

# The Knockout II

THE PACIFIC GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

" It's the  Glue  that keeps us together "

September 2011 • Page One

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

When I was in junior high and the first years of high school, some of my favorite books were those written by Lenora Mattingly Weber in the late '50s and early '60s featuring the Malone family, two high school sisters and a slightly older brother living in Denver. At the time, the books were hailed as addressing issues that were important to teenage girls. One of these pressing issues was the problem of being seen as what the books called a "mop squeezer" rather than a "queen." The "mop squeezers," as you can imagine, were the high school student workers—the girls in the service clubs, the volunteers. The "queens," of course, were



Beth Penney '73

the cheerleaders, the prom queens, the girls who rode in the convertibles around the track at the homecoming games.

Of course, Weber's young high school heroines were "mop squeezers" who aspired to be "queens." In one of the books, a wealthy step-grandmother comes to stay with the family, and being a "queen" is suddenly within reach. Scrimping and saving via after-school jobs becomes unnecessary when the grandmother makes a gift of an expensive prom dress. Household chores are taken over by a hired maid, leaving time to attend social functions. But at the end of the novel, the Malone sisters realize that not having to work for something somehow makes that something less valuable, and upon the grandmother's departure, they are happy to return to being "mop squeezers," while at the same time they realize that they are royalty in their own way, despite not being elected prom queen or class president.

Although the distinction between "mop squeezer" and "queen" had lessened somewhat by the anti-establishment early '70s, I definitely identified with the "mop squeezer" Malone girls. I remember scrubbing and wrapping potatoes for baking before the football games, contributing to the literary magazine and the school newspaper, and doing other chores, usually, if I remember correctly, to raise money for the American Field Service club or for trips with the choir or the group that went to Ashland each year for the Shakespeare Festival.

Today, issues facing teenage girls have changed dramatically; and, unfortunately, most of the changes are not for the better. But one positive change is that the dividing line between the "mop squeezers" and the "queens" seems to blur more as time passes. With the addition of community service as a requirement for high school graduation and the financial problems facing state universities, which have resulted in higher fees and lower numbers of admissions, student activities include being "mop squeezers" as well as "queens." Pacific Grove's recently presented Feast of Lanterns Royal Court members are good examples. None of the young women on the court this year is a senior, but their lists of activities are already impressive. This year's Queen Topaz, Lindsey Morgan (class of '13), plays varsity volleyball and softball as well as basketball, and she volunteers with Pacific Grove's Pony Baseball, at Gateway Center, and at the Youth Center. She coordinated a benefit for Nicaraguan orphans this year, and she is a student advisor with Lindsey's Teen Time. Allison Naylor (class of '14), Princess Amethyst, is a varsity cheerleader, is in the glee club, and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at PG High. She volunteers at the Mayflower church. Courtney Lyon, Princess Ruby (class of '14) plays junior varsity softball and is on the varsity cheerleading squad, as well as volunteering at her church and at Forest Grove Elementary School. These young PG High women (joined by York School sophomore Katy Obsiek serving as Princess Turquoise) served all summer working on the Feast of Lanterns Royal Court and at the Feast's various events. They are definitely both "mop squeezers" and "queens" in my mind. The Feast of Lanterns Board of Directors, which includes a number of PGHS graduates, also works hard throughout the year, and this year miraculously brought the event back from financial disaster and restored the pageant on the beach and the fireworks. If you live out of town, know that there are those here who are working to preserve your memories!

Another group of noble "mop squeezers" also works hard throughout the year to bring you this newsletter, make monetary awards to Pacific Grove High School and to deserving students, and to bring you a yearly reunion dinner and brunch.

# The KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

September 2011 • Page Two

## THE KNOCKOUT II

PGHSAA Newsletter

Published: Quarterly  
 March ..... Spring Issue  
 June ..... Summer Issue  
 September ..... Reunion Issue  
 December ..... Winter Issue

Roster: New Roster odd year  
 Roster Supplement even year  
 Published Summer

### OUR STAFF

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### This Issue

Copied and Mailed ..... 653  
 Emails ..... 234  
 File Copies ..... 25  
 Total Alumni Membership ... 972



Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.  
 A Non Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Founded June 2, 1899  
 Re Activated April 1, 1962  
 Incorporated Sep 27, 1995

PGHSAA  
 PO BOX 51396  
 PACIFIC GROVE, CA 93950-6396  
 <info@pshsaa.org>

Membership Dues  
 January 1<sup>st</sup> — December 31<sup>st</sup>  
 \$ 15 per year/Single or couple  
 Web Page: <http://www.pgusd.org/alumni>

Volume 23 Summer Issue

### OFFICERS and BOARD MEMBERS 2011

#### OFFICERS

Beth Penney '73 ..... President  
 Edie Adams MacDonald '56 .. Vice-President  
 Ruth Grooms Matthews '64 .. Recording Secty  
 Margaret Selbicky Stewart '54 Correspond. Secty  
 Joanie Hyler '68 ..... Treasurer

#### COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS

Rob Lee '94 ..... Auditor  
 Mike Dinkel '77 ..... By-Laws  
 Jennifer Kren Ross '64 ..... Disbursements  
 Terry Fink '69 ..... Events Chair  
 Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56 ..... Event Reservations  
 Sydney Berg Tabler '64 ..... Historian  
 Joanie Hyler '68 ..... Knockout II Editor  
 Jayne Dix Gasperson '49 ..... Mail Coordinator  
 Joanie Hyler '68 ..... Membership-Dues  
 Wynette Walker Cowen '41 ..... Membership-File  
 Sandy Selbicky '55 ..... Nomination  
 Richard Stillwell 50 ..... Parliamentarian  
 Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56 ..... Publicity  
 Lillian Griffiths '70 ..... Scholarships  
 Lillian Griffiths '70 ..... Senior Class Liaison  
 Wynette Walker Cowen '41 ..... Web Page

#### Board of Directors

Serving through December 2011

Joan Dean Wootton ..... '55  
 Sherry Welsh Gruwell ..... '56  
 Jerry Beach ..... '57  
 Terry Fink ..... '69  
 Lillian Griffiths ..... '70  
 Mike Dinkel ..... '77  
 Cate Goblirsch Lee ..... '94

Serving through December 2012

Bill Hyler ..... '39  
 Wynette Walker Cowen ..... '41  
 Richard Stillwell ..... '50  
 Sandy Selbicky ..... '55  
 Dolores Soares Silveira ..... '59  
 Sydney Berg Tabler ..... '64

Serving through December 2013

Jayne Dix Gasperson ..... '49  
 Henry Garcia ..... '57  
 Marabee Rush Boone ..... '60  
 Jennifer Kren Ross ..... '64  
 Donna Murphy ..... '79

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NOON (12PM)

Election of Officers & Board Members  
**ALL MEMBERS WELCOMED**

### 2011 Alumni Board Meetings

Community Center  
 515 Junipero Ave PG  
**Thursday July 14 6:30PM**  
**Thursday October 13 6:30 PM**

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*This Knockout II is published with everyone in mind. As some of our members enjoy finding fault with other's work, intentional errors have been placed throughout the newsletter for their enjoyment !!!*

