Recently, Music and Choral Teacher Othello Jefferson was gathering information about the history of the choral music program at Sequoia. As part of this process, Othello was able to interview retired choral teacher Jay Selby. Here are the questions and Jay’s responses.

What made you want to become a choral music educator?

JS: When I was 6 or 7, my mother belonged to a women's chorale...they often rehearsed at our home and the sound and music selected was appealing...I also enjoyed the great music I heard.

What was your music experience in elementary, middle, and high school and how did it affect your career path to becoming a choral music educator?

JS: My elementary school teacher had such love of choral music that affected all she came in contact with...me included. Jr. High was a blur as WW II was the most important part of life. High school had a very dedicated task master who demanded much from his music students. I took A Capella choir for the 4 yrs. and was a soloist at festivals besides performing for civic clubs. Upon graduation I was received the Dramatics Award rather than the one for music ! I had heard that SF State College had a well known music department...tuition was low...so at 18, I left Oregon and became a Californian. I was drafted in 1951 and my first taste of teaching took place at Ford Ord, and Camp Roberts where I was cadre for the Leader's Course...taught different Army disciplines. Under the GI Bill I returned to SFSC and received my credential with a choral major.

You left Edison HS in Stockton and came to teach at Sequoia in 1960. Why did you want to teach at this school as opposed to any other school?

JS: I had no classroom experience other than as a student teacher...the Peninsula wanted only experienced choral people...I was at Edison in Stockton for 3 yrs, ...The Sequoia job came open ..my wife's family lived in RWC and through talking/competing with other music teachers and their supervisors, I learned about the well known legacy of Mr. Carrington..I met with him and we later became friends as I started my first years at Sequoia.

What was the musical climate when you arrived?

JS: There had been 2 other choral directors at Sequoia...I had left, the other went to teach at...
You have been reading about this in the last few editions of this publication but I can now report that the 3-foot bronze statue of Cherokee icon and scholar, Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee writing system known as a syllabary, is in the final stages and we are getting closer and closer to project completion. Cherokee sculptor, Daniel HorseChief of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, has completed the model and it is ready to be sent to a foundry to be cast in bronze. Our Board of Directors has reviewed detailed photographs of the model and approved the project to move forward to next phase. The first word I uttered when first seeing the photos of the model was “Wow!” I can only imagine what word I will utter upon seeing the final product. It truly is an outstanding piece of work and one we can all be proud of.

As I mentioned in the last edition, the statue will be a smaller scale near-replica version of a piece created by Daniel HorseChief for Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. It will sit on a pedestal approximately 3-feet in height and will be located in the foyer of the main entry of the school at the bell tower. For security purposes the pedestal will be bolted to the floor and the statue will be bolted to the pedestal. The statue will be in a glass enclosure built into the top of the pedestal. There will be a descriptive plaque on the pedestal that will explain the significance of Sequoyah. Please see our website for more information about Sequoyah at http://www.sequoiasalumniassoc.org/about/sequoyah.php.

As of this writing, I am still unable to tell you exactly when the statue will be completed and installed, at which time there will be a dedication ceremony. Stay tuned!

On a completely different subject, we have a vacancy on our Board of Directors. Should you wish to be a candidate to serve on this spirited and passionate 11-member Board of fellow Sequoians whose focus is to honor and help perpetuate Sequoia’s rich and proud heritage while at the same time support Sequoia today and into the future, please contact us. Better yet, contact me personally at kenrolandelli@aol.com or call me at (650) 368-0805. I would like very much to discuss this with you.

In the Spirit of Sequoia,

Ken Rolandelli, President
Sequoia High School Alumni Association
Elections 2014

At the Annual Meeting on July 22, results of the ballot for the election of Board of Directors for 2012-13 were given. Congratulations to Pat Schath Bernard (1944), Carolyn Abbott Livengood (1952), Nancy Lebkicher Oliver (1957), Ken Rolandelli (1963), Caroline Cameron Scutero (1957) and Marian Aragon Wydo (1964) who were elected by your mailed ballots to serve another two-year term on the Board of Directors of SHSAA.

Attendees enjoyed refreshments as President Ken Rolandelli and other chairs gave a brief overview of SHSAA and its various activities. The meeting was then adjourned and the regular Board meeting was held.

Officers Elected

At the August 27 Board Meeting, officer elections were held. Elected to serve for the 2012-2013 year are: President, Ken Rolandelli (1963); Vice-President, Leah Schmuck (1954); Secretary, Nancy Lebkicher Oliver (1957); and Treasurer: Sally Coelho Newman (1956).

Sequoia vs. Paly

The Little Big Game Reenacted

In September, the “Little Big Game” was held once again when Sequoia played Palo Alto. Unfortunately, Sequoia was not the winner. That night, it was streamed live. To see the replay of the game, go to the Bay Area Online Sports Network archives, at http://www.baosn.tv/

NOMINATION FORMS FOR SEQUOIA’S SPORTS HALL OF FAME

If you have a nomination for our Sequoia Sports Hall of Fame, the nomination forms are available. There are two forms—one for Athletes, and one for Coaches. Some of the information needed for athletes would be details on sports played, and years; member of special teams, championship teams, etc.; work in sports after high school, professional and amateur sports and honors, etc. For coaches, necessary information would include sports coached and years; awards, honors, and championships; role model; other accomplishments, etc. To obtain a copy of the form, email sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net, or call 650-592-5822.

Save the date! Picnic 2015 is Aug. 15.
MEMORABILIA DONATED

Thank you to the following people who have donated memorabilia to our Association. We appreciate having these things from Sequoia's past.

The family of Vivian Shoote Logan (1945) has given a wonderful scrapbook containing clippings, programs, and photos from her Sequoia life, and also several copies of the Sequoia Times. Vivian's daughter wrote: "My mom was a wonderful nurse (RN) for 60 years."


Reunions

Reunion chairmen: Please contact our Reunion Liaison, Pat Bernard, if you're planning a reunion for your class: (650) 366-1457 or e-mail <sequoiahsa-lumni@earthlink.net> or mail to: Sequoia Reunions, P.O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 94064-2534.

We have no information as of yet for the 2015 reunions!
If you are planning your reunion, contact us immediately with the information below!

Attention all "Golden Grad" (50 years plus) reunion chairs: Could you arrange to have the 50-year pins and disks at your next reunion? Just contact SHSAA to make arrangements!

Reunion Chairs & Committee Members

Be aware that Sequoia’s National Champion Cheer Team is able, eager, and ready to perform their routines for Sequoia reunions. This is a great opportunity to provide memories that everyone can enjoy. To make arrangements, the website at: https://sites.google.com/site/sequoiacheerteam/home

Calendar

Check with our web site for updates: www.SequoiaHSAlumniAssoc.org

November
21, 22, & 23 - Fall Musical: “All Shook Up” ***
25 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

December
2 - Choir and Orchestra Concert ***
4 - Band and Jazz Ensemble Concert ***
No SHSAA Board meeting.

2015

January
27 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

February
20, 21 & 22 - Winter Comedy “Arsenic & Old Lace” ***
27 - Sequoia Showcase ***
24 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

March
6 - Sequoia Music Festival ***
24 - SHSAA Board Meeting *
28 - Booster’s Crab Feed (see Spotlight on Sequoia)

April
10 & 11 - Sequoia Dance Show ***
11 - International Festival (see Spotlight on Sequoia)
14 - Choir & Orchestra Pops Concert ***
16 - Bands Pops Concert ***
28 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

May
8 - “Red, Hot, & Cole” (revue) ***
9 - Annual Sequoia Stampede (see Spotlight on Sequoia)
20 - Outdoor Music Concert/ VPAwards ***
26 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

June
5 - Graduation at Sequoia
23 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

July
28 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

August
15 - ANNUAL ALUMNI PICNIC at Sequoia
25 - SHSAA Board Meeting *

* Sequoia High School Alumni Association meetings are held on the fourth Tues. of each month (except July and December) at the Sequoia High School’s AVP Conference Room 3, 1201 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, at 5:00 PM. (July meeting place to be announced; no meeting in December.) All SHSAA members are welcome to attend. (Always double check with SHSAA beforehand, (650) 592-5822, or e-mail: sequoiahsalumnisheehan@seq.org , as changes sometimes occur.)
** See details, REUNIONS, above
*** See details, SEQUOIA PERFORMS, p. ___
Sequoia Legacy Society – Estate Planning – How Planned Giving Benefits You

The Sequoia High School Alumni Association is committed to preserving the rich heritage and academic excellence at Sequoia High School that has become its hallmark since 1895. To accomplish these goals requires considerable volunteer support and ongoing funding. To illustrate ways you can participate in maintaining this legacy, we have listed the following estate planning opportunities:

- Gifts of Cash/ Stocks/ Bonds - Securities owned more than one year that have appreciated in value avoid capital gains tax on those assets when gifted to SHSAA.
- Wills and Bequests - Gifts given through your will or revocable living trust can be given to the SHSAA as a percentage, specific amount or residual of your estate.
- Retirement Plan Assets - SHSAA can be the beneficiary for all or a percentage of the assets.
- Charitable Gift Annuity - When an annuity is established with a gift of cash or property, you receive a tax deduction the first year and a portion tax-free of each annuity payment.
- Real Estate Gift - Real estate that has appreciated in value and is subject to capital gains taxes is an excellent asset to use as a charitable donation and can be designated as an outright gift.
- Life Insurance Gifts - Designating SHSAA as the owner and beneficiary to a new or existing life insurance policy with the premiums paid by the donor are tax deductible.

