

May 21, 2024

Aloha committee members ~

Appreciate the feedback from select members: Bob, Greg and Susan. We are moving forward. Will address concerns herein. Susan and Bob listed a number of items. Susan stated, "From my perspective you tend to develop a resentment if your comments are not responded to immediately."

Susan is correct. For an group to successfully manage a complex event, members must act professionally and with respect toward each other. Time management is essential. There are Three Cs in Leadership: Command, Control and Communication.

When I first contacted Jeff about this reunion, he asked if I planned to chair the committee. Told him no, that would be inappropriate. Ann is doing an excellent job. I prefer to work within the structure of the committee. Susan's point addresses control. Members unwilling or unable to respond to requests timely destroy the efficiency and effectiveness of the group. And, this group cannot achieve strong communication networks if members do not respond timely or at all.

Susan added, "I am very disappointed, but, I cannot work on this committee. From my perspective you have turned everything into a YOU vs. US. Now it feels fucked up and I'm out."

Called Susan last night. She was tense, curt and hostile. We have a small apartment. My wife was party to the conversation and shocked by Susan's tone and animosity. Our call lasted about 12 minutes before she slammed the phone down on me.

Bob and I spoke for about an hour. We have a strong relationship, and respect the immortal words of Ruth Bader Ginsburg that we can disagree without being disagreeable.

Bob expressed frustration that I have posted member comments on the HHS Rams 1975 website regarding preference for continuing 40th Reunion programming. I believe this committee must be accountable to our classmates. I do not harbor animosity toward any one person's position. All opinion should be respected — and I respect opinions of each member on the committee. I do however have the right to challenge those opinions, for the sake of the entire class. When I first began discussions, the committee's position was clear and forceful. I had to respond strongly.

Each of you are REPRESENTATIVES of HHS Rams 1975 classmates. As I mentioned previously, we are tasked to do their bidding; not ours. Our comments should be transparent and open to class members. We refer to this as Sunshine Organizational behavior. If you believe in your position, express your opinion for the class to hear. They may agree; may not. That's the politics of representing others and making decisions on their behalf. Decisions have consequences.

Bob informed me that other members of the committee have issues with some of my actions. Normally, I do not respond to rumors or hearsay, but Bob is representing concerns of others. Let me briefly address these issues. If Bob or I have misrepresented your position, please let us know.

1. Jeff felt slighted because I used his fish picture in the Life Stories section of the website.
2. Kathie felt slighted because I included her in my Life Story

My response to both is the same. Anyone who has concerns needs to contact me directly. I have asked to speak to Jeff now for weeks. We suffer tension due to his refusal to reconcile our differences. Texted Jeff this past weekend. Asked why he is afraid to speak with me:

Scott, I'm with my youngest daughter's family In Springville Utah. We are having a great time. Baseball, basketball, and dance. Also putting in my Daughters backyard. Family First! Have been very busy. I'm not afraid of you. Just bad timing. I'll call you.

Jeff has responded to my political posts on social media. Has not however contacted me.

Kathie and I spoke a couple weeks ago. She had to drop off to manage grandkids. Said she would call later. Bob said she attempted to reach me. I have no text, voice message or phone call indicator. More importantly, texted Kathie May 12th to wish her happy birthday in English and Hawaiian. She informed me that she was in Costa Rica. Wished her *Feliz cumpleaños*. She didn't mention a missed call or ask to reach out on her return.

Bob promised to call me about ten days ago. He didn't. Told me he has been busy with work. Committee members, this behavior is not professional. Takes less than a minute to send a text: "Sorry I haven't gotten back to you. I'll reach out on Thursday (for example)"

We are not living in 1970. I reached out to Kathie ... she received my text in three seconds while vacationing in Costa Rica. We have 24/7 connections around the world. Claiming busy is an untruth today. This behavior is not professional or personally respectful to our mission.

I would like to talk about 1970 vs 2024. We went to HHS 1972-1975. There has been great change in the world over 50 years. There are two issues of key concern today: abortion and cannabis criminalization. Idaho is considered the Most Conservative state in our nation. Idaho prohibits abortion and all forms of cannabis use. Roe v Wade was decided in 1973. Roe was overturned 2022. Cannabis policy continues to be reformed, yet stalled in Idaho.

Let me speak about CHANGE. Change is at the heart of tension between us. The committee tended to prefer TRADITION of past reunions. I am pressuring the committee to evolve and do more for the 50th. Research shows many classmates want their 50th to be something special. I believe our classmates would appreciate such an effort. Change however is disruptive.

Today, on social media, a conservative friend posed the following question:

**Why Are White Liberal Women So Angry?
Asking for a Friend.**

I answered ... we have TWO social forces in society ... forces that have been part of human evolution for 1,000s of years: Tradition vs Change. I remind people of the heart-warming movie, Fiddler on the Roof. Chaim Topol (Tevye) sings about Tradition, as the family confronts and evolves with forces of change in Imperial Russia.

