

THE KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter
"It's the ☆ glue ☆ that keeps us together"

December, 2014 ● Page One

President's Message

Writing about the Peña girls in the last issue made me think of the PGHS alumni who lived on Lawton Street in the late '60s. Kathy Dowell lived on one side of us, and Jan Consiglio and her little brother Jon Eric lived on the other side. Two doors away were Len and Shirley Williams and their daughters Shelly, Brenda, and Peggy. Across the street were Chris and Jeff Jones, and next door to them were Bob and Barbara Gruber and their two boys, who were just "little kids" then, younger than the rest of us. Next to them on the downhill side were Julie and Mike Koviak and their parents. A little farther up the street were Chery Marr and her little brother Greg.

The dead-end streets in Del Monte Park made that neighborhood a child's dream. We could walk up a short hill to "The Little Store," at the corner of Shafter and Buena Vista, to buy candy and soda. The homes at the very ends of David, Lincoln, Miles, Lawton, Funston, and Buena Vista hadn't been built then, and Funston and Buena Vista didn't connect. Instead, we picked huckleberries in those wildlands and hiked through Del Monte Forest to the dump to find old bottles. We rode bicycles unhelmeted, took unleashed dogs with us everywhere, hammered together forts from scrap lumber in yards and forests without parental supervision, and rode horses at Lois and Rolland Wilson's End-o-Lane Stables on David. When school was in session, we walked to the junior high and later to the high school. No bus then; only sometimes a ride from the parents. Kids today are missing a lot!

We're still in touch with a lot of those people, if only via Christmas cards. I just discovered that the Grubers have purchased the house behind me on Congress Avenue and are fixing it up as a rental. And I see Mike Koviak at garage and estate sales regularly. One year, he stopped by while the

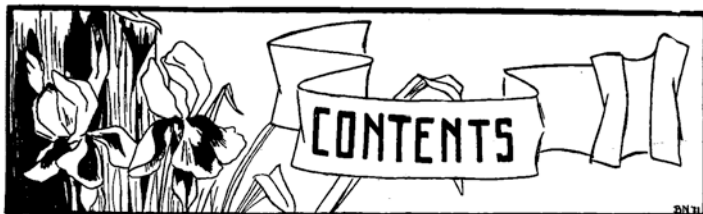
family was all at my house for Thanksgiving (see below). Pacific Grove is, thank our lucky stars, even still a very small town.



From left, Jeanne Penney Mileti '74, Beth, our stepmother Jan (now Jan Zeigler), John Penney '77, and Mike Koviak '78.

Other News: Very long-term Board member Wynette Walker Cowen '41 is moving to Emeritus status, although she continues her committee work. Many thanks to her for her decades of service....Our October reunion, though it had a small turnout, was a success, and Bebo Parker Logan '63 and Michelle Sherwin Thomas '63 are hard at work on the next one....At its October meeting, your PGHSAA Board gave \$350 to the high school's Art and Computer Department for a "Career Path" field trip to San Francisco, a grant made possible by a donation from sculptor Dorothy Fowler '44; gave \$100 to the Associated Student Body leadership for the Hall of Fame luncheon; and gave \$2,000 for the Government class's "Closeup" trip to Washington, DC. This annual trip is a key segment of the class, taught by Lillian Griffiths '70. Thanks to all of you whose donations make these grants to Pacific Grove High School possible!

Beth Penney '73



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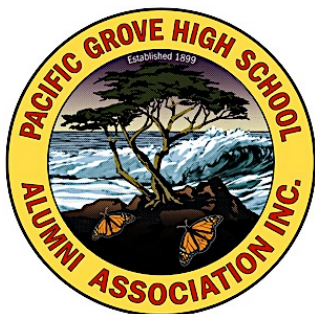
The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.

A Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Founded June 2, 1899

Reactivated April 1, 1962

Incorporated September 27, 1995



Mail: P.O. Box 51396, Pacific Grove, CA 93950-6936

E-mail: info@pghsaa.org

Web site: <http://www.pgusd.org/alumni>

Membership dues (January 1-December 31):

\$20 per year, single or couple

Current PGHSAA membership: 897

PGHSAA Officers

Beth Penney '73, President
Edie Adams McDonald '56, Vice-President
Patty Fifer Kieffer '60, Recording Secretary
Donna Murphy '79, Corresponding Secretary
Erin Langton Field '71, Treasurer

PGHSAA Board of Directors

Serving through December 2014

Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56
Lillian Griffiths '70
Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71
Pete Hartstra '72
Cate Goblirsch Lee '94
Bebo Parker Logan '63
Phil Nash '88

Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

Serving through December 2015

Mike Bowhay '56
Les Field '72

Sharon Johansen '75

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Serving through December 2016

John Amor '64

Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Marabee Rush Boone '60

Cheri Rood Diehl '86

Joanie Hyler '68

PGHSAA Committee Chairs

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Bylaws: Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Disbursements: Cheri Rood Diehl '86

Events: Bebo Logan Parker '63 and Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

Historian: Sydney Berg Tabler '64

Knockout II Editor: Beth Penney '73

Mail: Erin Langton Field '71 and Joanie Hyler '68

Membership: Wynette Walker Cowen '41 & Joanie Hyler '68

Nominations: Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Parliamentarian: Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Publicity: Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56 & Beth Penney '73

Reservations: Bebo Parker Logan '63 &

Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

Scholarships: Lillian Griffiths '70

Senior Class Liaison: Lillian Griffiths '70

Sunshine: Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56

Website: Wynette Walker Cowen '41

Important 2015 Dates

PGHSAA Board meetings in 2015 will be held Thursday, Jan. 8; Thursday, Mar. 12; Thursday, April 9; Thursday, May 7; Thursday, July 9; Saturday, September 12; and Thursday, October 8. All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. at the Pacific Grove Community Center. Regular board meetings are limited to board members only; the Annual Meeting on September 12 is open to all PGHSAA members.