We suggest you consult your CPA, attorney or financial planner when considering estate planning. SHSAA is not staffed to provide legal or tax advice. Planned gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Sequoia High School Alumni Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (Taxpayer ID # 94-2967009). The SHSAA Board of Directors appreciates your consideration and thoughtfulness in this matter. You may reach us by phone at (650) 592-5822, by email at sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net or by mail to SHSAA at P. O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 94064-2534.

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The PAL Has Grown Since Modest Beginnings

When did the Peninsula Athletic League come into existence? Although it may not be definitive, the earliest mention of a prep sports championship in San Mateo County has been provided by Ed Nordness, a keeper of sports history at Sequoia High School. He has information indicating that the Cherokees won a league baseball title in 1908. An actual league is not named, however.

Meanwhile, more evidence of a high school sports league on the Peninsula can be found buried in the basement floor archives of the Burlingame Public Library. Microfilm of hoary editions of the Burlingame Advance Star, a defunct Peninsula newspaper, indicates that “San Mateo Union High School” defeated “Palo Alto,” 6-3, in a “league” rugby match in October 1914.

The rudimentary grouping was said to consist of those two schools, along with San Jose High School and the St. Matthew’s Military Academy (now St. Matthew’s Episcopal Day School) in San Mateo, according to the Advance Star’s brief account. It was a modest beginning.

By the early 1920s, the Peninsula Athletic League had been formed. A 1925 report referred to it as one of the few formal high school athletic arrangements in all of California at that time. A year later, the league strode onto California’s big prep sports stage when San Mateo High School’s football team won the state championship. By the 1930s, the far-flung PAL included public schools from Jefferson High School in the north to San Jose in the south.

The post-World War II era saw tremendous population growth along the Peninsula. New secondary schools were opened with regularity right into the first half of the 1960s. The PAL grew accordingly. Something had to give. Local PAL schools were eventually divided up into the South Peninsula Athletic League, the Mid-Peninsula League and the North Peninsula League to accommodate the surge in student numbers and rampant school construction. Even Serra High School, at one point in the 1950s, requested entry into the PAL. The proposed move by the Catholic school was turned down by league officials on a close vote.

When a drastic enrollment slump began to drain the region of students 40 years ago, retrenchment in earnest began. Three schools (Cubberley, Ravenswood and San Carlos highs) in the SPAL, one (Crestmoor High School) in the MPL and two (Oceana and Serramonte highs) in the NPL eventually were closed.

Oceana later re-opened as a specialized small school; today it has 600 students and a limited sports program. In 1995, it was determined to merge all of the remaining schools, Oceana included, into one mega-league under one administration.

Today, the PAL includes 17 primary public school members (not all schools offer all sports), along with nine supplementary private schools which compete in a few selected sports, including football and baseball.

---

by John Horgan, columnist
San Mateo County Times and the Daily Journal, with input from Ed Nordness (1951)
Donations  
June 1, 2014 - October 6, 2014  
SHSAA thanks all the donors who have helped make our programs possible!

CENTURY CLUB  
Susanne & Scott Campbell ...................1950  
Malcolm & Jean Buchanan....................1952  
Gary Reinecke ................................1961

SPIRIT OF THE SEAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
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JAPANESE TEA GARDEN  
Janet L. Bonner ................................1943  
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Emily Knudsen Matocha ........................1951  
Sandi Harris Adair ................................1955  
- in memory of Phyllis Maguire Clarkin ...1932

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- on behalf of David Harrington ............1972  
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Robert Bos .......................................1951  
Emily Knudsen Matocha ......................1951  
Jo Ann Clarkin Pine .............................1955  
- in memory of Phyllis Maguire Clarkin...1932

2014-15 ANNUAL FUND  
Vertis Builivant Di Trapani ....................1941  
Tudor Bogart ....................................1943  
Robert D. Brown ..................................1947

GENERAL FUND  
Helen Ridge ......................................1945  
Patricia Rowe Webster ..........................1946  
- in memory of Patricia Mitan Rhein ...1946  
Jean Bastasini Tomatis ........................1957  
- in memory of Marie Micali Amaya ........1945  
Nina Bayer ......................................1956  
Susan Fincher Mitchell .........................1956  
Sally Coelho Newman ...........................1956  
- in memory of Phyllis Maguire Clarkin ...1932  
Timothy Burkhart ................................1972  
& Vilma Loucel Burkhart ........................1972  
Valarie (Tink) Kitaura .........................1977  
Lucille Galvin .................................friend and parent  
Mary Landis .................................friend

ANNUAL PICNIC SPONSORSHIP  
FNB Norcal Bank  
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San Mateo Credit Union  
National Football League Alumni, Inc.

Attention Reunion Committees & Alumni At Large!  
Mark your Calendars for the  
9th Annual Alumni Association Picnic  
on August 15, 2015

Can You Help?  
SHSAA MEMBERS .... Please give us a hand. We ask about an hour or two of your time!  
We can use more help in several areas.  
• Annual Picnic: Setting up (8:30 am) and taking down (3 pm) at the picnic. Our wonderful football team helps set up tables. YOUR help is needed to attach tablecloths, set up the raffle table and the merchandise booth. Help is also needed at Registration, with Merchandise sales, and at the Raffle/ Silent Auction tables! The more people helping, the more fun we have and the faster we can finish!  
• Managing our Facebook Page - we post events, etc. during the year, but we do not have wall postings, etc.  
• Serving as Board Member: the board meets once a month (except December) to plan the various activities of the Association. (There is currently one vacancy waiting for you to fill as a volunteer!) Each term is for two years. Come have fun as you contribute your ideas!  
• Serve as Reunion Liaison: Work with reunion chairmen for each class; keep information in reunion folders up-to-date; gather reunion information for publication in Smoke Signals.  
You are also welcome to join any of our committees: working on picnic planning , choosing Cherokee Grant recipients, merchandise planning and sales, Tea Garden cleanup work parties, Smoke Signals content, etc. Just let us know what you would like to do!  
Contact SHSAA: 650-592-5822, or e-mail sequoiasalumni@earthlink.net, or write to  
P.O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 94064-2534 (see the Returnable Page).
CENTURY CLUB CHARTER MEMBERS

The Sequoia High School Alumni Century Club is comprised of business, community, and alumni members who donate a minimum of $100 each year to help fund scholarships.

All who joined by June 30, 2006 are Charter Members. Renewal letters have been sent.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Platinum ($10,000)</th>
<th>Sustaining ($100)</th>
<th>Yvonne Loustau Mootz, C*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lifetime membership</td>
<td>Pat Bernard*</td>
<td>Lynden &amp; Charlotte Olsted*</td>
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<td>Joe &amp; Virginia Davies Biddle</td>
<td>Malcolm &quot;Meb&quot; and Jean Buchanan, C*</td>
<td>James Parker*</td>
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<td>Gold ($5,000)</td>
<td>Jack &amp; Susanne Chapman Campbell, C*</td>
<td>Gary Reinecke, C*</td>
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<td>15-year membership</td>
<td>Richard and Donna Plumley Cesarin, C*</td>
<td>Ken Rolandelli, C*</td>
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<td>Ellen Stok, C</td>
<td>Richard and Dee Rowan Eva C*</td>
<td>Glenn A. Stewart</td>
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<td>Silver ($2,500)</td>
<td>Jeffrey Filippi, C*</td>
<td>Curt Talbott, C*</td>
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<td>Chrystal Kerstan Goss, C</td>
<td>Gary Franson*</td>
<td>Donald &amp; Carole Tanklage</td>
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<td>Bronze ($1,000)</td>
<td>Jan Harris Hillegass, C*</td>
<td>Donald T. Terry, C*</td>
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<td>5-year membership</td>
<td>Patricia Small Horn*</td>
<td>Bob Weeks*</td>
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<td>Bob &amp; Wally Arends</td>
<td>James &amp; Eleanor Killen*</td>
<td>Richard &amp; Carole Francis Williams, C*</td>
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<td>Gordon &amp; Betty Moore</td>
<td>Pat Jeffery Kesterson*</td>
<td>C = Charter Member, * 2010-2011 renewal</td>
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<td>Howard and Patricia Macway, C*</td>
<td>(We apologize to any new members whose</td>
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<td>Steven Mandell*</td>
<td>contributions reached us after publication)</td>
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<td>Marjorie Stewart Miller*</td>
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[Donate to Sequoia High School Alumni Century Club]

For more information, please contact Paul Sanfilipo, scholarship chairman and Century Club founder, at 961 Woodside Road, Suite D, Redwood City, CA 94061-3644, or phone (650) 365-2144 or (650) 366-5171. Fax: (650) 365-3481 e-mail: AmericanCoast@msn.com

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Please make checks payable to: Sequoia High School Alumni CENTURY CLUB, and mail to same:

c/o Paul Sanfilipo--Scholarship Chairman/ Century Club Founder
961 Woodside Rd., Suite D, Redwood City, CA 94061-3644

The Sequoia High School Alumni Assn. is a 100 % tax deductible, 501(c)(3) non-profit association (Scholarship funds awarded through the S.H.S.A.A. “Spirit of the Seal” Scholarship Program.)
Redwood City’s motto, “Climate Best by Government Test”, held true for the Alumni Association’s 8th Annual Picnic held on August 16. 300-plus Alumni and other guests basked in the beautiful weather in the park-like setting that is Sequoia High School, sharing fond memories and stories with old friends and new. This year, six decades of former Sequoians were represented as they partook in the delicious barbecue lunch, offering a variety of choices. Former Sequoian, Jeremy Sowers, of Emergency Barbecue and Catering of San Carlos, again catered the event.