Change is the ONLY constant in life. Change however is unsettling. None of us like our cheese to be moved. At this time, analysts claim we have a 1/3rd chance of Civil War II this election. The Powerful Oaks of Tradition and Hurricane Winds of Change are crashing upon each other ... Republicans carry the conservative banner of tradition; Democrats hoist the progressive flag of change.

Conservatives are dominated by FEAR — change is too fast and scares them;
Progressives by ANGER — change is too slow and leaves them frustrated.

Liberal women believe they make \$0.83 per \$1.00 of a man, face glass ceilings and suffer abuse by males in a patriarchal society. They believe their reproductive rights are threatened, as a male-dominated society dictates their choices. Children trap women into roles than are constraining and poorly-compensated. They are ANGRY.

Our committee is staffed similarly. Bob, for example, represents a Solid Oak of tradition. I admire Bob. His position anchors people to past memories and beliefs. At this time, I represent the Winds of Change for an Epic 50th. Both positions are equally vital to our classmates and community.

Personally, I am neither progressive nor conservative. Have sought the middle road for most of my life. I see myself not as an Oak, like Bob, or the Wind of Change. I prefer the role of the willow that bends toward one side or the other as conditions warrant.

For example, I am currently battling the Japanese Buddhist Order Shinnyo-en for trampling on the memory of our fallen brothers and sisters in the traditional observance of Memorial Day. I am a strong, fierce Oak in this policy battle.

At the same time, I am currently battling the State of Hawai'i for refusing to reform cannabis laws and policy. I represent the tsunami Waves of Change in this policy debate.

Kathie appears to have concerns about being included in this conversation in my Life Story on the website. She was my BESTEST BEST FRIEND in high school. Have loved her deeply for over 50 years. She likewise has been a strong supporter. I included my dear friend, as I show how government, church and civic positions can change how we view one another.

Kathie suffered what is called a Gestalt Switch when she learned of my pro-cannabis position. I'm sure you remember Rorschach tests. When one first looks at an ink blot or image, they might see an attractive woman; on second glance, they see an old man: Gestalt Switch. I felt this occurred to my deep, dear friend. The teachings of our institutions created this perception. I have been working to CHANGE this TRADITION. I use my experience with Kathie to show the PAIN we both experienced, as I hope to increase TOLERANCE in our society.

Susan was furiously intolerant with me last night about my Life Story. She flatly demanded in the harshest of words and tone that I remove the story. Cannabis promotion has no business on the HHS Rams 1975 website, she demanded. But it is my life story. Susan slammed down the phone. This intolerance is what I seek to overcome. I am a respected HHS graduate. Hope classmates will make an Gestalt Switch and become more tolerant to cannabis users. Hope Idaho will as well.

Remember this fact. If I come to Pocatello for our reunion, the State of Idaho in 2025 could arrest and incarcerate me for my legal prescribed pain medication. Some 40 states, Canada, Mexico, Germany, Israel allow medical cannabis. Some 24 US states and numerous nations permit recreational use. Our world has changed.

CONCLUSIONS

At this time, it is unclear if Susan will remain on the committee. I remain disappointed that the committee refuses to share classmate information with the president. Ownership is petty and not RAMS spirit: RIGHT ATTITUDE MEANS SUCCESS.

We play for the team, for our classmates and school. I urge you to continue your pursuit of excellence in preparation of an Epic 50th Reunion. I will do my part as well.

I am deeply saddened, disgusted frankly, that Susan would fail to come to me about other concerns: “Following your last text, I spoke with one of our committee and we determined what we would like to see (or NOT see) on the class website ie your penis).”

Again, we have one or two members behaving in a passive aggressive manner. They falsely concluded that a male had displayed his penis in an online forum. First, had it been true, they should have immediately raised an alarm. Second, as the claim was untrue, the two committee members falsely judged me, and then Susan posted an inflammatory slander and libel in our group text.

I have spent my career defending women in employment and social situations. Such a fallacious indictment can have destructive repercussions on a man’s career and social standing. Professionally, I admonish Susan for making such an antagonistic statement without speaking to me or finding fact about her salacious assertion. I do not see how such ruinous behavior can lead to productive relations between committee members.

We cannot move forward to plan, prepare and implement an Epic 50th if we are unable to establish the Three Cs of Leadership on this committee. As this time, I instruct Roy Allen to embargo expenditure of **ALL HHS CLASS OF 1975 FUNDS** until we can create a functioning, working committee.

I await your feedback and communications. Aloha ~

RAMS: Right Attitude Means Success

Scott Goold
HHS Class of 1975 President

NOTE: Letters published on HHS RAMS 1975 website under 50th Reunion tab.