

# Old Overton Gym News



## IN FROM THE BEGINNING

Having lived the history of this charming building, Laurel Bushman and Joyce Jones stop for the camera while preparing for the Open House.

## FIRST EDITION

January 2007

**Volunteers  
Preserving History  
and Building  
Our Community**



## Introducing Beliefs, Mission and Vision of the Old Gym

BELIEF STATEMENTS are a statement of our values and a visible declaration of our expected outcomes. They are precise, practical and will guide the actions of all involved now and in the future.

MISSION STATEMENT says who we are, what we do, what we stand for and why we do it. It tells our story and ideals in less than 30 seconds.

### BELIEF STATEMENTS:

- *We believe in the preservation of the building of the Old Overton Gym*
- *We believe in creating a safe environment and facility for our youth*
- *We believe in providing opportunities for the community to participate and volunteer in worthwhile programs*
- *We believe in showcasing historical school sports memorabilia*
- *We believe in being fiscally responsible and financially sound*
- *We believe in providing a facility where local programs and classes can meet and enhance our community*
- *We believe in providing a gathering center for large groups of families, business and community programs.*
- *We believe in being an overflow for our local school programs and activities*
- *We believe in fostering a life-long partnership with our community and the Clark County School District*

### MISSION STATEMENT

*The Old Overton Gym is a fiscally sound, financially responsible organization intent on preserving our historical building and providing a safe facility for community use.*

VISION STATEMENT must draw on the mission and belief statements and describe what we want to see in the future for the Old Overton Gym.

### VISION STATEMENT

*The Old Overton Gym in partnership with the community and the Clark County School District will be a gathering place of choice and showcase historical school and sports memorabilia.*



*"It is great to live in a community that cares enough to restore our treasured buildings and develop places for public use."*



## A special message from Lynn Bowler

Moapa Valley High School opened its doors for education in a brown two story sculptured masonry building in September 1917. There were 28 students with two teachers and a principal. The first class graduated two years later with two students in 1919. The red brick "Old Gym" was added in 1938 as one of the many Federal Government's Public Works (WPA) Projects started to bring the country out of the Great Depression of the 1930's.

Through the years, the Old Gym became the center of community activity. It was the home of all high school and community athletic contests until the larger "New Gym" was built in 1964. In addition, it was the site of every community and school dance, as well as every dance review until its condemnation in 1990. Hundreds of students have fond memories of special activities held in the "Old Gym."

In 2001, after the "Old Gym" had been closed for ten years and fallen into disrepair, a group of citizens decided to renovate the historic old building that had served the community so well those many years. The group, consisting of Larry Moses, Lynn Bowler, Gary Batchelor, Kay Batchelor, Jon Turner, Ben Robison, Lance Robertson, Mary Lou Whitney, Joyce Jones, and Debbie Hardy organized a non-profit corporation for the purpose of raising funds and dealing with issues relevant to the renovation. It was their vision that the "Old Gym" had limitless possibilities in providing space for activities, a place where memories would once again be born, and reunions, formal dances, classes of all kinds, all forms of recreation as well as after school activities would once again fill the void left in the community by the loss of the "Old Gym."

Just as the project was getting underway, circumstances required that the Bachelors' and Jon Turner move away from the Moapa Valley, but the rest of the board stayed intact and, remaining actively involved, saw the project through to completion.

Over the following five years, almost \$900,000.00 was raised with result that can be seen today by visiting the "Old Gym." It has been beautifully restored beyond what any could have imagined. Its doors welcome all who wish to enjoy the richness of its history and the Board of Directors welcome all individuals in making use of its facilities.

As the first Chairman of this board, I want to express my thanks for all the help from this board, others in our community and all that is done to save our buildings and history. It is a pleasure for me to hand over the Chair position to Jason Abbott and wish him good luck and continued support.

**Lynn**



Founding President, Lynn Bowler,  
Volunteer Director, James Oscarson  
And Building Superintendent Larry Moses  
Stand together in front of  
the Old Gym after the Open House

**JOIN NOW !**  
**Old Overton Gym**  
*Is a Non-Profit,  
 Tax Deductible  
 Organization  
 and looks to the public  
 for support to fund  
 operations and keep  
 the facility in good  
 repair and safe for  
 the students and  
 community to use.*

# Old Gym Member Options

A yearly contribution of \$100.00 names you as  
 CENTURY CLUB MEMBER  
*Wish to give more?*

## BENEFACTOR CATEGORIES

Benefactor yearly donations include membership in Century Club

\$ 125-\$ 149      Bronze Team

\$ 150—\$199      Silver Team

\$ 200—\$ 499      Gold Team

\$ 500—\$ 4,999      Platinum Team

\$5,000 and up      Diamond Team

By contributing annually, you can use facilities at no charge or greatly reduced fees

**Yes!** I will become a member!!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out and return with check Payable to **OLD GYM** CITY STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_



## MANAGERS REPORT

**Anita Shannahan, Operations Manager**

Since the opening of the front door, the activity this far at the Old Gym has been tremendous. Very conservative numbers from April to December went over 13,000 visitors with events ranging from sports and dance team practice to weddings, family reunions and birthday parties.

The building is being used just as the early board members had planned. Middle, High School and county recreation teams fill the building back to back and the job is great just coordinating between these groups. The 2007 calendar is already filling up with events, and a great deal of effort is being spent to balance everyone desiring a spot.

The Old Gym remains a Clark County School Building and it is clear that all of our schools appreciate having an additional place for their groups. Plans are already working with Clark County Parks and Family Services to use the Old Gym to house their sports and summer activities.

With so many sports youth groups, it is a chore to keep ahead of the cleaning and maintenance duties. Great effort has been made to alert participants to their responsibilities in keeping the building in good shape. With everyone doing their part, the Old Gym can keep expenses at a minimum which keeps the doors open for all.

It is easy to see that these Old Gym walls will once again be filled with laughter, music and community members of all ages for years and years to come.

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*Old Gym is wonderful  
for business, group or  
family gatherings.*

*Call or drop in for  
dates and prices*

## Old Overton Gym Board

Jason Abbott, President

Lance Robertson, Vice President

Mary Kate Cain, Secretary

Chris Green, Treasurer

Joyce Jones

Lynn Bowler

Ben Robison

Mary Lou Whitney

Mitch Olson

## Board Basic Duties:

- \* Create and review mission goals
- \* Provide financial oversight
- \* Ensure adequate resources
- \* Ensure legal and ethical integrity
- \* Ensure effective organizational
  - \* Recruit and orient board
- \* Assess board performance
- \* Determine and strengthen programs and services
- \* Enhance public standing.

## Meet Anita Shanahan in the Volunteer Corner

Anita Shanahan began volunteering her time at the beginning and in quick order, had stepped up to OPERATIONS MANAGER. Old Gym is fortunate to have such a spirited force give *at least* 25 hours a week keeping one eye on the building and the other on the schedule.

Anita grew up here in Overton, and her family was one of the first settlers in the valley. "As a kid, I spent a lot of time here in this Gym. From recreation, basketball to prom and I have many great memories of that." She adds, "I would like to help the Gym stay open and organized so we can provide the same kinds of memories for others."

*Make no mistake, The Old Gym would not be restored and available for everyone to use if it were not for people like Anita Shanahan.*



Old Overton Gym

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