**A Friendly Welcome to:**

**OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

'51 Eva <i>Soper</i> Stefani	Santa Cruz
'61 Danny Bauer	Gladstone, OR
'61 Michael Sexton	Ledyard, CT
'71 Sandra <i>Quadro</i> Gonerig	San Bernardino
'71 Michael McMillan	Paradise
'73 Ken Hodson	Marina
'76 Kimberly <i>Hamer</i> McMillan	Paradise

**Glad to have you back!**

**OUR RETURNING MEMBERS:**

'45 Frank Cerney	Marina
'45 James Schaar	Sacramento
'56 John Cardoza	Santa Clara
'56 Jim Parker	Paso Robles
'58 Caryl <i>Fugetta</i> Cardoza	Santa Clara
'58 Art Drummond	Salinas
'58 Carol <i>Franz</i> Drummond	Salinas
'59 Dixie <i>Berry</i> Jones	Oroville
'59 Alvina <i>Cipriano</i> Currall	Lodi
'61 Cheryl <i>Engles</i> Ferris	Bakersfield
'61 Norma <i>Fitzsimmons</i>	Klamath Falls, OR
'61 Randy Hall	Spring, TX
'61 Taffy <i>Kezeli</i> Breazile	Pacific Grove
'61 Cathy <i>Piccolo</i> Chaine	Alamo
'67 Larry Esquivel	Pebble Beach
'67 Jorie <i>Franz</i> Esquivel	Pebble Beach
'71 Susan <i>Schroeder</i> Olberding	Freeland, WA

**IN MEMORY OF:**

'42 Paul Ichijui	Salinas
IMO: George Edwards Toole '42	
'61 Ron Alsop	
'61 Mary McGuire Alsop	Monmouth
IMO: Ralph Maurice Alsop '35	
IMO: Lois Irene <i>Alsop</i> Strickland '36	
IMO: Constance Doreen <i>Alsop</i> Spaletta '49	
IMO: Class 1951 who have gone before us.	
'61 Laurie <i>Barter</i> Stanley	Paris, France
IMO: Class of '59 & '60 who have gone before us.	
'61 Penny <i>Thompson</i> Wheaton	Kelseyville, CA
IMO: Mary E. <i>Moran</i> Bedell '35	
IMO: Elmerie Ellen <i>Scholes</i> Ewing '43	

**DONATIONS:**

'59 Alvina <i>Cipriano</i> Currall	Lodi
'71 Sandra <i>Quadro</i> Gonerig	San Bernardino

**SCHOLARSHIPS:**

'56 Paul Richards	Medford, OR
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**SENIOR YEARBOOK FUND:**

'56 Paul Richards	Medford, OR
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*Please note that all contribution amounts are held in complete confidence, and are not shared with our membership. Likewise, amounts given In Memory Of (IMO) are kept confidential from the deceased member's family. The Board finds it remarkable to receive this continuing financial support from so many Alumni Members. Although we may only recognize a single name we understand there is often an entire family represented in the contribution. On behalf of our Association, PG High, and PG High students we warmly say,*  
**"Thank you, generous contributor!"**

**2011 Summer Roster**

I'm pleased to announce that the summer roster has been processed and mailed. If, you have not received your roster by the end of September please let me know.

Note my "Introduction" to the roster so that you will know how to look up your name or a classmates name.

If your information needs to be corrected, you can use the inserted Roster update form that came with your roster.

If you notice something missing (ie, email, phone number, spouses name) that was in past rosters, it means that information was not on your dues renewal or roster update form. Sorry, I don't second guess what you want or do not want, printed in the roster.

**REMEMBER:**

**WE ARE ONLY AS ACCURATE AS THE INFORMATION WE ARE GIVEN.**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Lebanon, Oregon**

When I realized Beth Penney was Bill Penney's daughter, it brought back vivid memories of my having spent the summer of 1971 interning at the Monterey Peninsula Herald's newsroom. I had often heard my dad, Ritch Lovejoy (Jan. 1, 1908-July 10, 1956) mention Bill Penney's name when talking about his work. Fifteen years after my dad's death, there I was at the same newsroom, and there was Bill Penney, among others who had been there when my dad was working as a reporter and columnist. Bill loved to talk about his dogs, among other things. After leaving the Herald, I spent the next 30 years working as a photographer, reporter, columnist and editor at a newspaper in Antioch, CA, retiring in 2001. I now live in Lebanon, Oregon, in the mid-Willamette Valley.

John Lovejoy '59

**Willows**

Greetings Joanie!

Thanks for the email and your efforts on the Roster. Sure, it would be great if you could add both the cell number and email.

Willows is clipping along just fine....rice crop is a bit behind this year due to the cool and damp weather we are still having (little shower today even)! We just got back from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs....quite an impressive show.....but I think their weather (at 6,000 ft. altitude) is better than ours!

Karen Mensik-King '75 and her husband Bill are doing fine....both their children are in college at Oregon State.....Christopher should graduate next winter. Karen is working at the Prospect Hotel right there in town, and they are living in the house my Mom and Dad built for their retirement. Does not look like we can make the reunion, as it conflicts with our annual waterfowl hunting trip to Maniboba....have had fun getting in touch with several classmates on the website.....Janell *Rush* Roseman '71 has done a great job with it!

Thanks for all your efforts.....

Greg Mensik '71

**Cupertino**

Dear Joanie,

First of all, I am sorry to learn of your father's stroke. I hope

that he continues to regain his health.

This afternoon I checked my computer and there was my copy of the Knockout. Thank you to you and to your staff for such an informative edition. Each page was a delight, and it was so well organized that I was able to quickly follow an article.

I lived at the House of the Seven Gables, which had a wonderful view of the Monterey Bay. I have happy memories of those years. Few people are so lucky as to have grown up in such an unusual small town.

Thank you for keeping those memories alive.

Virginia Green Tamblyn '47

**Thousand Oaks**

KOII just came this afternoon, but I didn't read through till just now. I have an iPhone, so I call people, get the latest news but hold back until I get on my biggest screen at night. I have an eye that can see forever, but when it tries to focus on a cell phone at 6 inches, it gets a cramp.

So, I'm as careful of it as I can be. I'm thankful Bill is recovering - the first year recovery will be remarkable, I'm sure.

I believe the enemy in 80% of the time is swelling (Thinking of Gabby Giffords.)

Thanks to you and all the helpers for constructing this great newspaper, which I surely enjoy. I'm saddened to hear of Elmerie *Scholes* Ewing '43. I liked her. We both had a class with Miss Gardner - a wonderful woman. The sugar in the gas-tank story illustrated the nature of her dealings in justice. Best to Bill and his girl. Chester "Bim" Bramblett '43

**Gaithersburg, MD**

Hi to all -

Enclosing a check for two years dues-still an optimist. I was in the Class of '42. Though I was in PGHS for Freshman and Sophomore years only. Still enjoy the Knockout II through names I recognize are few and far between. I remember Bill Hyler '39 though I'm sure he would not remember me- Army from the Presidio. Anita *Harper* Woodard '39 and Phil Harper '42 were students when I was. I know Phil was at his West Point reunion a year ago, but I did not see him. Enjoyed coverage of the deLorimier family. I believe it was Patricia "Trish" '40 *deLorimier* Pennington who was so nice to me. Speedy recovery to Bill H!