The Alumni Association honored two very special organizations as this year’s Purple Patriot Award winners, the Sequoia Healthcare District Heartsafe Program and Redwood City 2020 for their outstanding service providing significant benefit to Sequoia High School. (Note: please see detailed article elsewhere in this newsletter regarding the Purple Patriot Award and what our honorees did to deserve it). The Golden Grads in attendance (class of 1964) were recognized. 50-year commemorative pins were available to honor their milestone year.

Sequoia notables in attendance were former football coach and member of the Sports Hall of Fame as a coach, Joe Marvin (1955 – 1964) and Sequoia Union High School District Board of Trustees member, Olivia Martinez (class of 1961).

A big thank you goes out to the committee that put this wonderful event together. Committee members were Rosemary Alvarez, Pat Bernard, Carolyn Livengood, Sally Newman, Nancy Oliver, Julie Salas, Marian Wydo, Leah Schmuck, Caroline Scutero and committee chairman Ken Rolandelli. We thank the class reunion groups of 1959 and 1984 for incorporating the picnic as part of their reunion activities. We ask that classes planning reunions and classmate get-togethers to please consider incorporating your event into this one. All the work is done for you. All you need to do is to buy tickets and attend. Equally as important is that you would be supporting the Alumni Association by contributing to this vital fund-raising event so we may continue to communicate with you and continue to benefit Sequoia High School with grants,
mittee that put this wonderful event together. Committee members were Rosemary Alvarez, Pat Bernard, Carolyn Livengood, Sally Newman, Nancy Oliver, Julie Salas, Marian Wydo, Leah Schmuck, Caroline Scutero and committee chairman Ken Rolandelli.

We thank the class reunion groups of 1959 and 1984 for incorporating the picnic as part of their reunion activities.

We ask that classes planning reunions and classmate get-togethers to please consider incorporating your event into this one. All the work is done for you. All you need to do is to buy tickets and attend. Equally as important is that you would be supporting the Alumni Association by contributing to this vital fund-raising event so we may continue to communicate with you and continue to benefit Sequoia High School with grants, scholarships and support of various high school programs, projects and activities.

This is an opportunity to reconnect with your high school. It is also a coming-together of the Sequoia community as witnessed by those participating. There are alumni, student groups, the Sequoia Boosters, the Sequoia Foundation, The PTSA (Parents, Teachers, Students Association), Sequoia District and Sequoia High School administrators and teachers on hand for this event.

The annual theme of the picnic is “Celebrate Sequoia! Remember the past, look to the future”, our intent being to honor and perpetuate Sequoia’s rich and proud heritage while at the same time supporting Sequoia today and into the future.

We hope to see you at next year’s picnic.

THANK OUR PICNIC DONORS
For our recent picnic and silent auction, we received wonderful donations from the following:
- Hiller Aviation Museum
- Masterworks Chorale
- Music at Kohl Mansion
- Golden Gate Better Business Bureau
- Disneyland Resort
- Hillbarn Theatre
- San Jose Sharks
- Homestead Bowl
- Broadway By the Bay
- Nancy Lebkicher Oliver
- Caroline Cameron Scutero
- Lyngso Garden Materials, Inc.
- NFL Alumni, Northern California
- San Mateo Credit Union
- First National Bank of Northern California

These individuals, organizations, and businesses helped make our picnic a success! SHSAA gives a huge thank you to all these sponsors.
SEQUOIA & SAN CARLOS ALUMNI TO BE FEATURED IN EXHIBIT

The San Mateo County History Museum in downtown Redwood City is currently working on their next changing exhibit, “Let’s Play Ball,” which will run for 10-18 months beginning in March of 2015. For the exhibit, they’ve asked SHSAA to loan artifacts, photographs, or memorabilia that represent professional and semi professional baseball players with local connections to San Mateo County. They’d like such items as a glove, shoes or a jersey/uniform that were used during actual games or photographs that show them playing baseball in High School. They specifically mentioned items related to past Sequoia alumni Con Dempsey (1944), Dick Stuart (1951), Dick Sharon (1970), Paul McClellan (1985) and/or San Carlos High School alumni Keith Comstock (1974). Alumni Athletic Committee Chair Ed Nordness has already located some items for the exhibit. If you have things that might be included, contact Ed at nordness.edward@gmail.com. And plan to visit the exhibit in the spring! The San Mateo County Museum is located in the old courthouse on Broadway, right opposite the Fox Theatre in downtown Redwood City.

Dons’ Doings

SC 1964 reunion
(was Oct. 10 & 11)

Here is a note from Tom:
Our reunion weekend has come and gone and I would like to thank the committee members and everyone else who supported our events. I think a great time was had by all who attended.

I have uploaded and labeled the still photos from my camera for Friday and Saturday night. You can view them on our website at www.schs1964.myevent.com; click on Photo Albums. Please let me know of any errors regarding identification or spelling. I apologize in advance and will make corrections right away.

(Contact Tom at tstone@cb-norcal.com)

The reunion began on Friday night with cocktails at the Casa de Flores. Then continued on with visits to the San Carlos High School Memorial Plaque on Melendy Dr. and to the San Carlos Museum of History. Then it was on to Sparky’s Hot Rod Garage for a great party.

Looking For...

John Coutsouridis (1973) is looking for Lynda Diamond, a former San Carlos High student from 1973. Let us know if you can help John find her.

If you have any artifacts, photos, or memorabilia relating to San Carlos High baseball player Keith Comstock (Class of 1974), would you loan it to the San Mateo County History Museum as part of a display called “Let’s Play Ball” opening March, 2015? (See story above.)

NEW MEMBER

No new San Carlos members were received since July. Please tell you fellow San Carlos alumni that there is a “home” for them with SHSAA!

IN MEMORIAM

SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL
(June 11 - October 12, 2014)
John Petrancosta SC-1968
Bennett “Ben” Robinson SC-1972
Pam Charlot FS-SC-1976

John Petrancosta (SC-1968) took classes at UC-Berkeley then joined the family accounting and tax preparer.

Bennett “Ben” Johnson (SC-1972) graduated from San Jose State with a BA in Psychology, then created his own catering and deli business, Gourmet To Go, in Upland. After obtaining a MA in Organization Psychology from John F. Kennedy University, he helped create and become Executive Director of Raise the Bar, a nonprofit grocery store corporation serving independent grocers throughout California. Ben was a dedicated French Horn player with The Peninsula Symphony, Ukian Symphony, Philharmonia Heldsburg, Santa Rosa Symphony, and the Glen Ellen Brass.

Pam Charlot was a former student who attend San Carlos High School during 1975 & 1976.

REUNION

Planning a reunion? Please send your information to SHSAA, at sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net or phone 650-592-5822. Give the class, date, place, and contact information.

(Left) 1965 AC Cobra belongs to classmate John Aitken.
Jay Selby interview
Continued from previous page

Woodside when it opened...there were very competent teachers in the feeder schools and I felt that the interest in a solid choral program at S. was ripe. The administration was solidly behind adding classes of my choice, and the daughter of the editor of the RWC Tribune was an active young lady in music...hence her father gave space to my choral groups in his columns continuously.

What do you feel is the most striking difference between Music Education when you taught at Sequoia and now?

JS: Music now is considered a frill...there are very few feeder schools operating and the population change doesn't have a grounding in the love of choral music that touches the soul/heart rather than the feet.

NAfME is releasing revised National Arts standards this year and I'm sure that you have heard of the new Common Core (college and career ready) Standards that are being implemented in the district. During your tenure, how well were Music Standards implemented in your music classrooms and how did you deal with the balance between the Standards that you used and careful attention to the artistic aspects of choral music?

JS: It may sound loose, but most of the “standards” were set by the Music Coordinating Com. (teachers) with input from all the district music teachers. We all just understood that we would challenge our students with the “best” literature possible and in most cases they lived up to those values. I have been away for 25 yrs. and I’m afraid I’m not aware of all the ramifications of the NAfME.

What were some of the moments/ accomplishments that you were most proud of in your tenure at Sequoia High School?