Thanks to Our Recent Donors "In Memory Of" Contributions

1943 Jacqueline <i>deLorimier</i> Pickett	San Jose
IMO: Miriam Dorah <i>Harriman</i> Reynolds '43	
1955 Noreen <i>Beron</i> Woodfin	Salinas
IMO: Diana Doris <i>Hotovitzky</i> Dymitrow '55	
1958 Walt Wardle	Madera
1958 Bernice <i>Johnson</i> Wardle	Madera
IMO: William "Bill" Franz Wardle '66	
1961 Delinda <i>Campbell</i> Holland	Royal Oaks
IMO: Richard Randall Campbell '52	
IMO: Douglas Bennett Campbell '55	

PGHSAA Scholarship Fund

1949 Lillian <i>Freitas</i> Enos	Soquel
IMO: Donald Maurice Enos '47	
IMO: Kathleen "Kathi" <i>Lewis</i> DeMaria '49	
IMO: Sharon Cecile <i>Harris</i> Larkin '50	

Alumni IMO Scholarship Fund

Cynthia Alma *Peña* '75 Scholarship Fund

1955 Noreen <i>Beron</i> Woodfin	Salinas
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All contribution amounts are held in complete confidence and are not shared with our membership. In Memory Of (IMO) amounts are also not shared with the deceased member's family. The Board finds it remarkable and gratifying to receive this continuing financial support from so many members. Although we may recognize only a single name here, we know an entire family is often represented in the contribution. On behalf of PGHSAA, PG High, and PG High students, we warmly say,

"Thank you, generous contributors!"

Letters to the Editor

Dear Alums:

Enclosed is a check from my volunteering at Roaring Camps. Each year as long as I am able, I have done volunteering for the celebration of Thomas The Train. I am sharing my earnings with my PEO chapter, which also provides scholarship funds for our local students. Please credit these

funds in memory of Don Enos '47, Kathi *Lewis* DeMaria '49, and Sharon *Harris* Larkin '50.

*Thank you,
Lillian Freitas Enos '49*

To the PGHSAA,

Thank you so much for granting me such a generous scholarship! It was an absolute honor, and helps my financial situation regarding college a lot. I could not be more honored.

*Thanks once again,
Reeve Grobecker '14*

Dear PGHSAA,

Thank you for your time to go through my application and select me as a scholarship recipient. I'm very excited and can't wait to start school.

*Sincerely,
Kendra Bell*

Hello,

I'm Suzanne Alvin, Class of '65. I need a list of our graduating class and their emails if possible. We are trying to get begin planning our 50th next year and we need to get started. I have some of my classmates on Facebook and I have an incomplete list from the person who planned the 30th reunion, without emails of course. Please advise, and thank you for all your good work on the newsletter.

*Suzanne Alvin
suzalvin@comcast.net*

Hi, Sherry and Beth,

In the last issue, you asked if there is anyone who remembers Sydney *Marks* Miller '39? WOW! You'll probably get ever so many letters from people, because anyone who attended good old PGHS when "Syd" did knew and loved her so much! She was "one of a kind" with "smiley eyes" and a ready smile and welcome for all always! Just to see her made you happy! She was everybody's true friend! She was such a huge part of just about everything that was going on up there during the late '30s and in her earlier

Continued...

school years. I, for one of many, sure wanted to be just like her! WHAT A LADY! She lived on the Asilomar grounds, where her Dad was a caretaker for years. She married PGHS grad Leroy Miller '31, who was a Pacific Grove policeman and volunteer fireman for quite a while, and had two children, John Miller '71, who was Pacific Grove Recreation Director for over 35 years (until our city "cut back" a few years ago) and Patti Miller O'Donnell '73. Her grandchildren, Erin Miller '89, Cameron Miller '95, and Kaylan Miller '99 are also PGHS alumni. Her brother is Don Marks '41. I just wanted you to know what a special, special lady she was and real true friend she was to me. I'm sure "Syd" was chosen by her peers as the "Most Friendly" and the "Best All Around" in the 1938-1939 Popularity Contest PGHS used to have each year. She was so well-liked by everybody.

Wynette Walker Cowen '41

Dear Beth,

I went to the PGHS *Sea Urchin* file yesterday and discovered a noticeable absence. There is not a single copy of the 1964 *Sea Urchin* there. In the next *Knockout* would you please, perhaps in your President's Message, indicate a desperate need for an original copy.

*Fondly,
Jayne Dix Gasperson '49*

Editor's Note: The high school keeps a file of yearbooks under lock and key, but they do allow alumni to use them for certain circumstances. It's possible that someone working on the 1964 reunion this year borrowed the '64 copy and forgot to return it; if this is the case, we hope the borrower will be in touch with the school soon. These books are impossible to replace. Thanks to Jayne for noticing the absence.

Hi Joanie & Beth,

Ted and I enjoyed the picture on the back page of the Sept. *Knockout II*, sent in by Ann Bruscas-Knox. Whoever did identify the people they recognized had a "mistype." The boy on the lower left (striped T-shirt) was Ted Roberts, not Hicks. Ted thought that the boy on the right side might have been Eddie Hicks. (My, what 50+

years do to us all.) We thought that Ted, Eddie, Shirley Shinaut, and Angelo Bruscas were probably in the 7th or 8th grade in the picture taken at the PG Rec Center. Anyway, thanks to Ann for sending the Rec Center photo to the *Knockout II*. (I made a copy of the Alumni reunion info to send in with our reservation because I didn't want to tear off the back page with the Rec Center picture!). Thanks again to both of you ladies for keeping the alumni informed on activities, etc. We are looking forward to the 2014 reunion; we haven't made it down there since Ted's 50th in 2002.

