine DiRenzo, Ginny Maio, Barry Tweed, Marion Fisher, Ricky Buraczeski, Christina Loose, Lynwood Fisher, Lou-Anthony Maio and Debbie Tweed.

- We do have others who offer their volunteering as well.
- We have college students who are willing to be SSP/Interpreters for the deaf/blind to learn their skills by mingling.

- We have people willingly to donate whatever they can to help us with fund-raising.

### **Chairlady's Idea of Having Fund-Raising for a Good Cause and Good Purpose:**

Explained to the Committees about the idea of fund-raising and with the idea of how much effort we had to put into doing. Meaning the 2012 PSDRC has to put in a lot of efforts to work as a TEAM to help each other. Yet, its hard work and frustrating but to have patience and work together is what will be successful for us. Knowingly, nothing comes easy but once we work as a team, the flow does flow smoothly. We had to start somewhere and now we became a success with all the help of a **GREAT TEAM which are the 2012 PSDR Committees.**

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Since the 2012 Reunion Committees started during the year of 2010, we had **our first fund-raising Event on May 21st, 2010** during the Alumni Day at PSD with several of bake sales and games.

Then on September 25th, 2010, the 2012 Reunion Committees came up with the idea of having **Black Sands movie with dinner.** That very first big Event has drawn a great crowd and was a rich experience for us and hard work but we enjoyed it as well as those who attended.

Again on October 23rd, 2010, we came up with another Event called **Autumn-Pingo Foliage along with dinner** held in Lancaster hosted by Judy Schmitt and Jeanette Boice. It drew another good crowd and that was our first Pingo Event and worth another experience.

## **New Ideas Formed with the PSD Reunion Committees:**

Reunion Committees have formed a **Craft Group** gathering in Allentown once a week to make crafts. The idea was to sell crafts for fund-raising at different places such as colleges, high schools and flea markets. So far, **they have taken up their first exhibit at NCC (Northampton Community College)** in Bethlehem on October 30th, 2010 and found it to be **the richest** experience to show the outside world what we can achieve.

Then during **the second craft fair, they went to Fleetwood** on November 20th, 2010 taking along Marion Fisher who is deaf/blind and is our main person for the fund-raising events. Our purpose for fund-raising is also to earn for interpreters for the deaf/blind who will be attending the 2012 Reunion. Marion Fisher was more than thrilled to work with us and she also participates in our craft groups. She lighted up the eyes of those who approached our table at the craft fair. It was another special moment for not only the committees but for others who have seen such a deaf/blind person communicating among its peers.

On February 21st, 2011, the Bethlehem/Allentown committees came up with an idea of having a local fund-raising due to missing out during the end of the year of 2010. The Event called **Hog Maw (Pig Stomach) Dinner along with a movie** hosted by Betty Montrella, Carol Yuknis and the Boyer's. It drew a good crowd not only from those in the area and was an interesting dinner as well.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, we came up with **Easter-Games with dinner** which was hosted by the committees and Lou-Anthony & Ginny Maio held in the America Legion

Post in Allentown. Brought a good crowd and the committees had small skits along with plenty of give-away prizes.

During the weekend of April 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Betty Montrella hosted a **Neighborhood 2-Day Yard Sale** which was a great idea with the committees and friends donating items for the Reunion to make a profit. Had a sign up explaining our purpose for the Yard Sale and several people had donated without purchasing. It was another great experience mingling among the outsiders.

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, we had another event called **Patriot-Pingo along with dinner** held in America Legion Post Allentown. The committees were dressed up in Patriot and gave skits. Prizes were given to those who came in with the spirit of dressing up in Patriot Colors. Good Crowd drawn and everyone had a great time.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Betty Montrella hosted a **Gals Night Out along with a movie** for the locals but few from afar showed up. Plus several neighbors joined in the fun.

On July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 another local event hosted by Denise Brown called **Iron Pigs-Ball Game** in Allentown. It brought others from not only in Allentown and it was a night to go to the ball game.