JS: Along with the undefeated S. football team, the choral dept. was awarded NEWS MAKER OF THE YEAR in the early 60’s. The Treble Clef was invited to the International Kiwanis Convention in Italy, but couldn’t raise the money to finance the tour. The Madrigal Singers were the first High School Elizabethan costumed group to be invited to the Ashland Shakespearean Festival in 1964. [I re-established the bass Clef. [Sequoia had the] first swing choir in the district. [I had a] solo voice class with a paid accompanist including French, Italian, German art songs presented in “noon” recitals and taking part in solo festivals.

[I was involved with the] first team teaching : “Music and the Arts” in the district involving 10 other Sequoia faculty teachers who were competent in some art area.

[We] presented 4 major concerts a year...the highlight being the Anniversary Choral Concert given in June that presented all 5 choral groups with full staging of each selection; the “Music Drama Workshop” that presented fully staged/full orchestra/costumed American musicals during the summer with music students from every HS in the district with 5 district teachers. [We] staged “Amahl and the Night Visitors” with the district orchestra and choruses - soloists were district teachers along with many full choral masses etc. with known guest conductors.

[There were ] the 75th and the 100th Treble Clef reunion in 2007 with 60 of my past students from 1960 to 1989. The climax/high light for me was my retirement ...I was brought to Carrington Hall and there were 400 in attendance...all my past choral groups presented a concert and then a reception...very emotional!!!

Did you work with any students that have gone on to higher levels of success as professional singers, actors, composers, performers, etc.?

JS: There were 7 that I know of who went on to teach music...Lydia Pence is appearing now with a band in Napa....Kenny Ortega, who was in my swing choir, is internationally known and celebrated as a choreographer/ director.

What advice would you give to first year choral directors as they begin their music education journey?

JS: Always keep your sense of humor! Let piano be your basis to advance as a choral director/teacher. Always challenge your singers to attempt music that may be beyond their initial abilities... they will soon be able to appreciate great choral literature and love it the rest of their lives. Never take yourself seriously... the music is the true meaning of life.

LOOKING FOR
If you have any contact information for these grads who are being sought, please contact SHSAA so we can let them know who is looking for them and give them that person's contact information. Note that SHSAA does not just give out information to anyone who asks, except that person’s reunion committee.

John Coutsouridis (1973) is looking for Lynda Diamond, a former San Carlos High student from 1973. Let us know if you can help John find her.

Someone gave us a message saying “Frank” had passed away. Who is “Frank”? If you were the person who sent that message, please let us know more information about him. We have a lot of members called Frank, and we don't know which one you meant!
Two Sequoia Seniors Recognized

The California Association of Worldwide IB Schools (CAWS) recognized three outstanding International Baccalaureate Diploma students, and two of them were Sequoia seniors! Each received a CAWS scholarship, presented at graduation. Simon Greenhill and Amir Amerian both contributed a lot to Sequoia’s IB program and the school community at large.

The Sequoia Boosters have several events you might like to support:

1) The 5th Annual Crab Dinner on Mar. 28, At Our Lady of Mt. Carmel; doors open at 6 pm for cocktails and auction, with dinner at 7 pm. Donate items for the raffle and auction or reserve your tickets at https://sites.google.com/site/sequoiaboosterclub/crab-dinner-kc.

2) The Sequoia Stampede 5K run, Sat., May 9 at Sequoia. This fun community event lets families, friends, students, athletes, & businesses support Sequoia athletics. Information and registration: https://sites.google.com/site/sequoiaboosterclub/stampede-run.

You can find out about all Booster events at https://sites.google.com/site/sequoiaboosterclub/home/boosters-events-calendar.

The PTSA is sponsoring the International Festival on April 11. It will highlight activities at Sequoia and is open to the public. (Contact alice.c.henderson@gmail.com for more information.)

Sequoia’s Daily Bulletin

If you are interested in knowing the daily goings on at Sequoia High School, the school is distributing its daily bulletin through a Google Group. To join and receive the daily emails, go to the link https://groups.google.com/a/seq.org/forum/#forum/shs.daily.bulletin.

If you experience any difficulty, you may contact Lisa Picchi at the school at lpicchi@seq.org and she will be happy to assist you.

Read the Raven Report

Discover the good work by the Sequoia Journalism class and the work they do! They are publishing news both online in many forms and in print issues, and would love new readers and followers.

Journalism at Sequoia has a long and interesting tradition. The first paper, “The Sequoia Echo”, was issued to students three months after the establishment of the school in 1895! Despite this only being the sixth year Sequoia has recently had a Journalism class, the students and their dynamic and passionate teacher, Kim Vinh, are winning national awards! Students plan to attend the National Journalism Convention in November in Washington, DC where they will be presenting a session to a national audience!

If you would like to know what is happening on campus and be impressed by the students at Sequoia, go to www.ravenreport.org for links to the issues, additional coverage and ways to connect with them on social media. You can also order a home subscription to the Raven Report for $15 by mailing ravenreport09@gmail.com. This is a great way to stay up-to-date on your alma mater.

The Football Games and More...

When you attend a Sequoia football game, you have the opportunity to support many groups at Sequoia. The concessions program is a finely tuned fundraising machine that benefits a range of activities:

- Boosters sells pizza, hamburgers, BBQ chicken, cold drinks, and so on to assist teams with funding for uniforms, equipment, and transportation.

- Senior parents/Grad Week committee sells popcorn, hot chocolate, coffee, and seat cushions to support a safe and sober Grad Night party as well as other senior activities during the last week of school.

- Senior students sell baked goods to assist in lowering the costs for Prom and Homecoming.

- Junior students sell candy to assist in lowering the costs for Prom and Homecoming.

So come hungry to our home games and support Sequoia on the field and in the stands! (Find the schedule on the website: sequoiahs.org/calendar)

Spirit Week Update...

Wednesday’s Dress Up: Salad Dressing Day
Freshman - Ranch (Cowboy Dress Up Theme); Sophomores - Healthy Choice (Athletic Wear); Juniors - Thousand Island (Hawaiian Theme); Seniors - Caesar Dressing (Greek Theme)

Thursday: Dress up like Disney Lands
Freshman - Toon Town; Sophomores - Tomorrowland; Juniors - AdventureLand; Seniors - FantasyLand

Friday: All-Purple Friday!

WASC Accreditation Coming...

In February, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) will conduct its self-study evaluation at Sequoia. The process helps to refine school-wide goals and focus on the work being done in all curricular areas to meet those goals.. Preparation for this process is a huge undertaking on the part of administration and staff, with input from students and parents as well.
THANKING SHSAA

The Sequoia High School Speech and Debate Team would like to thank you for your generous donation to our team and all the good it has done. We were able to continue hiring one of our debate coaches and recruit another. Our newest students have been able to compete as Varsity teams in our league, and our returning students were able to excel and learn new and advanced knowledge. We were taught how to create effective cases and to prepare for whatever current events topics came our way. Thanks to your support, the team can continue its mission: To provide a welcoming environment for Sequoia students to learn important skills that they will use now, in college, and in any careers the enter, and to learn how to be successful public speakers, researchers, and critical thinkers.

• • •

Thank you for the generous funding of a class set of scientific calculators for my Physics classroom They have been well-used and have cut down the stress of students not having their own.

—Allison Stafford

• • •

Thank you for your contribution to the Sequoia Booster’s Crab Dinner and Auction. We hosted over 220 guests, served 700 pounds of crab, and raised nearly $50,000 to support Sequoia’s invaluable athletic programs. Your generous donation helps ensure that our student athletes are, first and foremost safe, and that they remain competitive in league and tournament play.

—The Sequoia Boosters

• • •

On behalf of the World Language department and especially IB Spanish Language B students, I want to thank you for the funds approved for the microphone that will make better recordings of the voices of the students in oral exams.

—Roberto Verdeses, Ph.D.

• • •

I have already received the Fisher-Logemann Articulation Competency kit with beautiful color illustrations. I can’t wait to use it with my special education students. Thank you for your continued support.

—Marilyn Vandenbroeck

• • •

Thank you very much for your donation of $100 to the French Club. This past summer, 22 students from Sequoia had the chance to visit France for our educational exchange and we are currently planning our sister school’s visit in April. I’m proud to say that Sequoia offers this opportunity to take students and open their eyes to a world outside of the U.S.

The trip in the summer of 2015 will be our 4th time visiting our sister school in Muret, France. The students will be spending 10 days with a French family and four days touring Paris. Because the students come from varied financial backgrounds, we spend a year and a half fundraising. You can be assured that your donation is greatly appreciated to help make this trip possible for every deserving student.

—Karina Chin

CORRECTIONS

“Thanks to Ed Nordness for reporting on the alumni vs. varsity baseball team game. I would like to correct one name, Will Kirk class of ’95, not Will Kiek. He was on the team that won the CCS championship in ’94, and he was first base on the All San Mateo County team.”