Ted '52 & Jan Wilmot Roberts '56

To the Membership Committee,

Being of an advanced age, I'm taking this one year at a time. Am enclosing my check for one year's dues and the remainder for the memory of Marian (Jill) Reynolds '43. Enjoy reading the *Knockout II* so much.

Jackie deLorimier Pickitt '43

Hey Beth,

Wayne Thomas with a question. I just received my renewal notice this week for the Alumni Association. The PGHSAA has a website, so why don't they set it up where you can make your payments through the website? This would certainly save them tons on using snail mail, make it simple and easy for us Internet folks and I'm betting would generate more funds because of the simplicity in doing so through a couple keystrokes than addressing an envelope. Certainly wouldn't be difficult to recruit a webpage manager from either Alumni members, staff, or present students looking to contribute their time and expertise to furthering the PGHSAA. I would even suggest electronically producing the *Knockout II* that could be downloaded at home, as well as being able to copy certain artifacts from the paper for our own personal electronic files. I applaud the job the Alumni staff has been doing over the years producing and publishing a wonderful product, but don't you think it's time to get with the times

of technology and look to the future, but continue to retain the strength and excellence the *Knockout II* provides. What can I do to help make the transition?

Wayne Thomas '73

Editor's Note: We're working on it! The Board has hired a webmaster and the site is under construction. And digital copies of the Knockout II are definitely available, and encouraged! E-mail Joanie Hyler, joanie@pghsaa, to add your name to the digital subscriber list.

Hi Joanie!

This note of name change is being sent to you as I have lost track of just who should get something like this. Wow! I sure am way behind times. No computer, no cell phone. Up with present times? Afraid not. So, please give the enclosed name change to whomever handles things like that. Sure do miss Pacific Grove, especially during those hot, hot days here in Sacramento. Any time when it is over 85 degrees I really complain about hot weather. Moan, groan. Well—hope all is well for you and your family. Hello to all Officers and Board of Directors!

Marion Butera Mattison '45

Hi Alumni.

Howdy from Montana. We have a few days like this (Sept. 1) and enjoy them as it may snow tomorrow. But we don't have many real bad days until winter. Like many of my classmates of the class of '53 I'll be 80, Oct. 1. I'm sending this little football as I think you asked for artifacts or something or other. Since I am considered a Dinosaur it may be worth displaying it. Peggy Hamilton wore it a couple of years. We married and had a daughter, Christy, who will be 60 in January. Enough of my rambling. Take care.

Doyle Honea '53

P.S. I just bought a fixer-upper house so I've been busy. I enjoy the work and have done several fixers since I retired.

Editor's Note: We have the little nickel-silver football and its chain and will find a place for its display. Thanks much to Doyle!

Obituaries

JULY

Jacky Thompson Menezes '49, Sacramento

AUGUST

Liz Esterly '60, San Jose

SEPTEMBER

Al Harner '43, Salinas

Philip Pedro '56, Paradise

John "Bo" Resch, Faculty, San Diego

David Whittenberg '62, Richmond, TX

Bill Wardle '66, Moss Landing

OCTOBER

Lou Kier Godfrey '68, Pacific Grove

Jack Windsor, Faculty, Chico

Betty Lou Platt Shifley '48, Port Orchard, WA

Denasi Lee Ross '81, Prunedale

NOVEMBER

John "Jack" Lingenfelter '45, Seaside

JULY

Jacquelyn Thompson Menezes, 83, died from a stroke July 15, 2014, while staying with her son in Sacramento. She was born in Pacific Grove Jan. 5, 1931, the youngest of six children of Lila May and Frank Thompson. Her mother Lila May, or "LM," was the society editor for the *Pacific Grove Tribune*, later becoming editor/publisher of the *Castroville Times*. Jacky



graduated from PGHS in 1949, where she was a cheerleader with Phyllis Fisher and Jacky Miller and a member of the "Lucky 13 Club." After school, she worked in sales for the Purity Bakery with her sister, Lila. Jacky entered MPC planning to become a home designer. She changed directions when she decided to marry her high school sweetheart and raise a family. They enjoyed traveling, and she became very proficient

with all types of sewing, dressmaking, knitting, painting and crafts, and gardening. A disastrous fire destroyed their home in Manteca, so they decided to take the cat they loved and build a new house in Placerville. Jacky efficiently drew up all the building plans and inside decorating plans, with windows facing the beautiful pine trees in Pollack Pines. She was a 14-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include two sons, William of Sacramento, and David of Illinois; four grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren; and four sisters, Erline Thompson Brownfield, Elinor Thompson Brown, Lila *Thompson Stout* '46 and Deede *Thompson Landers* '48. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey Menezes '49, and her brother, Mervin Thompson '35. She was interned in Green Valley Cemetery in Rescue, California.

AUGUST



Elizabeth Esterly, 72, died unexpectedly in San Jose on Aug. 26, 2014. Born April 28, 1942 in Oregon, she attended PGHS as a sophomore in 1958 with the class of 1960. After graduating from San Jose State University, Liz was an

occupational therapist, later changing professions to mask design for Maxim. She was on the board of directors of the San Jose Symphonic Chorus as well as being its membership chair. In 2002 she married her long-time companion, Dorothy Anna Sunday, who survives her.