My best, Rosanne *Sprinkle* Broughton '42.

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*Editors note: Thank you for your faithful membership since 1980! Even most graduates can't boast a membership with us that long. If you weren't aware, Trish who was so nice to you passed on in 1981.*



### Las Vegas, NV

Dearest Joanie,

Just finished reading the latest Knockout II—was so sorry to hear about your Dad's problem—but, he is a tough old buzzard, and I am sure this is just a little set back for him!!

Thanks for the update on the *Mesembryanthemum* blooming along the coastline—always my favorite. I was a lecture hostess on Bay Rapids Tour Bus and that color was sooooo beautiful. Always elicited oooohs from the tourists!! I tried planting some here, but the wind and the sun dried the plants out, booooo, oh well, I can always visit PG when visiting my kids in Santa Cruz! Thanks, as always for the article.

I'm not sure if my info is correct for the roster, as I did spend a couple of years in a "Retirement Community" but am very happy to be back home!! My address is 2583 Eagle St, Las Vegas, NV 89142-2544 and email is; jomue@cox.net.

Thanks again for all your hard work, my best to you and your Dad.  
Love to all, Jo Ann Fifer Mueller '48

### Monterey

Dear Joanie:

Thanks for sending me the hard-copy of The Knockout II. I was receiving the electronic copy through my wife's email; however, she passed away in March, and I had her email discontinued; then, I no longer received The KOII.

As you likely know, I taught at Pacific Grove High School from 1961 to 1972 and was the Class Adviser for the Class of 1968. These were great years in my life, and look back at my days at PG High with fond memories. After leaving PGHS, I attended graduate school at the University of California, Riverside. From there I went on to work at Washington State University for 30 years. After retiring, my wife and I moved back to our little home in Monterey. Most of my family lives on the Peninsula.

Thanks again for keeping me up to date with The Knockout II.

Sincerely, Donald "Don" Reed Faculty

### Ventura

Joanie,

Use the 831 number...the other three are history. I no longer use

them. And I DO remember Gail...she had a crush on me...and that was fun!!! I was just too bashful to do anything about it...oh well, my high school days were so much fun...good/happy memories! Imagine, growing up on the Monterey Peninsula...WOW what a beautiful place to grow up at...There were times during the summer I wish I were three people...sailing my boat at Stillwater Cove and playing tennis at the Beach Club...swimming at the Gorge at Big Sur the whole day and hitching a ride back to Carmel from Mr. Mornnis...or riding my bike along the Scenic Drive in Carmel and walking bare foot along the Beach watching the sunset!!!!!! It was even more enjoyable meeting a girl and sharing the experience together. See ya at the Alumni Reunion.

Dale Lipp '64

### Port Orchard, WA

Dear Joanie,

I have noticed on the last few "Knockout II's" I have received that you have put two 64¢ postage stamps so the KOII comes 1<sup>st</sup> class. I recently discovered that there is a 64¢ stamp with a Monarch butterfly on it. Thought it might be nice to get some for a KOII mailing. I imagine they are a limited edition. Anyway you might want to check into it. PG is Butterfly Town, thanks to your grandmother.

Also in the last issue of the KOII I noticed I was the only one living in Port Orchard, WA. When I lived in Bremerton, WA I was the only alumni there also. This is a pretty large area so you think there would be more of us.

I really enjoy getting the KOII, and am looking forward to the upcoming wonderful alumni dinner.

Best Regards, Carolyn Borchers Zurn '55

PS I'm happy to hear your Dad is doing well.

Hi Carolyn,

*I know the stamp you are talking about. The business that prints our KOII's are the ones who place the stamps on them. We just pay the bill. However, I will mention the butterfly stamp to them. We send the KOII's 1<sup>st</sup> class to all who are out of state. If we didn't it could take 3 weeks before you receive it. We do bulk mailing in California though. Gives us a good price break. And of course, all who get their KOII by email really save us \$\$\$. Thanks for your well wishes with Bill. He is really doing better and better. We had the hospital bed*



*taken out of the living room as he is sleeping and napping back in his own bed. We feel that is a great milestone.*

*See you in October, Joanie*



# The KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

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## DECEASED PACIFIC GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

It is with sorrow that we publish the names of our fellow classmates who have passed away since our last issue. They are listed in order of deceased date, class year and city of residence.

### January

Ken Dignan '64 ..... Bakersfield

### April

Larry Nicoll '65 ..... Antigua,  
Guatemala

### May

Guy Dubets FACULTY ..... Sacramento

### June

Nancy George Jewell '57 ..... Watsonville  
Mike Coble '60 ..... Palm Desert

### June

Ralph Workman '46 ..... Pacific Grove  
Robert "Poncho" Meadows '46 ..... Carmel Valley

### July

Rebecca Cardoza Wietersen '76 ..... Oroville  
Vicki Stimson Scardina '58 ..... Carmel Valley  
Don Johansen '42 ..... Pacific Grove  
Betty Allen Maupin '58 ..... Palo Alto

Kenneth Francis Dignan Jr., 64, died suddenly of a heart attack on Jan. 13, 2011, at his mother's home in Pacific Grove. Born Nov. 17, 1946, in San Jose, he was the only



child of Ken and Winifred Dignan Sr. Many alumni will remember Ken's father, who taught driver's education at PGHS for many years. Ken Jr. was a pitcher for the PGHS varsity baseball team and graduated in 1964. He attended MPC and Bakersfield College, then worked for the old National Automotive Fiber, Inc. plant in PG, as well as for the Grove's Hector DeSmet Bakeries. Ken lived in Bakersfield for many years and retired from a 27-year career as a National Account Executive with Pacific Bell. He was well known for his efforts to improve educational programs for children with disabilities. Ken loved sports, especially baseball and auto racing, NASCAR in

particular. He also enjoyed his motorcycle and model trains. He was a 12-year member of PGHS Alumni Association. Survivors include his wife, Kathleen; sons, Matthew Scott Dignan and Timothy Patrick Dignan, and daughter, Laurie Burgin; and three grandchildren. His father died in 1996, and his mother, Winnie Dignan, died in June of this year.



Dr. Larry C. Nicoll passed away in his sleep April 24, 2011, while visiting with friends in Antigua, Guatemala. Larry and identical twin brother Leigh



were born April 22, 1947 in Whittier, to John & Mary Ruth Nicoll. The family moved to PG where John became superintendent of schools. Larry attended PGHS with the class of 1965,

where he excelled in football and graduated from Flora Park High School in Flora Park, NY. He received his BA in history from Stanford University, and master's and doctorate in educational administration from San Francisco University. He taught at Vallejo High School, and later was a school administrator for Eureka City Schools for 14 years. He was also an adjunct professor for National University in their Educational Administration Program. After retiring he started Levenpence Cellars Winery in Carlotta. Survivors include his wife Penelope of McKinleyville, brother Leigh of Carlotta, sons Matthew of Clear Lake, Nathaniel of San Francisco, Alexander of Pendleton, KY, and William of Hughes Lake; daughter Breann Favilla of Kenneth City, FL, and 8 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.