—Judy Seely Kirk, (1960)

If you see an error in Smoke Signals, please bring it to our attention and we’ll get it corrected!
In Memoriam
June 17 - October 12, 2014

FS = former student Fr = Friend FAC = faculty

James Arthur Old, Jr. ...........................................1946
Donald Reilly-Hester ...........................................1946
Gloria Bertolucci Balzarini ................................1947
Phyllis Thom Agnelli ..........................................1948
Joanne Wilson Dimminger ....................................1949
James Matsumoto ..............................................1949
Robert Lloyd Smith ..........................................1949
Beverly Nelson Hawthorne ....................................1950
William “Bill” Mintline .......................................1951
Coye Whitehead Collins ......................................1952
Patricia Barbaris Hansen .....................................1952
Adrienne Parker Larrau ........................................1952
Charlene Roberts Miclean ....................................1952
Minoru Okamura ...............................................1952
Julian “Ray” Roldan ............................................ FS-1954
Nils Helsing ......................................................1955
Zona Brown Caesar ...........................................1956
Virgil Dean Parks .............................................1956
Patricia Rodriguez Coronado ................................1957
Janice Ipson Sausedo ..........................................1959
Walter Clark ......................................................1961

Bill Gary Grace ..................................................1961
Roy Reimer ......................................................1968
Gail Gaddini Loschiavo ......................................1971
Thomas Call Barlow ..........................................1974
John Yuki ........................................................1975
Vanessa McKenna ............................................ FS-1999
Mark Madden ....................................................2012
Marie Walsh ...................................................... friend

SEQUOIA FACULTY
Geraldine Jurras Thomas .............................. FF
Jack E. Waldvogel ........................................... FF

SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL
John Petranco .............................. SC-1968
Bennett ”Ben” Robinson .......................... SC-1972
Pam Charbt ...................................................... FS-SC-1976

SEQUOIA DISTRICT FORMER TRUSTEE
Walter J. Harrington .......................... FF

SEQUOIA DISTRICT TRUSTEE
Walter J. Harrington, pioneering developer of apartment projects in Foster City and of Santa Cruz Plaza in Menlo Park; former president of the Building Industry of America. He was a former Trustee of the Sequoia Union High School District.

James Matsumoto (1949), received the Purple Heart in the Korean War and was with Matsumoto Nursery.

Robert Lloyd Smith (1949) operated a custom body and paint shop for classic cars in Auburn, CA; he owned numerous street rods and loved racing on the Boneville Salt Flats.

Nils Helsing (1955) was among the first 500 Hewlett Packard employees, eventually becoming a Machinist Supervisor.

Virgil Parks (1956) worked for AT&T and was involved with the Communication Workers of America (CWA) AFL/CIO, where he was president for 13 years and eventually became Administrative Assistant to the Vice President of the CWA International staff.

Bill Grace (1961) owned his own business, Grace Way Machine, Corvette Reconstruction, both in Kelseyville and Burson, CA. He invented and held patents on several different types of body shop repair equipment.

Gail Gaddini Loschiavo (1971), together with her husband, ran Gibson’s Creative Wood Floors in Healdsburg for over 24 years

Tom Barlow (1974) had a career with Chevron Chemical, Monsanto, and finally with Scotts, where he was District Sales Manager for the Western States.

SEQUOIA DISTRICT TRUSTEE
Walter J. Harrington, pioneering developer of apartment projects in Foster City and of Santa Cruz Plaza in Menlo Park; former president of the Building Industry of America. He was a former Trustee of the Sequoia Union High School District.

SAN CARLOS HIGH SCHOOL
(See “Dons Doings” page)

FS = Former Student
? = unconfirmed year
Facebook’s Mark Zuckerberg Surprises Sequoia

In September, Principal Sean Priest assembled the freshman class and other students for a surprise guest speaker. He welcomed the students, saying, “You’re part of the something special. We are here today because we want to talk about the future. We want to talk about where you are going and how we are going to support you in preparing for the future.”

The first surprise guest was Facebook CIO Tim Campos. After a resounding applause, Campos addressed his audience, saying he was excited and a bit nervous – it had been a long time since he was in high school. Truthfully, he didn’t look so much older than his audience. “First, we want to help create the next generation of technology leaders starting right here. To do that you have to know how to build technology,” he said. “We are announcing today that in conjunction with Sequoia we are going to fund a new mobile application developing class that you can take as an elective. To help you build a new computer science lab, we are donating 50 laptops.” He then unveiled a huge pile of brand-new laptops and the kids thundered their applause.

Principal Priest then said, “This is a class we are designing for everyone – no matter what your comfort level with technology. If you’re out there in this audience right now, I want to take away any doubt in your mind that you might not be able to take this mobile app design class.” He then introduced Sequoia junior and 2014 Facebook intern Rosie Valencia, recent winner of an international Technovation competition for a mobile app she designed and engineered. She conducted a Q & A with with the founder and CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg. The excited students smiled broadly, and clapped and whistled unreservedly. Thirty-year-old Zuckerberg, founder of a multibillion-dollar company, who changed the way billions of people connect everyday, was without his signature hoodie but dressed in jeans and a T-shirt.

Rosie and Mark sat on the stage for a Q&A about the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education. Answering Rosie’s question about the running of Facebook, he turned to the crowd. “So one of the hardest jobs that we have is to make sure that we focus on the right things and help the most people solve the problems they are having and help connect hundreds of millions of more people,” he said. “I spend most of my time on product development. The things that I care about are engineering and building products that people use – that you guys use.”

Rosie asked how he started Facebook. “The first version of it was actually really simple, Mark said. ‘I wrote it in a couple of weeks. It’s not because I was unbelievably great at programming; it’s actually just because it was so simple.’ He stated that if students play games, on computers or phones, with that mindset that you can do different things in the future – this really applies beyond technology,” he continued. “Technology is the biggest area where things will change but also if you’re thinking about sports or science or fashion – they will be dramatically different then they are today. I think that’s an important thing to remember.”

He reminded his audience that expertise takes time. “It’s not like one day you wake up and you know how to do this stuff,” he said. “It’s kind of like anything else. You want to get good at soccer you start kicking a ball and then you play on a team and then you get a bunch of feedback and you’re not that good at the beginning but you get better and better.”

He focused on informing and inspiring the students – not his enormous success. He came across as a friend having a conversation with a friend or like a very relaxed coach encouraging the kids. “Everything big started small with someone just diving in and doing a really basic version or being pretty bad at the beginning and getting better over time,” he said. “Actually, one phrase that I hear a lot is you just have to be brave enough to start, and I really think that’s true – just having the guts to do something that you’re not an expert at yet.”

The new development lab class at Sequoia will be funded by Facebook for the next two years.

THANK YOU FOR CHEROKEE GRANT

Sequoia’s Speech and Debate Team thanked SHSAA for the Cherokee Grant helping to fund two coaches working with the Team. During the 2013-14 year, the team sent competitors to seven local district tournaments, three qualifying tournaments, and four high school invitational tournaments. One of their Lincoln Douglas debaters went undefeated at a Novice debate tournament. Another reached the elimination rounds at the College Prep School Invitational Tournament.

At the Stanford Invitational, one team entry advanced to the elimination rounds. At the State Qualifying Tournament, one of the Parliamentary Debate teams advanced to elimination rounds. Both of these advances were the first ever for the Team at these tournaments. Team President Amir Amerian advanced to elimination round of the Lincoln Douglas State Qualifying Tournament and the National Qualifying tournament. The year’s success and growth could not have been achieved without the support of the Team’s donors, including the Sequoia High School Alumni Association.
About Rossotti’s

(Excerpts taken from an article by Steve Staiger, Palo Alto Historian and staff member at the main library)
on Palo Alto Online, a Palo Alto Weekly Publication: Wednesday Jan 24, 2001

Echoes of Alpine Inn’s early days

One of the oldest businesses on the Peninsula, the Alpine Inn in Portola Valley dates from a time when the local residents felt squeezed by the burgeoning population of foreign-born newcomers. The inn continues to attract customers to the roadhouse/beer garden on the banks of Los Trancos Creek, at the corner of Alpine and Arastradero roads. Some customers still arrive on horseback.

In the 1850s, disappointed gold seekers began settling in the Santa Clara Valley to farm the fertile land. The earlier settlers, the Californios, feeling displaced and outnumbered by the newcomers, withdrew from the valley and found refuge in remote areas such as Half Moon Bay and Portola Valley. In 1852, Felix Buelna, former alcalde (mayor) of San Jose, settled on 95 acres of Maximo Martinez’ Rancho de Corte de Madera, and soon opened a casa de tableta, a gambling house, where his fellow Californios could play cards, enjoying each’s company with their beverages of choice. The roadhouse was established at the intersection of Arastradero Road and Alpine Road, then known as the Old Spanish Trail (a major route from the Santa Clara Valley to the coast communities of San Gregorio and Pescadero).

Buelna sold the roadhouse to William Stanton, a Menlo Park coachman, reputedly to cover his losses in a poker game. For the next century, ownership or proprietorship of the inn would change numerous times, often with new ethnicities or names. In 1870 an Englishman, William Tate Philpott, leased the roadhouse for five years before Stanton resumed management, and it became known as Stanton's Saloon. When Stanton died in a railroad accident, his family leased the business to F. Rodriguez Crovello, aka “Black Chapete,” a short, plump bartender with black handlebar mustache, popular with the locals and construction workers who were building the new Stanford University.