SEPTEMBER

Albert E. Harner, 89, died in Salinas on Sept. 6, 2014. A native of Pacific Grove, Al would have graduated from PGHS in 1943 but joined the Navy instead. During World War II, he served as pharmacist mate on the light cruiser USS Santa Fe during the Aleutian Campaign and the bombardment of Makin and Tarawa Islands. He also served with the Marine Corp in the Pacific and South Pacific. After graduating from Hartnell College and UC Davis, Al worked on the Tejon Ranch in Bakersfield, as cattle foreman on the Jim Bardin Ranch in Salinas, as a counselor at the

Natividad Boys Ranch, and as county executive director for the USDA Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service for Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Mateo Counties. He retired in 1985. He was well known for his leather and rawhide braiding and handmade sterling silver bracelets. Al was a member of the American Legion Post 31 and the Rawhide Braiders Association. He was happiest outdoors with dogs, horses, and cattle, or when he was gardening or braiding. Survivors include his wife Daisy; two children, Connie Jean and Bob; brother David; sisters Elizabeth "Bonnie" '55 and Linda; and one grandson. He was preceded in death by four brothers, Jack '43, Bob, Perry and Robin '57, and one sister, Dolores.



Philip Monroe Pedro Jr., 76, died in Paradise on Sept. 6, 2014. Born May 17, 1938, in Santa Clara County, Phil graduated from PGHS in 1956. Phil owned his own television repair business in



Orland for many years, and later he got into satellite installation and repair. He enjoyed flying (he had his private pilot's license), sporty cars, motorcycles, hunting and fishing, guns and reloading, coin collecting, photography, and travel in his motor

home. He was very good at home repairs and improvements, construction and electrical, and enjoyed tinkering with cars and motorcycles. He was also a Boy Scout leader. Survivors include two ex-wives, Nancy *Warner Pedro* '61 and Francine Hecker; four children; and a grandchild. His sister, Anna *Pedro Simpson* '61 died in 2011.

John H. "Bo" Resch, 75, coach and teacher at PGHS from 1969 to 1984, died in San Diego on Sept. 13, 2014. Born in Seattle, WA, on Sept. 25, 1938, Bo attended the University of Washington and San Jose State, and earned his master's and credential from Stanford University. Bo's



teaching, administrative and coaching career spanned more than 40 years on the Monterey Peninsula. Survivors include his wife Linda, children Monte '84 and Veronica '86; and six grandchildren.

David Ray Whittenberg, 70, of Richmond, TX, passed away on Sept. 19, 2014. He was born in Fort Smith, AR, on Aug. 17, 1944, to Ray and Ruth (Ingram) Whittenberg. After graduating



from PGHS in 1962, David honorably served in the U.S. Air Force, retiring after 20 years of service. He was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. He was a seven-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include his wife Sandra; daughters, Kim

Montanez, Vicky Garcia, and Karen Whittenberg; his twin brother Donald Whittenberg '63; and three grandchildren.

William Franz Wardle, 66, died at his home in Moss Landing on Sept. 30, 2014. Born March 24, 1948, in Munich, Germany, his father retired out of the U.S. Army at Fort Ord and the family settled in Pacific Grove, where Bill graduated from PGHS in 1966. He served in the U.S. Coast Guard for over 21 years, including a tour in



Vietnam. After retirement, Bill worked for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute for 15 years, serving as everything from deck hand to captain. In 1991 he moved to Moss Landing, and he retired from MBARI in 1991. Bill had

his own business as Captain Bill's Handyman Service, primarily working with the elderly to help them to live independently by making their environment safer. His passions were rescuing Dobermans; rebuilding cars, motorcycles and boats; making art of all kinds; and always creatively repairing what needed mending. He was a seven-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors

include his wife, Patricia *Oberst* Wardle '66; his first wife, Kathleen, the mother of his two daughters, Onyon and Georgina; two brothers, Clarence Wardle '53 and Walter Wardle '58; and four grandchildren. His daughter Dawn died in 2006.

OCTOBER

Mary Louise "Lou" Kier Godfrey, 63, died of



cancer at her Pacific Grove home on Oct. 4, 2014. Born Jan. 23, 1951 in Walnut Creek, her grandfather was Marshall Dean, a local builder in the '20s, and whose work included the Robert Down School. Lou graduated from PGHS in 1958 and UC Santa Cruz in 1972. She

worked as a nurse from 1974 to 2013, including 24 years at Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula. She was married to Patrick Godfrey '66 for 28 years. Lou loved gardening, travel, reading, theater, and movies. She was a 20-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include her son Brendan Godfrey '96; one granddaughter; brothers Sam Kier and Bill Kier; and sister Kitty *Kier* '66. Her brother Andy Kier '59 died in 2006. Donations may be made to the Kier Memorial Scholarship Fund for PG High graduates at cfmco.com.

Jack L. Windsor died at the age of 98 on October 18, 41 days after the passing of his wife



Margie, in Chico. Born July 18, 1916, and raised in Southern California, Jack began his teaching career at Fremont High School, then taught art, mechanical drawing, and was the *Sea Urchin* advisor at PGHS from 1943 to 1945. He spent

the rest of his life in Chico, where he was a professor of art at CSU Chico for 39 years. He is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.





Betty Lou Platt Shifley, 84, died Oct. 19, 2014, in Port Orchard, WA. Before slipping away, Betty Lou was able to spend time praying, singing hymns, and laughing with her family. Born and raised in Angelica, NY, Betty's family moved to Pacific Grove in 1946, where she attended PGHS with the class of 1948. In 1947 she returned to Angelica to graduate from high school there. Betty married Clyde Shifley '46 in Pacific Grove in 1949. They lived in Paso Robles, Atascadero, Salinas, Yuma, Santa Maria, and the San Jose area (1962-1990), retired in Houghton, NY, and Angelica, NY (August 1990-July 2014), and most recently lived in Port Orchard, WA. She was a 42-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include her husband Clyde; four children, Alan, Linda '72, Jim, and Ruth; her sister Gertrude; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.