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Guy Michael Dubets, 52, died May 8, 2011 at his home in Sacramento. Guy was a baseball instructor specializing in high level pitching instruction for major league to little league players for 30



years in Sacramento and Monterey. In his career Guy was a team coach at Pacific Grove High School, Hartnell College, and San Jose City College. He was a professional baseball player for three years after being drafted by the Minnesota Twins. Guy was a master bass player who recorded songs that were played on major commercial radio stations. Survivors include his son John Anthony Dubets of Monterey, mother, Ann Margaret Dubets of Carmel; sister, Susan Briggs; and brothers, John Victor and George Allen Dubets. He was preceded in death by his father, John Joseph Dubets.



Nancy Lee George Jewell, 71, died June 4, 2011, at home in Watsonville during her afternoon nap. Born Feb. 25, 1940, on Mare Island, she grew up in the Los Gatos mountains, and moved with her family to PG in 1951 where she graduated from PGHS in 1957. While living on the Monterey Peninsula, Nancy was employed as a telephone operator for both the telephone company and Holman's Department Store. She also worked as a waitress for Tom's Cafe for many years after which she sold real estate. Nancy enjoyed - music, singing in a choir, reading, sewing, and attending quilt shows. She especially loved meeting monthly with her high school pals. Nancy was actively involved with Watsonville Church of the Nazarene and volunteered with her church, the food bank, Pink Ladies and the Corralitos Library. Survivors include three brothers Neal and Noel George and

Carl Erickson '66, two daughters, Margaret Luce Bauer '73 and Nanette Creson and three grandsons. She was preceded in death by her husband, Patrick Jewell in 1998; her mother, Mildred Erickson; her son, David Lee Luce '74; and one grandson.



Michael Francis "Mike" Coble was 69 when he died on June 6, 2011 in Palm Desert. Mike was born on April 25, 1942 in Rockville, MD, the sixth of seven children of the late Benita Legere Coble and Jacob Henry



Coble. The family came to California when the Navy moved the Postgraduate School from the West Point Academy in Annapolis, NY to the old Del Monte Hotel in Monterey in 1952. His mother, who was raising the seven children by herself, was a clerk typist at the US Naval Postgraduate School, and the Navy simply packed up the whole family and moved them first to Salinas and later PG. If Mike had stayed in PG he would have graduated with the PGHS class of 1960. He was married for 29 years to the former Brenda Peek; they had no children, though he was a step-father to Brenda's three children by a previous marriage. They lived off and on in several places -- San Marino, Long Beach, Azusa Canyon and Palm Desert. Mickey played a few minor roles in Hollywood, including a policeman who shot Sidney Poitier in "The Lost Man" in 1969. His sister, Ellen Coble Duckworth '53, and brother, Joseph "Joe" Coble '59 preceded him in death. His surviving brothers are Bert of Annapolis MD, Tom '53 of Carmel Valley, Bob '56 of Seaside and Pat '63 of Walnut Creek.



Ralph Emerson Workman, 84, a native of Monterey, died June 9, 2011, at his home in

PG. He was born May 8, 1927 to Fred and Florence Workman. His father served two terms as a PG councilman and developed the original 17-Mile-Drive Village. After graduation from PGHS in 1946 and



MPC, Ralph served as a Gunner's Mate Seaman in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. His career as a real estate investor spanned over 30 years. An active, long-time member of the Pacific Grove Masonic Lodge the Monterey Elks Lodge, and he was a 25-year member of PGHS Alumni Association. Ralph was an avid coin and jewelry collector. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jeane, in 2005, brother William "Martin" '36 in 1990, and his parents.



Robert Frank "Poncho" Meadows, 84, a lifelong resident of Carmel Valley, died June 25, 2011. Born in Monterey on Dec. 16, 1927 to Thomas and Clara Meadows, he was the grandson of Peninsula pioneer James Meadow



and his wife Maria Loretta Onesimo de Peralta, a Rumsien Indian and daughter of the prominent Peralta family whose Rancho lands encompassed Carmel Valley. His aunt, Isabelle Meadows was the last living person who spoke the Costanoan language. "Cathedral in the Sun" was in large part based on the memories Maria Peralta Meadows passed to her daughter Isabella. Poncho graduated from PGHS in 1946, and soon joined the Navy and served on the U.S.S. Guadalupe. When he came home, he worked as a carpenter, as a State Forestry Dept. firefighter, retiring after 30 years.



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He was a member, and president of the Carmel Valley Kiwanis from 2007-2008. He was a member of many organizations including the Carmel Valley Garden Club, Los Pobres Club, the 25 year Club for the Forest Service. He was a 26-year member of PGHS Alumni Association. Poncho loved to garden and cook and help anyone who needed assistance. He is preceded was preceded in death by his wives, Loris "Cookie" Meadows and Helga Meadows; his brothers Ernest, Milton, George '43, Walter, and James '40, and his sister, Amelia Meadows Bushell '37.



Rebecca "Becky" Ann *Cardoza-Wietersen*, 53, died of cancer at her home in Oroville on July 4, 2011. A native of Monterey County, she was born June 12, 1958, and graduated from PGHS in 1976.



After school she became a plasterer. Proud of Native American heritage, she was a master in leather work, beading, dream catchers, and bags. Survivors include her husband of nine years, Mark Wietersen; her daughter, Rosaline Wietersen; and five siblings: Stephanie *Cardoza Rowand* '74, Chris *Cardoza* '78, Anthony *Crivello*, Angel *Crivello*, and Rachel *Crivello*. She was preceded in death by her mother, Rosaline *Garcia Crivello* '57.



Donald Carl *Johansen*, last surviving son of Johannes and Marie *Johansen*, former owners of the Centrella Hotel, died July 11, 2011, at Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula. He was preceded in death by all 10 of his siblings: Edna, Frederic, Anna, Elizabeth, Olga *Johansen Hodgen* '32, Clara *Johansen Stevens* '31, John, Clifford '38,

Lucille, and Kenneth '43. Don was born in Fresno on Feb. 23, 1924; that same year the family moved to PG. Don owned *Johansen's Pacific Grove Garage* for many years, and retired from K&H Auto. He was a



volunterr fireman, and a member of the Masonic Lodge of PG and Shriners of San Jose. Don married Ruby *Rogers* '43 at the old Mayflower Church in downtown PG in 1943, and honeymooned at the Centrella Hotel; they were married for 64 years. He was a 32-year member of PGHS Alumni Association. Survivors include his daughter, Sharon *Johansen* '75 of PG, and son, Craig *Johansen* '73 of San Jose; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, and two children, Linda *Johansen Flores* '67 and Duane C. *Johansen* '71.