When Stanford opened in 1891, students soon discovered the liquid refreshments at Black Chapete’s, a welcome change from “dry” Palo Alto. University officials pressured San Mateo County officials about the saloon operating near the university and its young, impressionable students, but county officials did nothing—as San Mateo County had a very “wet” atmosphere. When the notoriously “wet” town of Mayfield incorporated in 1903, one of the first acts of the town trustees was to declare the town “dry,” which closed 23 saloons. One of the saloon owners, Charlie Wright, began a partnership with Crovello at the Alpine roadhouse.

Soon thereafter Charles Schenkel took over and renamed it the “Wunder,” with a German flavor, but Schenkel’s proprietorship did not last long. In 1907, Portola Valley farmer Walter Jelich bought Schenkel’s lease and continued the saloon’s operation.

Stanford President David Starr Jordan then protested the saloon’s presence to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, complaining that the establishment had “the reputation of being vile even for a roadhouse” and that it was a “disgrace to San Mateo County.” But the Board of Supervisors again failed to share that viewpoint and granted Jelich a liquor license before they even listened to Jordan’s plea. The publicity only increased the popularity of the saloon. Local ranchers, farm workers and draymen continued to patronize the establishment, but it was Stanford students that made it a profitable business for more than 70 years.

In 1909 the State of California passed a law prohibiting the sale of liquor within 1 1/2 miles of schools and universities, including Stanford, resulting in the closure of 14 saloons in Menlo Park, but left the Alpine Road establishment unaffected—it was just outside the new limit. The saloon’s business boomed.

During World War I, the U.S. Army’s Camp Fremont in Menlo Park created a dry zone surrounding the camp. But this dry zone also did not extend to the roadhouse, and the soldiers joined the locals and the students in enjoying

Continued on next page
TEA GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Keep the Tea Garden Beautiful!

Come help John Castro and the Tea Garden Maintenance Committee prune trees and plants, rake leaves, pull weeds, and generally tidy up the lovely garden.

Tea Garden Work Days throughout the year are mostly once a month (weather permitting) from 9 am until noon or 1 pm. You can come for an hour or stay the whole time.

If you would like to be contacted about the Tea Garden Clean Up days, contact SHSAA via e-mail: Sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net. Or call 650-592-5822 to add your name to the notification list.

Sequoia Veterans Memorial

Funds needed for more engraving

Donations are needed to complete the engraving of several more names on the Sequoia Veterans Memorial. Names to be added include: Norman Vance, Jimmy Austin, George Hildebrandt, Walter Van der Kamp, Fred Thom, Peter Virseo, and Howard Davis.

Since the Memorial was completed, a few names have been added, and now several names have been discovered that also need to go on the memorial. (See article in the Winter, 2013, issue of Smoke Signals, and also article written by Jim Clifford in the Journal of Local History, Volume 5, No. 2 published by the Redwood City Library Archives Committee. See also article about Walter Van der Kamp on p. 18 of this issue.)

At least $2,000 is needed for the new engraving. Please consider making a donation. Send your check payable to “SHSAA” and on the memo line, add “engraving the SVM”; mail to SHSAA, P. O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 90464-2534.

Questions or comments? Contact Dee Eva, at deeeva.com.

About Rossotti’s

Continued from previous page

the liquid refreshments supplied there.

By 1911, saloonkeeper Chapete, then an old man living at the County’s “poor farm,” and all interests in the saloon had passed to Julius Schenkel, brother of Charles. Then came Prohibition: the Volstead Act of 1919. Saloons closed as the nation became legally “dry.” For the next 13 years, rum runners and speakeasies were sources of alcoholic beverages, as notorious liquor activity in San Mateo County had shipments of illegal liquor smuggling into the county on the coast. The Alpine Road establishment was renamed “Schenkel’s Picnic Park” and encouraged San Franciscans to come down to visit and enjoy the countryside. Advertised non-alcoholic beverages were sold, but more potent beverages were reputedly available to those in the know.

When prohibition ended in 1933, Stanford students exuberantly returned and Schenkel retired, the lease passed to Enrico Rossotti, who eventually purchased the property from the Stanton family and ran the popular establishment until 1956. Mr. and Mrs. Rossotti’s business became more than a saloon with the addition of burgers and similar grill food, especially popular with the crowds on Stanford home football game days.

Don Horther and John Alexander took over in 1956 and renamed it the “Alpine Inn Beer Garden”–but patrons today continue to refer to it as “Rossotti’s” or even more casually as “Zott’s.” The clientele has changed over the years. Stanford students no longer dominate as they did for so many years. Like the Californios before them, they have been replaced by new groups of beer-loving customers. The saloon and outdoor beer garden are populated by Silicon Valley workers out for a burger and beer at lunch under the trees. After work, the parking lot fills with expensive sports cars and luxury vehicles. On weekends, bicyclists, motorcyclists and occasionally horse riders pull off the road or trail to enjoy the pleasures of the Alpine Inn.

Bob Straccia (1957) adds: “In the 70-80s there was a run from the Peanut Farm (bar in Woodside) to Rossotti’s. It was called “Nuts to Zotts”....You finished at Rossotti for beers....Some” runners” just went to Rossotti’s. The Kingston Trio also hung out there.

New Members

(June 18 - October 9, 2014)

Donna McFarland Engel .... 1956  Peter Bugos.....................2014
Ellen Blake Buckner.........1964 Redwood City 2020......Honorary
Sharon DeMoss Hite........1974 HeartSafe Program ....Honorary
Katherine Boudreau.........2014
Memories...

From **Dino Ruffoni** (1952): "I was just reading the Smoke Signal and noticed that **Bob Murphy** (1942) passed away.

Even though I was younger than Bob, I remembered him well since we both caddied at Menlo Country Club in our youth. In fact, Bob gave me my first pair of all white basketball shoe from his NBA team. All white shoes were very unusually in those days.

Bob played for the St. Louis Bombers an NBA Team from 1946 to 1949. If you look up NBA Teams/history on the Internet you will see the St. Louis Bombers are listed as a Defunct NBA Franchise.

Just want to give old Cherokees all the credit they deserve."

• • •

From **Jo Ann Clarkin Pine** (1955), mother of **Phyllis Maguire Clarkin** (1932): "I'm writing today to tell you that my dear mother, Phyllis Clarkin, passed away Tuesday evening, Sept. 9th, in her home in Redwood City. She would have been 100 years old in January - but 99 and 3/4 is pretty darn good!

She was a real spark in the lives of her grandchildren and great-grand children....She and Dad were married for 65 years and both lived active healthy lives. They both were Sequoians and proud of it, as many of us think of our years at Sequoia High as some of our best too.

Mom had lived in that house on Madison Avenue since she was in the 8th Grade! A uncle built it for her mother, who was a widow with 2 daughters. Dad bought the house (for $3,800) when he and mom married and they lived there for their entire marriage."

• • •

From **Corinne Cooley Derringer** (1951): "I read your vets' Memorial News and was surprised to see a name from my childhood: Walter Van Der Kamp, listed as missing in action. I think this must be the Walter who was a friend of my parents. He was the young son of the family that owned the dairy in San Carlos that was on a hillside in the area known as “The Manor” - left of San Carlos Avenue just past its curve to the right, past Cedar St. Walter's father was also a builder. and he built my parents' home in 1930 when they married.

Walter was the driver of the family's milk truck, delivering dairy products to locals. When I was about 6 years old, I rode on his truck in a local parade - 4th of July - dressed as a milk maid. He was a happy-go-lucky young man,... an opera fan, and an Anglophile (probably fueled by Britain's endangered role against Hitler).

Walter was one of the young men in love with flying who hung out at the San Carlos Airport, owned by my father's family; my father taught Walter to fly. When Germany attacked England, the Battle of Britain with its RAF exploits stirred these young flyers to itch to join in. Walter joined the Royal Canadian Air Force as a way into the action, since the U.S. was still neutral. He left his tiny Crosley car parked at our place. In Canada he met and married a Canadian girl, and then, when the U.S. finally declared war, he joined the U. S. Air Corps.

We saw him when he came back on leave; the last time was when he visited us in Long Beach, CA. where we lived while my father, who'd joined the Navy's air service, was stationed at San Pedro.

Walter was shot down over Bavaria (I'm relating this as I recall from all those years ago). As pilot, he bailed out last, too low for his chute to open. He had a son he never saw. I believe Walter was 24 when he died. After the war, back in San Carlos, we were visited by his widow and his little boy, about two years old. She settled in the Napa Valley, and we visited her at least once, then lost touch.

Years later we heard that Walter's son was driving a wine tanker in that area. Not too long ago I was Googling names from the past and checked Van Der Kamp in that area, and found that there is a Van Der Kamp Vineyard, connected with La Follette Winery in Sebastopol. One of the listed web sites mentions that the vineyard owner is Ulysses Van Der Kamp is the vineyard owner, the son of Martin Van Der Kamp. I believe that Martin is Walter's son. If so, he can confirm the date and circumstances of Walter's death, and his war service. Maybe he'd had contacts from the survivors of Walter's crew, over the years.