Denasi Lee Ross, 51, died in Prunedale on Oct. 24, 2014. A native of Monterey, Denasi was born Sept. 4, 1963, and graduated from PGHS in 1981. She served on the Feast of Lanterns Royal Court in 1978 as Princess Emerald. She had a career in cosmetology. Survivors include her aunt and uncle, Beverly M. and Ernest J. Schiavoni; and cousins Carrie '82, Kristie '87, and James '85.

NOVEMBER



John Dee Lingenfelter Sr., 88, died Nov. 3, 2014, in Seaside. Born June 18, 1926 near Red Bluff, John moved to Pacific Grove with his family in 1926, where he attended Robert H. Down and PGHS with the class of 1942. John left school to join the Navy and served on the USS Prairie. After the war, John worked for Safeway stores, and for Bigelow Mortuary as an ambulance driver. John "Possum" then joined the Monterey Police Department, and remained in

law enforcement for over 20 years. He later became a printer, being part owner of a print shop in Milwaukie, OR. He then went on to become manager of several motels in Berkeley and here on the Monterey Peninsula. He received his graduation diploma from PGHS in 2006. John was preceded in death by his wife of 43 years, Colleen. He was a 28-year member of PGHSAA. He is survived by his sons, Gary and Jack of Monterey; his daughters, Gael and Susan; five step-children; ten grandchildren; and many great grandchildren.

And Pacific Grove marks the end of an era with the death of **Hector DeSmet**, not a PGHS alumnus but a local institution many alumni will remember well. Hector passed away November 1 in Pollock Pines at the age of 84. His DeSmet's Purity Bakery provided our birthday cakes and allowed our parents to grab a quart of milk after the grocery stores were closed (this was in the days before drug stores and gas stations got into the 24-hour quick-stop business). Thanks to Hector, Pacific Grove children grew up with not just the ice cream truck but the "bakery truck," which would drive through neighborhoods selling day-old doughnuts. He was the de facto chef for the Feast of Lanterns chicken barbecues and the person you called if you needed a clown for a party. A part of all of us went with him. He will be missed.

"In Memory Of"
donations
are a wonderful way to
commemorate the lives of friends,
relatives, and faculty members, and
to help us help students at Pacific
Grove High School. "In Memory Of"
donations are acknowledged in every
*issue of **The Knockout II**. Send*
your donation to the address on P. 2.
Heartfelt thanks to those who have
made these generous donations over
the years.

Discovering Southern Africa

By Edie Adams McDonald '56
and Xavier Maruyama

After you retire and join the SKI Club (that's the Spend your Kids' Inheritance Club), you can do the things on your "bucket list." We're doing that and discovering places and things first-hand. This year we went to southern Africa (Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and South Africa) on a trip labeled, "Ultimate Africa" by Overseas Adventure Travel.

Edie wanted to see elephants, lions, leopards, giraffes, cape buffalo, and rhinoceros, and Xavier wanted to come back as a trillionaire and protect himself from malaria by taking healthy doses of quinine. We did all that.

Our first stop was in Botswana. There we saw



Edie and Xavier atop "Tusker", a very large African elephant. At this nature preserve, orphaned elephants are raised by a single handler so that they can be more controlled than in the wild.

more elephants than we could count. Giraffes were everywhere, but the most common animal was the impala, an antelope. The alpha male has a harem of hundreds of females, but the other males have to travel as a herd, without any females. At one camp, the director promised us our money back if we didn't see an impala, a safe bet, as the saying halfway through the safari trip was YABI, "Yet another bloody impala."

We had to rough it in the wilderness, camping

and living in safari tents. We won't admit to you that our tent was like a four-star hotel room, with bathroom, shower and hot water, and electricity created by solar energy. We didn't exactly starve, either. Each morning around 5:30 am, we had to get up and have a pre-breakfast of hot porridge and tea before climbing into the open Toyota Land Cruisers and Land Rovers. The animals are most active around sunrise. We'd drive around for a couple of hours and then stop for a morning snack. We'd climb back in, and then after a couple of more hours, we'd return for a proper breakfast of bacon and eggs. We had siesta time, after which we were summoned for lunch. We usually had a presentation about the locality and customs until high tea. (Their culture is quite British, you know.)

We then went back out and did more exploring. Sometimes, it was another jeep safari, and at other times it was a cruise on the rivers, the Chobe, the Okavango Delta, the Zambezi. We'd stop after a couple of hours for another snack. At one stop, we partook of the *mopani* worm, quite protein-nutritious, but not exactly an American's idea of an everyday snack. We did, however, get to enjoy *biltong*, a jerky made from beef, kudu, ostrich, and other large animals. We also enjoyed *boerewors* sausage. *Boerewors* comes from the Afrikaan words *boer* (farmers) and *wors* (sausage). It is deliciously grilled over an open flame. Sunsets are spectacular, as most of the area we visited is like a desert, and there are controlled burns to allow new plants to sprout.

The camp staff was awaiting us each evening after dark with a nice, moist towel to clean the dust off of our faces. Dinner was around seven each evening, and the chefs in the camps beat any we encountered in the fancy city hotels. The bar was open, and we could partake of the anti-malaria drug—gin and tonic. Tonic water contains quinine, so the drink was medicinal. We sat around after dinner and traded stories around a campfire. (Locally, that's called "bush TV," which has only one channel.) We weren't allowed to go back to our tents without an escort, usually armed with a 0.375 caliber rifle. That's what some of us would call an elephant gun. Lions and hyenas could be heard, and travel insurance does not

cover becoming a nighttime snack.