Vicki Agatha *Stimson Scardina*, born Dec. 31, 1940. in Susquehanna, PA, died at her home in Carmel Valley on July 11, 2001. Vicki and her family moved to the Peninsula in 1952, and she graduated from



PGHS in 1958. She was a homemaker in Cachagua Valley and Carmel Valley. Survivors include her husband, Pete *Scardina* '58, son, Tony; daughter, Natali; sister, Lyndi *Stimson D'Alauro* '65, and seven grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her sons, Vincent and Benjamin, and brother, Alfred *Stimson* '63.



Bettie Jean *Allen Maupin*, 71, died after a long illness on July 24, 2011, in Stanford. Born in Oroville, Bettie grew up in Monterey,

graduated from PGHS in 1958, and lived in Aromas for the past 35 years. She loved nature, trees, flowers and animals, especially dogs, gardening, and taking walks in the woods and on the beach. Survivors include

her daughter, Lois *Maupin* of Aromas; sister, Lois A. *Cowee* of Aromas; and brother, John W. *Allen* of Hayward.



### Auburn

Dear Joanie,

If my second grade teacher at Robert H. Down Elementary school, Mrs *Preston* (4'10") could see how well I remember her penmanship lessons and that I still prefer to use it, rather than one of those new fangled PC things, she would pat me on the head and paste a daisy on my chart for the day. She would also be surprised that I remember as much as I do about her and the impact she made.

Anyway, I hope you can still read the old fashioned stuff, cause what you see is what you get. And, in response to your inquiry about the Grant family, my knowledge is very limited. Gene (Grant '42) and I are related through the Scoble family. His Aunt Lois Grant married a Scoble. My grandmother was Marina *Scoble Varien*. She married William Henry *Varien* and they had nine children. Charles '10, Franklin '11, William '14, Margaret '14 (my mother), Paul '19, (he owned the famous *Varien Museum Barber Shop* on the corner of Lighthouse Ave and Forest Ave, now CHASE bank). Esther '21 ("Honey" who was married to Harold *Chivers* '22), Marina '22, Elizabeth '23 (married to Sheriff Jack *McCoy*) and Evelyn '30.

Back to the Scoble's. Lois and Willie had two boys, Walton and William H. And three girls. Phyllis, Shirley and Mary Ann.



[Continued from Page 8]

There may have been others. They lived near Asilomar but moved away while the kids were still young. I did keep up a relationship with Mary Ann for many years, as she use to come from Sacramento in the summertime. She was gifted with the most beautiful singing voice you could hear. She sang at my wedding in the Mayflower Congregational Church on 14<sup>th</sup> and Central Ave in 1942. My mother, Margaret *Varien* Giles '14 played the pipe organ at the church for over 20 years. She married Russell Giles, who served as County Treasurer for over thirty years. My three brothers, William '37, Charles "Bud" '39 and Paul '42 all attended PGHS. All of us graduated from PGHS except Paul. We moved to Salinas and he graduated at Salinas High.

Joanie, this has all been from memory - going back over eighty years. So, there may be a few mistakes but I'm the only survivor from several generations.

I have many memories of the beautiful Monterey Peninsula, and as a young widow with five little ones to raise, I'm very fortunate to have had such a great place to do it (at least most of it). The five produced nine, who produced six. One of them earned his Ph D in nanotechnology last year and is now designing cochlear implants. And I sometimes feel as though I'm living with a giant, as one of my granddaughters is married to a varsity girls basketball coach and is 6'8" - they have two who will someday "dribble" down the court and "slam dunk" some of their own.

My main activity since moving up here in the Sierra foothills is 1986 has been Bible study, and now that I have done this bit of genealogy for you, I must tell you what Scripture says about it.

1 Timothy 1:3-4. As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines and longer nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work - which is by faith.

Titus 3:9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

So there you have it. We had a nice dusting of snow earlier today, but mostly gone for now. Tomorrow is another day.

Much love, Margaret "Sis" Giles Strangman '40

\*\*\*

## ANOTHER LONG TIME LANDMARK GONE

Del Monte Gardens Skating Arena in Monterey has lost its lease and will close July 15, rink owner Keith Burchell (PGHS '64) announced Monday.

"It's been a really great way to spend your life," said Burchell, 66, who started skating at the rink as a youth, worked there as an adult and bought it 16 years ago. He operates it with his wife, Jenell,

and sons Greg and Brad.

Burchell's landlord is Fresh & Easy, a chain of small markets based in El Segundo. Burchell said he had to dispel rumors early this year that he had already lost his lease on the 17,000-square-foot building.

The building, at 2020 Del Monte Ave., was built as a sports arena and used as a venue for big bands before becoming a rink in the early 1950s.

"I started skating here in 1957," Burchell said.

When he was a teenager, "skating was what you did on Friday nights," Burchell said. "The baby boom is what made it."

Now, skating is not as popular with teenagers. "It's more families and young kids," he said. Public skating will continue through the 2 to 4 p.m. session July 13.

The Burchells, who run a snack bar at the rink, will open a hot dog restaurant called Diggitty's in the Prunedale Shopping Center in Prunedale soon after the rink closes.

Skating enthusiasts will still have a place to go on the Peninsula. Mark Tanous, owner of Water City Hockey in Marina, said he will offer more public skating hours with the closing of Del Monte Gardens. Tanous said he has had an informal agreement with Burchell not to offer public skating.

Fresh & Easy plans to demolish the existing building and build a 10,581-square-foot building on the 1.3-acre site, said Forrest Ebbs, a senior planner for the city. The store plans to have 74 parking spaces, 52 more than required.

The company will have to get approval from the Planning Commission and Architectural Review Committee, which will have a joint meeting July 12. The staff will recommend approval of Fresh & Easy's application, Ebbs said.

Fresh & Easy had plans to open a store in Seaside's City Center as recently as 2009, but those plans didn't materialize.



Keith Burchell '64



## ALUMNI TIDBITS

by Sue Taylor '68

The Knockout is dedicated to and for the students and staff of Pacific Grove High School, so presumably everything we produce is for, by, or about PGHS. But there are exceptions. Those of us that grew up in Pacific Grove can't forget those special pre-high school teachers, those best buds that moved away, even the kindness of strangers we met years ago in town. They count. They are worth remembering.



Robert Feero

So I want to draw your attention to the passing of yet another former PaGrovian. **Jim Carroll Jones '63** alerted the KOII staff

of the death of a good friend, **Robert Feero**.

They were best friends and classmates in PG grammar and junior high school, but Bob's family moved away and he later graduated from Los Altos High School.

What makes "Shotgun Bob", as his friends and admirers called him, interesting was that he became an actor. You have to admit that acting is one of the more interesting occupations, and you perked up when you saw that, didn't you? His obituary summarizes his career as follows: " He began his career in the mid-



Robert Feero

60's serving five years as a student actor with the American Conservatory Theatre. During this time he was also on live stage with the Marin Shakespeare Theatre and the Will Geer Theatrum Botanicum. Robert was a member of AEA, SAG and AFTRA and had roles in nine films including *THX1138* and *Magnum Force*. As well, Robert's face was familiar on television as he had



Robert Feero as Bora

principal or co-starring roles in a number of TV productions. Among others he is remembered for his roles in *As the World Turns*, *Magnum PI*, *Simon & Simon*, *Streets of San Francisco* and *Battle Star Galactica*." I bet most of you reading that paragraph was waiting for the punch line – and finally got it. What person alive today could ignore two *Magnum*s, or a science fiction classic?