Check the San Carlos Airport's web site. Last year I furnished them with a photo showing a group of young Chinese men who were being taught to fly at the airport. My father, Charles P. Cooley, his brother William (who ended up as sole owner of the airport until some time in the '40s) and Walter are in the photo.

Another young man who learned to fly at San Carlos and also joined the Army Air Corps was William Nichols. He was shot down and spent most of the war in a German prison camp. Perhaps he also was a Sequoia graduate.

Hope this gives you a lead to completing your information I don't know how it came to be thought that Walter was listed as missing. We learned of his death, and I don't recall a period in which he was missing – perhaps I've forgotten. I was about ten years old at the time."
Purple Patriot Award Winners for 2014

The Sequoia High School Alumni Association’s Purple Patriot Award is given annually to honor an individual or an organization demonstrating outstanding service to or providing a significant benefit directly to Sequoia High School. The name of the recipients have been engraved on the perpetual Purple Patriot Trophy that is displayed during the year in the hall case near the library.

The Sequoia Healthcare District Heart-Safe Program

The HeartSafe program has worked closely with Sequoia High School for many years in the areas of health and safety. The program has placed seven Automated External Defibrillators on the campus and monitors them, at no cost to the school. It provides ongoing CPR training to students, faculty, and staff, also at no cost to the school.

Defibrillation is the only effective treatment for sudden cardiac arrest, and can mean the difference between life and death, or an active and healthy life or a vegetative state. The AED is a small portable device that analyzes heart rhythms and offers the user voice-prompted instructions and can deliver a lifesaving shock to a person in cardiac arrest. Sequoia High School is privileged to have these devices on campus.

Redwood City 2020

Redwood City 2020 has supported Sequoia High School since 2003 and was instrumental in the community efforts to bring the Sequoia Teen Wellness Center to the campus. The center provides medical services to youth ages 12-21, including physicals, sports physicals, and sensitive services such as pregnancy, sexually-transmitted disease testing, and contraceptives. They also provide mental health services. The center is open to all youth in community, but Sequoia High School students utilize the center more than any other group, as it is on the Sequoia campus.

The Teen Resource Center provides free counseling services for Sequoia students and their families, as well as peer mediation, Youth Advisory Board, Healthy Sequoia focusing on health and wellness, health education in science and health academy classes, and one-on-one mentoring and tutoring for students needing help.

A school-wide survey, student focus groups, and interviews with school staff helped plan the services the Teen Center would offer. Redwood City 2020 was instrumental in obtaining grants to help staff the center and to assist the Site Director to gather community partners to provide services and a collaborative of agencies that act as an advisory council. Redwood 2020 continues to help raise money for the center.

In addition, the group advised the administration about money available for outreach efforts. Sequoia received the SAFE Afterschool grant allowing the school to offer academic support and enrichment classes. It also established a partnership with Notre Dame AmeriCorps volunteers to work with students. Then, Redwood City 2020 formed the Immigrant Youth Action Team to work with Sequoia’s Dream Club to help raise awareness and educate the community about challenges and resources for immigrant youth.

Holding the Purple Patriot Trophy are: Glenn Nielsen, HeartSafe Program Director for the Sequoia Healthcare District (a 1977 graduate), and Jana Kiser, Executive Director of Redwood City 2020. In the center is Judy Romero, Director of the Sequoia Teen Wellness Center.
Lost Members

The following members are lost. If you know their whereabouts, please let the Alumni Association know. (See contact information on p. 2 or on the Returnable Page, p. 22.)

LeRoy Lawrence ............. 1937
Kenneth Anderson .......... 1946
William “Bill” Schott ........ 1950
James Ferguson ............. 1954
Leonard Preader ............ 1955
Georgett Esque Cummins 1966
Elaine Jarvis ................... 1966
Linda Wheeler Cornell .....1966
Dwaine Idleman.......... 1966
Judith Flaherty.......... 1967
Margaret Powers Johnson 1969
Pamela Page Gatlin ....... 1970
James Clarke .................. 1976
Marita Lambert ............ 1978
David Nero ..................... 1982
Bridget Bauman Barzee ..1986
Stephani Lauren ............. 1994
Jason Hess ...................... 1998
Sherry Lynn Jones ........... 1998
Nirshila Chand ............... 2001

FAC = Faculty
FR = Friend of Sequoia
FS = Former Student

BRICKS, TREES & BENCHES
(SEQUOIA VETERANS MEMORIAL, CARRINGTON HALL AND INSPIRATION GROVE)

Honor a family member, teacher, or friend. Purchase a brick ($100-$200), tree with plaque ($1,000), or engraved bench ($3,000) for the Sequoia Veterans Memorial or Inspiration Grove or a brick for Carrington Hall. Net proceeds are used to help fund the Cherokee Grants Program, which funds teachers’ instructional services and/or purchases of instructional equipment and materials that are not included in the current District budget.

A maximum of 20 characters or spaces can be used for each of three lines. Contact SHSAA for more information and the special order form.

THE OLD SEQUOIA RELICS

Old Sequoia Relics were pleased to join the Sequoia Alumni Association at the Sequoia Alumni picnic on August 16th. Their mission statement is: “Get together... Tell stories... Have fun...” OSR featured their sign up table where new names were added to the members list.

OSR met on October 18th at a Rossotti’s (Alpine Inn) 12:00 Noon for the 6th Grand Meeting get together. ALL Sequoia grads are invited to join in. Please contact Bob Bowers at robert4770@sbcglobal.net.

Note: See more about Rossotti’s on p. 16.

Spirit of the Seal Scholarship Award Winners for 2014

The Sequoia High School Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2014 winners of its “Spirit of the Seal” scholarship in the amount of $1,000 each to Hunter Mitchell and Jacqueline Hutchison. This scholarship is awarded annually to one or more graduating Sequoia High School senior students to assist them with their academic pursuits.

Hunter Mitchell has a longtime family history at Sequoia. His father (Dean Mitchell, class of 1983), grandparents (Fred and Susan Fincher Mitchell, both class of 1956) as well as great aunts and cousins attended Sequoia High School. He played football all four years, receiving Most Valuable Player award and was named Second Team All-League. He was the captain of the Track and Field shot-put and discus teams, winning numerous awards. Hunter volunteers in Redwood City at the St. Francis Center and tutors at the Siena Youth Center serving and assisting underprivileged members of the community. Hunter will be attending UC Santa Cruz.

Jacqueline Hutchison loved the diversity and friendly atmosphere at Sequoia. She was a four-year starting player on both soccer and softball teams. For the past three years she has been a volunteer intern at the Stanford Cancer Stem Cell Research Lab. She has done fundraisers for the American Cancer Society and tutors middle school students from Redwood City and San Carlos. Jacqueline will be attending Loyola Merrymount.

Adopted by the 1925 – 1926 student body commissioners, the Sequoia Seal symbolizes the spirit of Sequoia. It is in the “Spirit of the Seal” that this scholarship is both offered and awarded. A committee consisting of 3 to 5 people, headed by Spirit of the Seal Scholarship chair, Paul Sanfilipo, having received a written letter of application from the student/s, written recommendations from teachers, administrators, community leaders, etc., and having reviewed established criteria, makes a recommendation to the Sequoia High School Alumni Association Board of Directors as to who should be awarded the scholarship.

The “Spirit of the Seal” scholarship is paid after the student graduates from Sequoia High School. Scholarship funds are paid directly to an accredited school of higher learning to help fund the Cherokee Grants Program, which funds teachers’ instructional services and/or purchases of instructional equipment and materials that are not included in the current District budget.

See the returnable page near the end of this newsletter should you wish to make a donation to the “Spirit of the Seal” Scholarship Endowment Fund or see the Century Club article elsewhere in this newsletter for an ongoing donation opportunity.
Cherokee Chatter

Current information about fellow Sequoians.
(To contribute your news to this column, please see the Returnable Page, inside back cover, or e-mail: sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net.)

Joan Nystrom Cook (1951) writes: “So there I was, in June of this year, sailing on the Crystal Symphony from Iceland through the Norwegian Fjords to Copenhagen with 150 clients, when I noticed the names Joe and Virginia Biddle from California on the passenger list. I said to myself, ‘Could these be the Biddles that I went to Sequoia High School with 60 years ago, and have never seen since, and probably wouldn’t be able to recognize them if I saw them?’

One night, just before the cruise ended, my friend and I were looking for a place to sit in the cocktail lounge, but there were no seats anywhere. Just as we were about to leave, a couple got up and left 2 seats opposite another couple. We went over and sat down, and I said the usual thing to the couple ‘and where are you folks from?’ When they said Redwood City, California, I looked over at them closely and said, ‘You wouldn’t be the Biddles by any chance, would you?’ And they said, yes, they were.

So we had a nice chat, catching up on the 60 years of our lives. IT REALLY IS A SMALL WORLD.

Love reading Smoke signals. I live in Irvine California.”

Bob Straccia (1957) let us know: “My wife and I have donated $250.00 in art supplies to the Sequoia High School Art Club as acknowledged by Linda Gordon Sequoia Treasurer. We are pleased to help out in this little way.” [Note: The school is very appreciative!]