We thought we were going to Africa, so we wouldn't have to worry about being cold—Wrong! July is their winter, and when the sun goes down, the temperature plummets to almost freezing. (You'll understand what we're talking about if you've ever lived in California's Central Valley.) The tents don't have central heating. The greatest innovation Edie implemented was taking our showers at siesta time, when the temperatures are near eighty degrees Fahrenheit. Xavier discovered that the best thing to have in bed with him was the hot water bottle placed by the camp staff each evening. Now we know the meaning of the Scottish poem where the lady is asked if she'd like a hot "pig" in her bed on the cold winter night. (Pig is Scots for water bottle.)

We stayed in four camps and had to fly out to two of them in a six-passenger Cessna 206 (only five fit with baggage). Edie couldn't have felt more at home as she sat in the right-hand seat. The Santawana International Airport is a dusty strip of land without any lights; the airstrip borders are marked by leftover pieces of corrugated aluminum roofing and white spray paint. Its length was much less than that of an aircraft carrier deck. The airport had rest rooms for men and women—the left and right acacia trees. You had to bring your own hand sanitizer and TP.

Zimbabwe is an interesting country in transition. Inflation was so bad in 2008 that the doubling time for prices was 24.7 hours. The government printed money like mad, and the highest denomination was the 100-trillion-Zimbabwean-dollar note. We managed to find a 20-trillion-dollar note. Finally, in 2009, they threw up their hands, and the official currency is now the US dollar. Prices have stabilized, and Zimbabwe impressed us a nation on the upswing.

There we saw Victoria Falls. We'd been to Niagara Falls, so we thought we had seen falls. We were mistaken. Victoria Falls is much more impressive. It was re-discovered by the noted Scot, Dr. Livingston, "I presume." The Germans in



Xavier and Edie getting soaked by Victoria Falls. Note the rainbow and the mist. The indigenous name for Victoria Falls is Mosi-oa-Tunya, The Smoke That Thunders. Xavier did a zip-line ride across the gorge from Zambia to Zimbabwe. A passport was required for his trip, but not life insurance.

the late nineteenth century wanted to find a path to the Indian Ocean from what is now Namibia. There is a narrow corridor of land called the Caprivi Strip, which stretches between Botswana, Angola and Zambia. They traded Zanzibar Island in the Indian Ocean with the British for this strip. On their search for

the path to the Indian Ocean, the Germans hadn't counted on Victoria Falls standing in the way. Politicians should study their geography before drawing international borders.

We extended our trip to visit Cape Town, South Africa. Trying to understand South Africa is akin to having an elephant described by five blind men. Our local guide was a white of English heritage; other whites were strongly influenced by their Afrikaan origins. We made friends with our hotel bartender, who was of East Indian-white American origins. We were hosted for dinner by a middle-class "colored" family. We encountered a few blacks. Our tour director was Zimbabwean. Each had a different perspective of South Africa, depending on his or her personal experiences. However, all felt that Nelson Mandela's greatest contribution to his country was that he kept the nation from descending into a racial civil war. (We now appreciate more the part that F.W. de Klerk played in ending apartheid in South Africa.)

We saw the very modern and bustling city of Cape Town, but we also went out into the bush

to a much smaller village. We were surprised to see very happy, wonderful people living as their ancestors did a thousand years ago, except with metal pots and raised beds. English is taught in



At a camp, an elephant died of natural causes and a pride of lions feasted on it for almost two weeks. As we were leaving the camp, the lions had had their fill and now would leave the spoiling elephant for the hyenas, jackals, and buzzards. We learned that without man's interference, nature recycles and does not waste anything.

all the schools, but a good percent of the elder people spoke only their native tongues. (English is required because there are so many native languages that a common language is needed.) Edie was amazed at how clean the people and their homes were, even with red dust all around. The women cooked on the floor in a separate hut for their kitchen. As we were told, we are born in the kitchen, live in the kitchen, and die in the kitchen. The women "clean and polish" the floors with hunks of coal, and it does not come off onto you or onto your clothes.

We went to visit an elementary school in Zimbabwe and brought school supplies. One of our group also brought a suitcase full of good shoes outgrown by her grandchildren. For about a dozen of the children, the used shoes from America were the first they had ever owned. Many of the children may only go to school up until the seventh grade, but in general Zimbabweans are more educated than most blacks in South Africa. Our visit to southern Africa opened our eyes to appreciate how much the nations are trying to improve their lot. The

school's motto is, "Knowledge is Power," the same as that of Xavier's high school, "Scientia est Potentia." Seeing the children and the teachers, we left that part of the continent with hope.

A sad observation was to see rhinoceros with their horns surgically removed to protect them from poachers. Poaching elephants for their tusks and rhinos for their horns is akin to the drug trade. Individually, the poachers may not make much money, from our viewpoint, but for them, a few thousand dollars is much more than they can make in their economy. The poaching kingpins make huge profits.

Another observation is that without the termite mounds and elephant dung, Southern Africa appears to be like Australia. The huge baobab trees in Africa look like those of Australia. Baobabs look like trees that are upside down with their roots sticking into the air.

Our sojourn into southern Africa finally ended. We met some wonderful people and saw some amazing wildlife. It is a paradise for birders. We did not fear "Pharaohs' Revenge," as in Egypt, nor "Montezuma's Revenge," as in Mexico, so we ate the delicious fresh vegetables that were offered to us in the camps. (Our assumption is that the healthier water arises from Africa's smaller human population density.)

Our trip made us appreciate what we in the United States really enjoy. We have a fantastic standard of living and a wonderful lifestyle. No matter what we think of our government and our economy, we have it so much better than other parts of the world.