The fun stuff is that you can see some short clips of roles on YouTube. Bob, practically a clone of Clint Eastwood, played a young punk who shoots Clint at a convenience store in *Magnum Force*. You can see these videos at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5yKW7JuwY&feature=related> "t" \_blank" and outtakes: [K5s&feature=related. Sci-Fi fans will know that Bob played Bora, the Borellian Noman, in the BG episodes \*The Man With Nine Lives\* and \*Baltar's Escape\*. A nice long interview with Bob about the series can be Googled, and you feel in the interview some of the wit and wisdom that Bob's long-time friends appreciated. It is certainly apparent on many web postings that Bob was well-liked and "always entertaining."](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfsXqsF-</a></p>
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On a totally different note, the passing of **Dr. Larry C. Nicoll**, a classmate of the class of 1965, is discussed in the obituary column. At the risk of being called a gossip, I must say that in researching Dr. Larry Nicoll, I found the sad story of his father, Dr. John Nicoll, who was the Superintendent of Schools for the Pacific Grove Unified School District for a few years in the early 1970s. He later became superintendent of schools of Newport-Mesa Unified Schools District for over 30 years. This is an amazing fact, given my understanding that most superintendents only spend a few years at any one district and then move on. He must have been a really good guy, I think. The sad part of the story is not that Dr. Nicoll was betrayed by an employee he hired who embezzled 3.7 million dollars from the NMUSD, the largest such theft in California school history. The employee was convicted in 1993, and died in prison in 1995. The sad part is not even that when the scandal was breaking Dr. Nicoll was suffering life-threatening bleeding ulcers and also underwent quadruple heart bypass surgery. No the sad part is that subsequently the worker's compensation claim for health benefits because of ill health due to job stress filed by Dr. Nicoll was denied by the school district. I cannot fathom the reasons the school district could do such a thing, and can well imagine how doubly betrayed Dr. Nicoll must have felt. My heart goes out to the family that had to endure such ill treatment. Dr. Nicoll died in 2009, and his wife, Mary Ruth Nicoll, once an elementary school teacher in Monterey USD, died in 2003.

Recently, my classmate, **Joanie Hyler '68** and I developed our own class website, and are happy to crow about our growing success. Many alumni belong to several reunion sites, most well-known being *Classmates.com*, which has turned into *Reunion.com* (and not for the better I may add). The new boy on the block in the way of such sites is *Class Creator*, and we are the fourth PGHS class to use this wonderful international host program to promote communication among our class (the other classes are 1971, 1973 and 1974). I recommend anyone looking to build a class site to check out <http://www.pgshsclassof1968.com/> and see all the great attributes you can play with, from user and message forums, photo galleries, memorials, videos, memorabilia, and much more. We have had our site up for about a month, and as of this writing 53 classmates have signed up; that's 16 percent of our class in just one month. The best part is – no ads, no barrage of e-mails flogging stupid mass-market memories, and you can restrict viewing to classmates only. Really, it's so easy too – we had it up and were entering the class list in one hour. I can't say enough how useful this site is going to be once we start really organizing for our 45th and 50th reunions.



# The KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

September 2011 • Page Eleven

[Continued from Page 1]

They are the officers and board members of the Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association.

Whether they were "mop squeezers" or "queens" (or "kings"), or both, while they were at Pacific Grove High, they are definitely both "mop squeezers" and royalty now, given the hard work they do and the majestic results they obtain from that work. The annual membership meeting of the PGHSAA Board of Directors is scheduled for Saturday, September 17, at 12:00 noon at the Pacific Grove Community Center, 515 Junipero Avenue in Pacific Grove. All members of the Association are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting, and you are also welcomed and encouraged to join the Board of Directors; we are always looking for new board members. If you're interested in serving, please contact nomination chair Sandy Selbicky ('55), at [sselbicky@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sselbicky@sbcglobal.net).

And, if you haven't already, send in your reservation for the 50th Anniversary Reunion Dinner (find the reservation form in this issue)! The cut-off date for reservations is September 15, so this is your last *Knockout II* notice. We look forward to seeing a record number of alumni, whether you were "mop squeezers" or "queens and kings" or somewhere in between, at this special event. The work the Events Committee has put in on this year's dinner and brunch will make all attendees feel like Pacific Grove High School royalty.

Beth Penney '73



Can anyone out there tell us who this is and where the picture was taken? The year is 1969.

KODAKS, DEVELOPING AND PRINTING		
FOR Sunburn, Tan and Chapped Hands Nothing Better Than TUTTLE'S Face and Hand LOTION 25 Cents	TUTTLE'S DRUG STORE 551 Lighthouse Ave. Pacific Grove	Name _____ Develop _____ Print _____ Total _____ Poison Oak Remedy Best Ever 50 Cents

From the Hyler Collection. Early 1900's.

[Continued from Page 9]



The company's website says the company offers "a carefully selected range of Fresh & Easy label and national brand products at low prices." Its private label products "contain no artificial colors or flavors, no added trans fats, and only use preservatives when absolutely necessary," the site says.

The company is a pilot member of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental

Design (LEED) Volume Certification Program.

Story by:  
Lane  
Wallace  
Photos  
by David  
Royal  
The  
Herald  
6/14/2011



Photo by: Vern Fisher

Once again we are delighted to present singles, couples or groups to have their reunion portrait taken at the alumni dinner.

Memories of a Lifetime  
by Moss Media

5 x 7  
\$ 20.00

8 x 10  
\$ 25.00



Dear Joanie,

Last October I attended our 60<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion. It was apparent that all the young ladies of our class of 1950 had soundly defeated gravity and wrinkles too. Bill Larkin won a tight race for the most distinguished-looking alum.



Chewing the nut stimulates the flow of saliva to aid digestion. Betel nut also has been used to stimulate the appetite.

Having our class luncheon at a Vietnamese Restaurant motivated my wife Joann and I to book a tour in early 2011 to Vietnam.

Our trip was built around meeting the people. Some examples were going to an orphanage run by nuns in brown robes and shaved heads; visiting a hill tribe chief and watching his wife sit on a dirt floor and weave colorful fabrics; meeting a betel nut chewing woman with red stained teeth who showed us her shrine dedicated to her deceased husband who had fought with the Viet Cong; and, we learned to make spring rolls in a cooking class in Hoi An.

Most dramatic episode of the tour was an over night sailing trip on Ha Long Bay. The bay is dotted with 3,000 islands whose jagged peaks seem



These are tilapia farming cages found in one of the large reservoirs in southern Vietnam. The approach is even lower tech than on the Mekong and looks primitive in comparison. However, this is also an effective method of producing 350-450 gram tilapia for the local market.

to rise out of nowhere. We visited a family fish farm floating on the water and experienced a spectacular sunset.