On July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the committees came up with **Christmas in July/Robber's Bingo along with appetizers and lunch**. The committees were first dressed in Christmas colors before changing into police officers while Judy Schmitt, Debbie Tweed who were the bandits along with Barry Tweed who was Santa. There was a great skit that day before the start of the Robber's Bingo. Everyone really felt like they were kids once again and all stated they had a GREAT time.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Donna Shinton and the committees hosted **Back to School – Teacher’s Bingo along with dinner** in Haag’s, Shartlesville. At this event, there were lots of new faces and they stated they had a great time and enjoyed the fun plus the prizes.

Our recently Event on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 was **the Autumn Foliage-Pingo** along with dinner held in Lancaster. This time a lot more brothers and sisters came in costumes and others in black and orange. Lots of prizes were in Halloween decorations. Plus we had several ASL students attend and they had a great time as well.

All our Events were the ideas of the PSDRCommittees working as a TEAM to provide all with good times of getting together. Most of the giveaways at the events were made by the crafters from their hard work and from their hearts. They came up with many ideas of how to show their appreciation to you all for your attending our Events. We the 2012 PSD Reunion Committees want to thank all of you for your generously support during all our Fund-raising Events. You are the ones who are helping the Reunion continue to grow.

As it has been said during many Events, we the PSDRC appreciate all your support in helping our fund-raising and now it’s time for the PSD Reunion to give back to you. We want to do it both ways to show you that we are the Brothers and Sisters of PSD.

#### **Needing to Follow-up and Update:**

For those who have not received any information regarding the PSD Reunion, please feel free to check out the Website ([www.PSDReunionSociety.Org](http://www.PSDReunionSociety.Org)). If you would like to receive update information or

flyers to social events, **feel free to send me a message to add your name to the list. The PSD Reunion would like to have updated information via your address, email and VP number.**

We would like to start using emails as they are the quickest way to send and not only to save on costs of postage. For those who do not have computers will still receive through regular mail. So please inform the PSD Reunion whether you have computer or not so we can follow through. This might be Easier on everyone and hopefully others will pass it on as well.

We would like for our brothers and sisters of PSD to keep in touch as life is passing by faster than ever. Many have gone and that’s a sign of our family being downsizing every year, don’t we think it’s time for us to enjoy seeing each other before our time as we never know what becomes of tomorrow.

The PSD Reunion Committees would very much appreciate any feedbacks. We welcome ideas, volunteers, etc.

**PSDically,  
Donna E. Smith, 2012 PSD Reunion  
Chairlady**

#### **PSD Brothers and Sisters;**

Time is drawing close for us to get together...had brought me some thoughts...as to why we are having the 2012 PSD Reunion...

I had come across to several alumnae – who had attended their class reunions – often wished there was more time to spend among them – stated not enough time to sit back – linger the memories and laugh with tears.

Skytop Resort – Poconos PA – is the place to spend our time with you. I am thinking how wonderful it would be to be with our classmates/schoolmates for few days instead of one day – and to see others who we have not seen for years.

My thoughts – are that we are no longer getting younger – the days are getting shorter – the number of old PSD Alumni getting smaller --- the oldest PSD graduates may be somewhere in the late 1930's to the last – 1984's.

Who knows – the next year's reunion – may be the last time we get together for more than a day ... like I said – the number of Alumni is getting older and smaller.

We – the committees have worked so hard to raise money. Our goal is to give back to you – our dear alumni – good times – to give our dear deaf/blind alumni = a SSP/Interpreter – to enable them a sense of independency – to give their spouse/partner a break and last to give the newly graduate PSD students a scholarship – or anything they may need for their continuous education.

I want to remind you – this is a Reunion – for us – to have good times – partying – eating – and many more.

Remember – PSD Reunion becomes a success – it began – when the founder Cecelia and Jim Schooley – planted a seed – and it became successful.

How? The success happened because of you – Brothers and Sisters – supported – came to the reunion and made that happen.

Now we want to give back what you gave to PSD Reunion – a **40 years of support.**

Past multi reunions – was successful due to the wonderful chairpersons – their committees and you made it possible.

Give this a thought – to what I said \_ “this may be a last time we may be together like the good old days – we are not getting any younger – so – come – join us – be with your friends – laugh away with memories”...