Reporters Wanted!
Share your memories with
your classmates and
schoolmates. Submit your
photos and stories to the
Knockout II editor,
Beth Penney '73, at
bpenney@sonic.net.

Reunion Recap: PGHS Class of 1974

Editor's note: The Class of '74 celebrated its 40th reunion September 26 and 27. Classmate Richard Sell gives us an overview.

WOW—what a weekend it was! The smiles, the laughs, and the genuine friendship from all that attended. I can't thank the planning committee enough for all the time, effort, and trouble they go through to make this all happen. A special thank you to **Rick Rodewald** and his wonderful wife Joanie, as she is a goddess for opening their home to many of us on Friday night, and I am praying nothing was broken.

From the opening kickoff at the PGHS football field, to the lights coming on and the chairs getting put on tables at First Awakenings Saturday night, basically saying, "Time to go home, you old folks," it was a rocking good time.

Even though many members of the Class of '74 still live on the Peninsula, many others do not. For some, like me, we don't get to enjoy the beauty and joy of Pacific Grove but on a few rare occasions. From the time I drove in on Highway 1 from San Francisco and could see Monterey Bay and smell the ocean, I knew I was HOME.

When I arrived at the football game and was looking for the PGHS Class of '74 sign, I recognized the smiling face of **Sylvia Hernandez Newton**. "Oh good, I'm in the right place—thank GOD." From there, it was hug after hug with classmates from long ago. Not having been on the Peninsula since 1999, I was a bit nervous and almost scared, but just that first smile made me feel like it was OK.

Since the game was so bad (PG got whupped—where are you, **Marc Blackwell**, when we need you?), most went back to Rick's for some liquid relief. Thankfully, **Tom Shymanski** brought the Olympia beer. What would we do without that fine beverage? Around 10 pm, the "smart" ones started to leave, as they wanted to make sure all batteries were charged up for Saturday night. I'm told in 2009 a few could not answer the call after the blowout at **Sandi Dix Eason's** (!) Where are *those* pictures, I wonder?

At about 1:15 am, I hit the proverbial wall. I'm told the final beverage was consumed around 2:30 am. Note to planning committee: Party was slated to end at 11:30, so might want to change that for 2019. Not bad for almost 60, I'd say.

Saturday started out with sunshine and, I'm sure, coffee for all. Part of my reason to visit Pacific Grove was that my mom died last April (Easter Sunday), and she requested to have her ashes spread in Monterey Bay. My goodness, she loved the Peninsula! Rick was kind enough to skipper his boat for me, and Tom and **Dennis Sones** joined us on a trip around Lovers Point. A HUGE thank-you to these men. Sorry about the tears, guys.

Many of us have reached that age where loved ones are lost too young or at the wrong time. I can tell you my mom loved life and lived life till the last days. When we're almost 95, we should be as lucky as she was to have our minds, smell, taste, hearing, and eyesight. I say this to wish everyone this great opportunity and tell you to give each day your fullest. Tell those you love that you love them, and reach out to friends (your PGHS classmates included) to say "Hi"!

As everyone prepared for the big party at First Awakenings, I thought about 40 years since being a senior in high school. Will I fit in? Who can I talk with? Will anyone dance with me? Am I dressed OK? Well, it was one of the BEST NIGHTS OF MY LIFE! With close to 60 alums and another 20 or so guests, everyone was enjoying the company. A select few are retired or semi-retired and now must find a reason to get up in the morning. I was excited to learn about many of our classmates who volunteer their time and help those who may not be as fortunate.

Thank you to the key organizers: **Teri Kier Kuhle, Cheri Fischer Schmidt, Rick Rodewald, Doree Hyland, Sandi Dix Eason**, and **Sylvia Hernandez Newton**, who gave so much heart and soul to the reunion. Congratulations to the award recipients for longest distance traveled, most foreign countries visited, most Harleys owned, newest marriage, earliest retirement date, most mini vans owned, and most tattoos and piercings.

We recognized the first-time attendees: **Jo Ann Getz Myers, Cynthia Hess, and Cathy Walmsley.** We also welcomed back the first-time attendees at the 35th: **John Brady, Ginny Hammond Carroll, Dan Hodson, and Kerry Peterson.** People came from South Carolina, Ohio, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Arizona, Colorado, and Hawaii, and several (I think four) came from Washington State. I'm told that a few members of the class of '77 were also in attendance and were taking notes, obviously desperate about how to have a quality reunion experience.

After the drinks got flowing and "fireballs" were being served, I learned about the shy, quiet girl who, in high school, was sneaking out the bedroom window at 1 am to party til dawn. And **Butch Jackson** said he remembered breaking my leg in 6th grade—gee, thanks, Butch! I told him I wished he had not left the Freshman BBall team. Nothing like that 0-14 record and the cheerleaders shouting, "That's our freshmen, couldn't be prouder, can't hear us now? We'll yell a little louder!" Gee, thanks.

I looked at the "classmates lost" table and

thought about how **Jon Bedow** left us in 1975, and five others (**Ylen Cress, Joe Buffo, Gaila Shaffer, Jana Lancaster Castaldo, and Tom Tolen**) are gone since the last reunion. We should be glad to have such a dynamic, caring group of classmates. It's an honor to be part of the PGHS Class of 1974, and those who are gone are not forgotten.

At around 11:20 pm the lights came on, and the DJ stopped playing. Cleanup began, and before you knew it the hugs and goodbyes were in full swing. I even saw a few tears from folks but mostly pure joy in knowing that EVERYONE belongs. Was sad to leave.