My wife and I had been to Vietnam many years ago and the changes were huge. High rises in the major cities are not an exception but now the rule. Although still a one party Communist regime, capitalism is now in vogue. Many foreign countries, including the U.S., are now investing in Vietnam's economy. Most memorable item of our Vietnam experience was the friendliness and hospitality of the people.

Terrell Moss '50

*Editors note:*

*Thank you for a lovely story. I lived in Okinawa in the 70's and I too would be surprised at what would surely be huge changes.*



Ha Long Bay, Vietnam



Terry Moss '60 standing

The activity that I enjoyed the most was the meeting and hugging beautiful young recently graduated college girls in colorful silk dresses who had come to the temples and parks to be congratulated.



**ALUMNI MILESTONES**



Jim Huffman '67 and his wife Paula

Central Valley Fire Chiefs Association announces their 2010 Chief Officer of the Year  
Jim Huffman - Fire Chief, Hume Lake Vol. Fire Department

Chief Huffman has been a leader in the fire service for more than 25 years. His early career started in law enforcement but later migrated over to the fire service when he served for 15 years as the Director of Public Safety for Pepperdine University. As the Director of Public Safety he oversaw the campus Fire, EMS and Police services. In 2004 he was one of the founding members and the first fire chief for the Hume Lake Volunteer Fire Department. He has been a member of the Central Valley Fire Chiefs Association since 2005, an officer of the organization for the past three years and currently serves as representative for all rural fire agencies in Fresno County for the Homeland Security - Approval Authority Board.

Over the years Chief Huffman has been active in the community, leading the safety services for the Hume Lake Christian Camp as well as a speaker for Pointman Leadership Institute. Pointman is a non-profit organization that was developed originally for military and law enforcement personnel and its purpose was to instill values and ethics into the character of their leadership. The program has grown to include many different kinds of disciplines including that for the fire service. Presenters are volunteers that take time out of their schedules to make these presentations wherever they are called to travel.

The Central Valley Fire Chiefs Association was established in 1974 and is open to all fire chiefs and chief officers within the counties of Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare. The mission of the association is "To Provide a Mutual Association of Chief Officers to Promote Regional Cooperation for the Advancement of the Fire Service within the Central Valley."



Bill '55 and Andrea Hotovitzky '59 Shumway celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this summer.

**Class of 1966 45th Reunion**

**October 7th Friday**

No Host Cocktails  
Location Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa  
6pm - ??

**October 8th Saturday**

BBQ at Whispering Pines Park, Monterey  
(same location as the past few times)  
11am - As before, Rick and Kathy Dreher will be heading up the  
BBQ preparation assisted by Wally Gottschalk.

**October 8<sup>th</sup> Saturday**

PGHSAA Annual Dinner Barbara McNitt Ballroom  
The Postgraduate School, Monterey 6 - 11 PM

**October 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

PGHSAA Brunch El Prado Dining Room  
The Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey 11AM - 1 PM  
Contact: Tom MacDonald E-mail: <tom@adventur.com>

**Class web Site:**

<http://www.pacificgrovehighschoolclassof1966.com/>



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## 2011 Class Reunions

### Class of 1951 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion

- **When:** Friday, October 7, 2011 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- **Where:** At Elva Martignoni Perkins' home at 870 Congress Ave., P.G. 831.624.2578
- **What:** BYOB - A small contribution of \$10.00 is requested (at the door but not mandatory) to cover cost of light snacks and mixes. Does not cover any expense of the PGHSAA Annual Alumni dinner on Saturday.
- **Saturday, October 8, 2011 PGHSAA Annual Dinner Barbara McNitt Ballroom Naval Postgraduate School**

Contact: Betty Burton Campos 831.372.9001, gmadrln@aol.com or Richard Goblirsch 831.372.8935, pggent@aol.com

### Class of 1956 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion

#### October 8<sup>th</sup> Saturday

Open House: Pat Doeltar Sands' Home Noon - 5PM  
921 Ripple Ave., P.G. Phone: 831.372.9257

#### October 8<sup>nd</sup> Saturday

PGHSAA Annual Dinner Barbara McNitt Ballroom  
The Postgraduate School, Monterey 6 - 11 PM

#### October 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday

PGHSAA Brunch El Prado Dining Room  
The Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey 11AM - 1 PM

### Class of 1961 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion

**October 7<sup>th</sup> Thursday 6PM** A gathering of classmates at Jane Coleman Abbate's home in P.G. 930 Balboa Ave. Bring an appetizer and drinks to share.

**October 7<sup>th</sup> Friday** Breaker Football Game? If there is a home game we are planning to have a pep rally! Bring your cheers.

**October 8<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** PGHSAA Annual Dinner Barbara McNitt Ballroom The Postgraduate School, Monterey 6 - 11 PM

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** PGHSAA Brunch El Prado Dining Room The Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey 11AM - 1 PM

Contact: Cindy Lebeck Holley E-mail: <cinincrml@comcast.net> Phone: 831.324.0550

Contact: Tawana Rich Davis E-mail: <tawanadance@aol.com> Phone: 831.236.7890

### Class of 1971 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

**October 7<sup>th</sup> Friday** "Fog Breaker" Time: 5 PM Jack's Lounge Portola Hotel Monterey Del Monte Ave.

Contact: Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth E-mail: <sheri4@hotmail.com>

**October 7<sup>th</sup> Friday** Breaker Football Game? At this time we do not know if there will be a home game on this date.

**October 8<sup>th</sup> Saturday** Golf Contact: John Miller E-mail: mill2109@cox.net

**October 8<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** PGHSAA Annual Dinner Barbara McNitt Ballroom The Postgraduate School, Monterey 6 - 11 PM

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** PGHSAA Brunch El Prado Dining Room The Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey 11AM - 1 PM

OR

BYO Everything Picnic at Lovers Point Park, P.G. Contact: Don Mothershead E-Mail: dmothershead@gmail.com  
dmothershead@ci.pg.ca.us

Class web Site: [www.pghsclassof71.com](http://www.pghsclassof71.com)



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## Attention: Annual Reunion Dinner Attendees

For those who are attending the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion Dinner at the Naval Postgraduate School, we are making every attempt to have access as simple as possible, but there are a few things you need to do also:

1. You (and guest if applicable) must have a current picture ID, ready to show at the gate.
2. You should have your registration and insurance card available if requested.

That's it; we'll take care of the access list via the caterer's of the party. We certainly hope that you have used your real name, so that it will match your ID.

We've also posted a downloadable map (PDF format) at our website: <http://www.pgusd.org/alumni> Just look for the reunion information link and follow that for the map.

See you at the dinner.

Reunion Event Chair: Terry Fink '69

**SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> IS THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS.  
THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**



For those of you that have missed my kitty updates, I am including a small blurb while I have the chance.

All three are doing well and have trained us to be their capable servants since I last wrote about them. I seem to be able to understand the meows, murrms, rumbles, rubs and paw touches as their way of letting me know I am being lax for their needs...hahahah. Turns out, I am the provider of petting, food and clean cat boxes, while my wife is the great momma cat provider of heat for sleeping at night, momma love and the reassurances that they are good kitties. Did I mention that they own us? Somehow, something is wrong with this picture.

