

## **Boyer Valley Alumni Banquet Returns for Memorial Day Weekend, Thanks to Volunteer Leadership**

**DUNLAP, Iowa** — The Boyer Valley Alumni Banquet is back this year, set for Saturday, May 23, at the St. Patrick Parish Center in Dunlap, thanks to the initiative of Sharon Heffernan, a member of the Class of 1981. Heffernan stepped forward to organize the event, with support from Austin McDonald and Liz Davie, founders of the Boyer Valley Community Alumni Association. As in years past, all classes are invited to attend this event.

After hearing about the need for volunteers, Heffernan was determined to ensure the long-standing tradition continued. “What do you need me to do to help make this happen?” she recalled asking McDonald and Davie.

McDonald and Davie had already laid the groundwork, establishing a consistent planning committee to ensure the banquet’s long-term sustainability. Heffernan said she was motivated to act after hearing disappointment from classmates about the potential cancellation.

“It’s so much fun to see not only your class, but all the classes,” Heffernan said.

The banquet will feature a 5 p.m. cocktail hour and a 6 p.m. dinner catered by Goodfellows. Final details are still being arranged. Tickets are \$30 per person. Guests are asked to RSVP for food planning purposes and tickets will be ready at the door. Updates will be posted on the Boyer Valley Community Alumni Association Facebook page, or attendees can contact Heffernan at (712) 267-0126. The Alumni Association can be contacted via email at [boyervalleyalumni@gmail.com](mailto:boyervalleyalumni@gmail.com)

Heffernan praised the efforts of McDonald and Davie, noting their organizational skills made planning the event much easier. “Liz and Austin are so organized, there’s not that much to do anyway! Their notes are excellent, and Liz already has the flyers ready,” she said.

Looking ahead, organizers hope to maintain a consistent alumni committee to simplify future banquet planning.

“If we [continue to] get a really good committee, we can make it happen,” Heffernan said.

“There are enough people who want it to happen.” She also highlighted the enthusiasm of upcoming classes, with next year’s alumni already eager to contribute. “I’ll stay on and help if they want,” she said.

For Heffernan, the banquet is about joy, connection, and celebrating shared history.

“Everybody needs more joy in their life, and what better way to do it than a class reunion?” she said.

The upcoming Boyer Valley Alumni Banquet promises an evening of reconnecting, reminiscing, and celebrating the Boyer Valley community. All alumni are invited.