Sunday morning brought one last trip to the beach to say goodbye. As I was driving to the San Francisco airport, I got a call from a classmate who was not able to attend. We talked and laughed (thanks, Mary) for 45 minutes. I apologized for taking her sister out on the "worst date ever" for us both, but I guess she's over that, and has triplets! I got another call (thanks, Tom) while I was in the airport to say how much fun the weekend was, and an e-mail (thanks, Laurie) saying, "Don't wait 15 years to come back!" I left

Pacific Grove at 10:30 am Sunday and walked into my home at 1 am Monday. I don't think my feet ever hit the ground! Too many smiles, too much joy, and a whole lot of fun enjoyed with a great group of people.

*Much love,
'til 2019,
or come to
Wisconsin,
just not in the
winter!*
—Richard Sell



News of our Active Alumni



Erik Johnson '63 was recently named "Man of the Year" by the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce. According to the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, Erik "founded Erik's Deli Cafe in 1973 by acquiring a small bakery in Scotts Valley for \$429 and

building a chain with 33 locations from Redwood City to Salinas. His creative TV ads featuring 'Erik's Spokespickle' and rapping shrimp are award-winning. Johnson has served on the Dominican Hospital board of directors and participated in United Way's Smart Solutions to Homelessness and Second Harvest Food Bank. He and his wife Judy support many local institutions from Cabrillo College to the SPCA." Thanks to Don Ravanelli '63 for this news!

Adam Miller '78 lives in Oregon and collects American songs and the stories behind them, according to the October 31 *Cedar Street Times*, which ran a story on Adam's career. He has recorded six CDs of Americana and travels 70,000 miles per year, doing about 200 performances across the United States. Adam has performed his program "Singing Through History" to more than a million American children, from kindergarteners to high school seniors.



The new communications and marketing coordinator for the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History is **Patrick Whitehurst '90**. He has been living in Sedona, AZ, and when his wife got a job in this area, he started looking for work and found the museum job. He plans to use

social media to reach both adults and young people about the museum's programs. Visit the museum's web site at www.pgmuseum.org.

Also in the headlines recently in the *Cedar Street Times* was **Michael Jones '92**, who has submitted a grant proposal to Farmers Insurance for its "Dream Big" Challenge, which awards \$100,000 to school project proposals. Michael, who now teaches in King City, wrote his proposal to provide after-school classes that focus on digital art. His proposal would also provide funding for after-school and summer-session classes. Voting on the proposals will be completed November 30. Michael has a website at artsgrant.weebly.com that outlines his plan; you can see the outcome of the voting there.

Pacific Grove High School now has an online newspaper, the **NewsBreaker**. Visit www.pgnewsbreaker.com to take a look. Quite a change from the school newspapers most of us remember, including the original *Knockout!*

And last but not least, **Pacific Grove has the shoe this year**, after a 35-28 win over Carmel, which has had the shoe for six years. The November 15 game, at Carmel, was the 67th annual shoe game. At the time of this writing (late November), Pacific Grove is on its way to a possible MTAL championship after winning against San Lorenzo 37-13 on November 22. Pacific Grove (10-1) will play Monte Vista Christian (9-2) next. Senior running back **Jason Leach** is the star of this year's varsity team, led by coach Chris Morgan. **Go Breakers!**

Pacific Grove High School has produced some stellar graduates. Do you know of one who deserves special recognition? Nominate him or her for the **PG High School Hall of Fame**. Each year, four graduates are named to the Hall of Fame and honored at the Homecoming Game in Pacific Grove. Names and years of graduation are added to permanent banners in the Student Union (formerly the multi-purpose room) and the gym. Each year, one posthumous award is given, as well as an award to a faculty member.

A nomination form appears on the next page. Send the form to Pacific Grove High School. We'll run the form as space allows in each issue.

Pacific Grove High School Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Please submit this form to P.G. High at the address below, NOT to PGHSAA!

The Pacific Grove High School Hall of Fame is a program designed to recognize outstanding graduates and staff. We invite you to identify and nominate worthy individuals who have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following ways:

- Graduated from PGHS or worked for PGHS
- Exemplary accomplishment
- Earned honors, awards, or local, regional, national and/or international recognition
- Professional impact and/or career achievement in the nominee's area of specialization
- Philanthropic involvement: Outstanding leadership, character and service to the community and meritorious contributions to society in general or to a specific segment of society

If you know of a qualified and deserving graduate or staff member, complete this form and return it to the PGHS Activities Director. The current PGHS Hall of Fame Advisory Committee will select at least four inductees per year to be honored during Homecoming Week in October. At least one Alumni member will be recognized posthumously per year along with chosen staff. Staff will be inducted as "honorary graduates" of Pacific Grove High School. Each class of inductees will have names placed on a banner in the gym or multi and will be recognized at the annual homecoming festivities.

Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Graduation Year _____

E-mail _____ @ _____

Present Occupation _____ Employed by _____

Nominated by _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Graduation Year _____

E-mail _____ @ _____

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet attached to this form:

1. What were the candidate's achievements while at PGHS: academics, student government, athletics, music, drama, art?
2. What were the candidate's achievements after graduation/tenure at PGHS?
3. List the candidate's exemplary accomplishments: honors, awards, or other recognition on local, regional, national and/or international levels.
4. List professional impact and/or career achievement in the nominee's area of specialization.
5. List the candidate's philanthropic involvement.
6. List any other reasons why the candidate should be nominated.

Return to **PGHS Hall of Fame Advisory Committee, c/o Activities Director**

615 Sunset Drive

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Phone (831) 646-6590 ex.289 Fax (831) 646-6660

kottmar@pgusd.org

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The Knockout II: The PGHSAA Newsletter

Who Is It?

See the letters to the editor for a letter from Jan *Wilmot* Roberts '56 about last month's "Who Is It?" picture. Anyone recognize the folks below? E-mail Beth at bpenny@sonic.net.