Terry Fink '69

### Class of 1981 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

When: October 1, 2011 5-9 pm

Where: Allegro's at the Barnyard in Camel Cost: \$ 34.81 per ticket

<http://pghs81.eventbrite.com/>



## Black Soldiers in Pacific Grove in WWII

I attended Pacific Grove High School, Monterey Peninsula College, and San Jose State College. In NONE of that education did I ever learn about African-American soldiers in the Civil War, WWI or WWII. Later, AFTER I had become a teacher, I did learn that. However, at no time did I ever learn from any source, including the news media, that during World War II there were African-American soldiers stationed along the sand dunes in Pacific Grove. That is, I didn't learn that until a couple of years ago when I became a volunteer staffing the Information Desk every other Monday afternoon at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. My partner at the desk was the late Don Gasperson, who passed away during this past year. He grew up in Pacific Grove, became a fireman and later the P.G. Fire Chief. After his retirement from the fire department he became a P.G. City councilman.

Don and I had lots of chats about all kinds of things during the slack time at our Information Desk. One time he told me about how when he went to Pacific Grove High School during WWII he and some of his friends used to visit with the black soldiers who were stationed with artillery in sand dunes in P.G. I had never heard that. Don told me that he and his friends used to cook hot dogs with the artillerymen and play softball with them. I mentioned that to a cousin who was about the same age as Don, who also grew up on the Peninsula, and who was a successful businessman. He scoffed at the notion, and said that there had never been any black soldiers in this area at all during WWII. He was adamant about his claim, even



In support of and located near Point Pinos Beach Patrol was a four-gun battery of the 54<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery. This all-black Army unit with its World War I tractor-drawn French 155mm guns put the teeth in the local coastal defense network. Some of the artillerymen were former players in the Negro Baseball League. They spent their off hours competing with Pacific Grove's teenage Twilight Softball leaguers (so called because wartime restrictions against showing any kind of lights after dark).

though I pointed out to him that my source of information was impeccable -- the highly respected retired PG Fire Chief. He continued to ridicule the notion.

Later I saw a newspaper article reporting about the black coastal artillery units that had been here and in Santa Cruz. Today I got more verification. Pat and I took her 12 year old grandson (visiting us from Oregon) to the Point Pinos Lighthouse in Pacific Grove. As we were looking at the historical documents and exhibits inside the lighthouse I read a big poster-size display about the Coast Guard's beach patrols -- and lo and behold here was further proof of the black artillerymen here. These two pictures are part of that display.

Bob Coble '56



The security work was monotonous and never spectacular. However, the steady crunch of the "Beach Pounders" shoes in the sand could be heard in fair weather and foul as a constant reminder that military duties on the home front were often as essential to victory as the more publicized actions on far flung battlefields.



"Art in the Ark" is Irene Elisabeth Evans '68 second submission to the Feast of Lanterns art competition. The intricate mosaic/mirror was purchased at the Monterey Bay Educational Center, and then donated back to the Feast. Here, Irene poses holding her art. "I do this because it makes me happy."



**PGHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION WEEKEND**  
**SATURDAY EVENING October 8<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Club Del Monte, Barbara McNitt Ballroom, at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey  
**NO HOST COCKTAILS 6:00 PM • SIT DOWN DINNER SERVED 7:00 PM • MUSIC & DANCING 8:00PM – 11:00PM**

**SUNDAY BUFFET BRUNCH October 9<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Club Del Monte, El Prado Dining Room, at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**CONTACT PERSONS FOR EVENT & RESERVATIONS**

Event Chair: Terry Fink '69 831.649.6384 Email: [tgfink@comcast.net](mailto:tgfink@comcast.net)  
 Reservations Chair: Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56 831.899.3716 Email: [diversmom@aol.com](mailto:diversmom@aol.com)

**RESERVATION DEADLINE - THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 15<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**SORRY, ABSOLUTELY NO RESERVATIONS or REFUNDS AFTER THIS DATE**

PGHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PO BOX 51396 PACIFIC GROVE, CA 93950-6396  
 PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

When applicable, please include maiden name(s) [Please bracket] on lines 1 or 2

Member 1:				PGHS Class Year	
Address:				Phone #	
City:		State		Zip	
Mem/Guest 2:				PGHS Class Year	

NUMBER	DINNER MENU CHOICES			TOTAL	PGHSAA USE
	Beef	10 oz Charbroiled filet mignon, wrapped in bacon and served with a red wine forest mushroom sauce.	\$55.00		
	Chicken	The Chef's signature baked breaded chicken breast stuffed with mushrooms, Monterey jack cheese and savory herbs smothered with a mushroom sauce.	\$55.00		
	Vegetarian	Penne pasta. Tossed in olive oil, sweet basil, julienne of sweet peppers, artichokes, herbs and mushrooms.	\$55.00		
	Sunday Buffet Brunch	Chilled fruit juice and fresh cut fruit. Breakfast sausage, apple wood smoked bacon or grilled ham steak. French pastry, assorted muffins, croissants, scones, brioche or Danish. Farm fresh scrambled eggs or French toast with berries. Grilled potatoes. Gourmet teas and fine coffee.	\$21.00		
Make Check Payable to: PGHSAA				Total	

Our Bylaws state that you must be a current member in order to attend our annual dinner and brunch.  
 Annual dues are \$15.00

**DO NOT USE THIS FORM TO SUBMIT DUES**

*If you are joining the Alumni Association to attend this reunion please call or email Joanie Hyler 831.375.3040 [joanie@pghsaa.org](mailto:joanie@pghsaa.org)*



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# The KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

September 2011 • Page Eighteen

## A letter from the Editor

The buzz around town for our 50th annual dinner is very exciting. It's great to see so many alumni joining the association in order to come to the "big" event. I hope they remain members for years to come.



Our annual elections are coming up. It would be a pleasure to see you at this important annual meeting open to all our membership. We are always looking for and needing board members. It's a great group of people to work with, and since we meet just seven times a year there is not a lot of personal time taken from your schedule. Plus, it's very rewarding to know you are making a positive impact on PGHS and her students.

It feels like we had more fog than usual this summer. When I think back to when I was a kid summer was definitely a foggy season, but it seemed as if the sun would still peak out in the afternoons. Am I complaining? Oh no! I love this weather. And it

sure beats the horrible heat and floods that most of the nation has experienced this summer. They don't call this place the "Circle of Enchantment" for nothing.

I've called upon Zena Holman's granddaughter Patty Barter Marsh '68 to help me with the history end of the department store. Her great-grandfather Renssalaer Luther Holman was the founder. If any of you have stories or pictures to contribute to the story I would be most grateful, as I am sure our readers would as well.

An update on Bill Hyler '39 has him doing very well. He still has around the clock care, but he loves company so any of you that live close by please feel free to visit him.

Once again, we are super excited about the anniversary alumni dinner in October. With our new logo, we will offer mugs, magnets, lapel pins and lanyards at the event. And everyone who comes will go home with a souvenir wine glass. What's not to like about that? Hope to see you there. If not, I'll report how it went in the expanded December issue of the Knockout II.

All the best!

Joanie Hyler '68