Tom Goethe (1961) sent the following: “A web site for the Brown University football team lists Matt Jenkins (2014) – Providence, Rhode Island - Brown football coach Phil Estes and the Bears’ coaching staff have announced the 29-member Class of 2018, a deep and talented group, who will launch their college careers on College Hill in the Fall of 2014. The incoming class represents 14 states, 17 players who were team captains, 23 who received either All-State or All-Region honors, and 10 who were National Honor Society members.

Matt Jenkins, Outside Linebacker, 6-2, 220, Sequoia HS – Redwood City, CA.

Athletics: CCS Special Teams Player of the Year, played varsity all four years of high school, captain of the varsity football and lacrosse teams.

Academic: CCS Scholar Athlete Award and CCS Scholastic Achievement Award, Honor Roll all four years of high school, Spanish Award.

Personal: enjoys playing all sports, piano, guitar…. Son of Brian and Laurel Jenkins”

Note: Tom also found a web shite with video highlights from Matt’s senior year: http://www.hudl.com/athlete/912352/highlights/106488379

Look At Us...

Ellen Blake Buckner (1964) is a teacher in New York and enjoys swimmin, reading, and her family. ... Sharon DeMoss Hite (1974) is the Lead Legal Word Processor for San Mateo County...

We’re retired...

James Hilton (1964) has retired from finance and now likes travel, old cars, and grand kids!

Do We Have Your E-mail?

Thanks to all the members who have sent in their current e-mail address. However, We still do not even have e-mail addresses for many of you! And some are now outdated in our files!

Please send us your e-mail address, either via our e-mail address, sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net, or mail via the Returnable Page, on the inside back cover of this issue.

If you send the address via e-mail, please be sure and give your name, and if possible, your membership number, which is on the top of your mailing label on Smoke Signals. That will help us to find you in the database!

Having your e-mail is a great help if we have to contact you, especially if you move and we have no current address! Also, many members receive the electronic version of Smoke Signals via e-mail. Occasionally, SHSAA will send an e-mail with a message of importance to our members.

(Notice: The policy of SHSAA is not to give out your contact information except to your class reunion committee.)

Receive Smoke Signals Via E-Mail

It’s easy….it’s fast…..you get Smoke Signals before the mailed version reaches members!

Getting Smoke Signals by e-mail saves the Association in printing and mailing costs!

Just let us know if you would like to get the newsletter by e-mail rather than by snail mail! At least give it a try! (You can always change back to the mailed version if you wish.)

Contact us at sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net to be put on the “e-mail only” list.

IF YOU MOVE...

Remember to send us your new address if you move. Otherwise, you may miss receiving your Smoke Signals! And it costs the Association extra money when the newsletters are returned! We’d also like to have your new phone number or e-mail, as well.
The Returnable Page
Return this page to: SHSAA, P.O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 94064-2534,
order/donate with PayPal on our Website (www.SequoiaHSAlumniAssoc.org)
or e-mail information to: sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net

Name _____________________________________________________ (______________) Grad Year: ______ Sequoia or San Carlos? _____
Address _______________________________________________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State ___________ ZIP ______________ - ___________
Phone (____)______________ (____)________________ e-mail: _____________________________________________
Home    Work
_____ Yes, I would like to receive Smoke Signals via e-mail instead of snail mail! Please give your name and e-mail above.
_____ Please contact me about the SHSAA Legacy Society's planned giving.
_____ Information about one of our "Lost" members:____________________________________________________________________________
_____ Information about someone being looked for:__________________________________________________________________________

I'd like to donate to:
• The 2014-15 Annual Fund $__________
• General Fund (for Alumni Operations) $__________
• Tea Garden Maintenance Endowment Fund $__________
• “Spirit of the Seal” Scholarships Endowment Fund $__________
• Sequoia “Cherokee Grants” (for school programs) $__________
• Smoke Signals Publication Fund $__________
• SHSAA Sports Scholarship $__________
• Del Sarto Scholarship (baseball/softball) $__________
• Fred Mitchell Memorial Basketball Fund $__________
• Sequoia Veterans Memorial Engraving Fund $__________

Total $__________

SHSAA is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit: Tax ID # 94-2967009

For the following items, feel free to use another page if needed:

My News for Cherokee Chatter or Dons' Doings (circle one) ______________________________________________________________________

Memory for “The Way It Was At Sequoia (or San Carlos)” _______________________________________________________________________

Ideas for events/fundraising: _______________________________________________________________________________________________

WANT TO SERVE? ____ on the Board? … or on the following committees:
____ Smoke Signals  ____ Cherokee Grants  ____ Reunion Liaison
____ Athletic Review  ____ Annual Picnic  ____ Archives & Display
____ Special Events  ____ Merchandise  ____ Help in booth
____ Facebook Page Management  ____ Tea Garden Cleanup

Save the date! Picnic 2015 is Aug. 15.
SHSAA Membership Application

Name ____________________________________________________________

Last               First                     Maiden

Address __________________________________________________________

City ___________________________________ State _______ ZIP ____________

Phone (____) (____) (____) e-mail: __________________________________

Home    Work

Receive Smoke Signals via e-mail or ___ Receive Smoke Signals via U.S. Mail

*Occupation (Present or Past) _________________________________________

(circle one)

*My interests/hobbies are: _____________________________________________

* Is it ok to use occupation/interests in Smoke Signals for Cherokee Chatter or Dons Doings? ____ yes ____ no

Type of Membership:

1) SEQUOIA: Class of ______ Graduate ____ Former Student (not graduate) ____

2) SAN CARLOS: Class of ______ Graduate ____ Former Student (not graduate) ____

3) ___Faculty/Staff (years __________)  4) ___ Friend Of Sequoia

___ Gift from: _______________________________________________________

Gift card will be sent to the above address unless otherwise specified.

$50 per lifetime membership: _____________________________ $ 50

SHSAA is a 501(c)(3)

Nonprofit:

SHSAA is a 501(c)(3)

Nonprofit: Tax ID # 94-2967009

I would also like to donate to:

• General Fund (ongoing Alumni Operations)

• Tea Garden Maintenance Endowment Fund

• "Spirit of the Seal" Scholarships Endowment Fund

• Sequoia "Cherokee Grants" (directed to school needs)

• Smoke Signals Publication ($4,000 per issue)

• Athletic Committee Fund

• SHSAA Sports Scholarship

• Tom Del Sarto Scholarship Fund

• Fred Mitchel Scholarship Fund

• Sequoia Veterans Memorial Engraving

Make checks payable and mail to: SHSAA, P.O. Box 2534, Redwood City, CA 94064-2534

Not sure if you’re a member? Check the mailing label. If there is a number by your name, you’re a member!

Sequoia Alumni Merchandise

T-Shirt

50/50 Cotton/Poly. or Cotton

"Sequoia, Go Cherokees"

T-3 Purple with white logo $18

T-4 White with purple logo $18

Sweatshirts — LIMITED SIZES

50/50 Cotton/Poly., 9 oz.

S-6 White Crewneck, Purple Logo $12

Sizes: M, L, XL only (old logo)

S-7 Sequoia Go Cherokees Logo $25

Stationery

N-1 Small Notecards (set of 5) * $8

Hats

H-1 Purple Baseball-style, w. embroidered Alumni Logo $18

Memorabilia

P-1 Sequoia Lapel Pin * $5

P-2 50-year Grad Disk * $4

P-3 Sequoia Pen * $2

P-4 Sequoia Flashlight Pen * $3

B-1 Sequoia History Booklet * $3

B-2 Book, Foothill Town by Violet Palmer $20

M-1 Mouse Pad * $5

R-1 Sequoia Replica $5

LP-1 License Plate Holder $18

LP-2 2 License Plate Holders 2 for $35

TB Tote Bag "Go Cherokees logo" $20

Note Cards

SHSAA is a 501(c)(3)

Nonprofit:

Tax ID # 94-2967009

Shipping & Handling Charges*

$3.00 - $10.00 Add $4.00

$11.00 - $20.00 Add $6.50

over $20.00 Add $8.50

*except for: P-1, P-2, P-3, P-4, B-1, M-1 & N-1, Only add $1.50 each

Information and photos available at www.sequoiahsalumniassoc.org or call 650/592-5822.

e-mail: sequoiahsalumni@earthlink.net
IT’S TIME TO SEND US
YOUR ANNUAL DONATION FOR 2014-15!

Please show your support for our programs and projects:

• Our newsletter, Smoke Signals, with alumni news, reunions, school events, etc.
• Other mailing, communications, Web site, and Facebook.
• Scholarships.
• Cherokee Grants to Sequoia programs, & other awards.
• Honoring notable Sequoians and community members.
• Storage locker to house merchandise, records, and artifacts.

Make your tax-deductible donation (Tax ID #94-2967009) for the General Fund to support these activities. Contributions of any amount are most appreciated. See Returnable Page on the inside back cover, or use the special envelope enclosed in the mailed issue to send your donation, or go to www.SequoiaHSAlumniAssoc.org and use PayPal for your contribution.