

FOURTH BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WARRIORS

# ALUMNI VIP NEWSLETTER

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Dear VIP:

In 1974, Richard M. Nixon became the only U.S. President to resign from office, in the face of his impending impeachment during the Watergate crisis. “Hammerin’ Hank” Aaron of the Atlanta Braves broke Babe Ruth’s longstanding career home run record—even as he withstood a barrage of racially-motivated taunts, hate mail, and death threats as that feat drew near. At gasoline pumps, Americans endured soaring prices and intermittent rationing, at least during the first half of the year, as the oil embargo imposed against the U.S. by the members of OPEC and a few other oil-producing countries continued in response to U.S. support of Israel during the Yom Kippur War. Meanwhile, publishing heiress Patty Hearst, a granddaughter of William Randolph Hearst, was abducted in one of the most notorious kidnapping cases in American history.



In 2011, the Middle East has experienced widespread upheaval as populist revolts have resulted in the ousters of Hosni Mubarak, Muammar Qaddafi, and several other Arab dictators and leaders. Japan is still reeling from the horrific effects of a major undersea earthquake and the cataclysmic tsunami it unleashed. U.S. Navy SEALs killed al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden in a daring, clandestine raid; fulfilling a key objective of the global War on Terrorism, yet at the same time straining diplomatic relations with America’s ostensible ally Pakistan (wherein the raid occurred) nearly to the breaking point. Worldwide, a massive, systemic debt crisis continues to weigh down financial markets. Meanwhile, Iran edges inexorably closer to possessing nuclear weapons; a development that, short of war, appears both intolerable and inevitable.

Whether you are a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> FBCS graduating class from 1974, a member of the 38<sup>th</sup> FBCS graduating class from 2011, or a member of one of the 36 graduating classes in between; it was a daunting, volatile world into which we ventured upon receiving our high school diplomas. This shouldn’t have come as a surprise to any of us though: the Bible clearly tells believers in Jesus Christ that “In this world you will have tribulation.” (John 16:33b - ESV) That same verse quickly offers solace though, for it continues “But take heart; I [Christ] have overcome the world.”

As students at FBCS, a solid foundation was laid for us to be better able to enter into, interact with, and make an eternal difference in the broken, fallen world we daily inhabit in our adult lives. We were equipped to understand and recognize the underlying reason for the world’s condition, and we went forth under the watchful care of the Master of this world. Ultimately, at our long-anticipated graduations, as we crossed the platforms before our families, accepted our diplomas, and moved the tassels from one side of the mortarboards we wore to the other; the responsibility for building upon the lessons that we absorbed and learned at FBCS became wholly ours.

Coming up in about six weeks, we have an opportunity to gather at a special event. For the first time, all FBCS alumni are invited to assemble together in one place, at one time. We’ll hear from the school’s new administrator, Mr. Alan Hodak, who will share news about some exciting new initiatives and innovations underway. There will be musical entertainment provided by current students. Our keynote speaker will be one of our very own: Colonel Jim Meisinger (U.S. Army), class of ’83. [For Jim’s detailed biography please see

Issue 6 of this newsletter, which is available under the "Alumni" tab of the FBCS website.] I'm sure that he will have some fascinating reminiscences from his remarkable 24 year military career. In addition to a professionally-catered brunch menu, the plans include a drawing for a variety of valuable prizes (Hang onto your ticket stubs!), plus other special guests and surprises. Immediately following the event, student-led tours of the current school building will also be available.

Here are the key details (order tickets early: get yours before they are sold out!):

***Alumni Weekend Brunch: Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>: 10 am (Doors open at 9 am)***

***Fourth Baptist Christian School: 900 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441***

***Tickets: Ticket order form attached to this e-mail. See below for hotel options.***

So dust off those yearbooks (Check out how young we all looked!), dig out that old *Warriors* gear (Wear it if you have it!), reread that fancy script on your FBCS diploma (while thinking of the teachers who helped make it possible!), and plan to be there. See old friends; make some new ones. If you know of an alumnus who doesn't receive this newsletter, please forward a copy to him or her. And bring the entire family: the cost is actually less than a typical restaurant brunch & this will be a great opportunity to remind your kids that you were their age once too! (While we hope to see as many Alumni as possible, this event is also open to other interested friends of FBCS. So bring your families and invite other FBCS friends!)

Hoping to see you all there,

***Larry Nelson, '81***

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS in our area:**

- Days Inn, \$55 (2955 Empire Lane , Plymouth)
- Hampton Inn, \$69 (10420 Wayzata Blvd, Minnetonka)
- Comfort Inn, \$71 (3000 Harbor Lane,
- Plymouth Holiday Inn Express, \$77 (6020 Wayzata Blvd, Golden Valley)
- **Residence Inn** by Marriott, \$79 or \$84 group rate (2750 Annapolis Circle, Plymouth)
- Best Western, \$87 (2705 Annapolis Lane N, Plymouth)
- Country Inn & Suites, \$89 (210 Carlson Parkway No, Plymouth)

Mr. Hodak personally visited the **Residence Inn**, we are holding a block of rooms for this event:

-Rooms will be held under '**4<sup>th</sup> Baptist Alumni**'

-All reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly: 763.577.1600

-Deadline to make reservations: Friday, January 6, 2012

**Residence Inn Rates and Rooms:**

Studio Suites, one queen bed plus queen sofa sleeper - \$89 regular **\$79 group discount**

One bedroom Suite, one king bed plus queen sofa sleeper - \$94 regular **\$84 group discount**

\*Residence Inn has two-bedroom suites available, however due to high demand for these rooms they do not offer group discount rates. They are \$199/night and have two bedrooms and two bathrooms.

\*All of the suites include a hot/cold breakfast buffet every morning, complimentary internet and use of an indoor pool. All suites also have a fully equipped kitchen and include daily housekeeping.

*A pdf information sheet for the Residence Inn is attached to this e-mail.*