The weekend may be expensive – in my opinion – it is worth the money – to be among your classmates/schoolmates – to see your friends you may not have seen for years – years and to be in the building similar to our dear old PSD of 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA

I hope my thoughts may bring an impact – help you make a decision to attend – the 40<sup>th</sup> year PSD Reunion celebration weekend – November 1 to 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**PSDically,  
Carol Yuknis, Team Leader**

**Brothers and Sisters of PSD:**

As you know, our peers are getting smaller by the days, weeks, months, years. Time flies before our eyes, so we very much want to get together for the weekend before our eyes close. How often do we get to spend a weekend together??? Most reunions are often a day and not enough time to catch up with many others and not enough time to catch up from those who come afar.

We need to spend more than a day to enjoy ourselves and our memories, a weekend is where there's time for all that.

Wouldn't you rather have a long weekend with your peers before you never get the chance again??? As for a fact, some of our peers have waited for another Reunion

Weekend to come but have not gotten that chance, so do we want that?? I would rather have this chance so to hold our memories dearly cuz we are brothers and sisters of PSD.

The 2012 Reunion is to Honor **the 40<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration** since the PSD Reunion has been founded by James and Cecelia Schooley, who planted the seed and the rest of the Committees throughout those years helped keep it growing. Cannot we, brothers and sisters keep it growing instead of letting it die???

It would be great to recall those past years in which the Reunion had given us beautiful memories. Now, we should join those who have kept it growing and thank them for those great years cuz there would have never been any Reunions if not for them. It's time we all show our great appreciation to those who have planted the seed and allowed it to continue growing through the years. It's time we **APPLAUSE** them for what they done for us brothers and sisters of PSD while their eyes are still open.

Skytop is the image of our former PSD and it's the perfect place to have our weekend Reunion so please COME YOU ALL and join the fun and memories you have held so dear!!

Hope to see you there at the Reunion on November 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> and you won't regret!!!!

**PSDically,**  
**Marla E. Gunning, PSDRC Secretary**

**Information About Rooms at Skytop Lodge:**

The guestrooms vary in shape and sizes. A good amount of guestrooms can fit 1 cot or might have a pullout sofa in them. For

rooms accommodating 3 or 4 people, they will have 1 queen bed, 1 king bed or 2 twin beds then 1 or 2 cots or a pullout sofa and 1 cot. You need to reserve the room – good chance to have better bed choices. See choices of beds on the Reservation Form.

You can browse the website – [www.skytop.com](http://www.skytop.com).

**Important for the Gentlemen:**

Dining area is required for nice shirts or jackets.

**Sorry no BLUE Jeans allowed in dining area.**

**The Buffet is all you can eat and for those who plan not to have meals included, can eat lunch in the Tea Room or the Tap Room.**

**Fill out the Reservation Form:**

We need to know when you will arrive at Skytop, how many nights you plan to stay there, do you plan to share the room with someone or more than 1 person, (please fill in the names). Do you want to have meals, and do you plan to come for the day (how many days). Important that you please read carefully and choose the plan you want by circling it.

Mail the form and Check to Susan Beidleman, PSDRC Treasurer, 130 N. Walnut Street, Macungie, PA 18062

Again, **PLEASE** read carefully before deciding which plan you want before you send along with check.

Any questions, contact Sue viaVP at 610-295-5840.

**PSDically,**  
**Susan Beidleman, Treasurer**

### **Any Old Pictures From PSD???**

Judy Schmitt would love to collect more old pictures of PSD and she has some huge posters of many old pictures. She is so excited to have the posters at the next reunion in 2012.

If you have any old pictures, you can scan the pictures and email to Judy at [brillwschmitt@aol.com](mailto:brillwschmitt@aol.com). Judy wants the sizes of 5x7 or 8x10. If you don't want to keep them anymore, mail them to Judy Schmitt at 74 Roosevelt Blvd., Apt 103, Lancaster, PA 17601-4077.

Also, if you have any old items from PSD that you do not want, you can donate them to Judy too.

Thank you all and hope to see you at Skytop in 2012 as it's a good time for us to get together for maybe last time.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL FROM  
THE 2012 PSD REUNION  
COMMITTEES.**