

THE KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter
“It’s the ☆ glue ☆ that keeps us together”

December, 2020 ● Page One

President’s Message



First, I apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. My work schedule at MPC became unmanageable this fall, and I hope this will reach you before the holidays. If so, I hope they are happy. If not, I hope they were!

Second, I’m saddened to have to follow the bad news of the late newsletter delivery with sad news. Our beloved columnist Phil Bowhay ’47 passed away in August. His obituary, which was written by his daughter, appears on p. 6. Those of us who still have the printed *Monterey Herald* delivered to us each morning (yes, there are many!) opened the paper one Monday morning expecting to find our usual column by Phil and read instead a goodbye.

Although Phil is gone, however, he will not be forgotten. Taking a cue from Charles Schultz, we inaugurate our “Classic Bowhay” column in this issue (see p. 12). In this issue Phil talks about trains, and his column is accompanied by photographs taken in the ‘70s by Joanie Hylar ’68. Together they make a wonderful memory.

As I write this, Monterey County has been put back under a “shelter in place” order. Now that I am finally finished grading research papers in my composition classes at MPC, I am decorating fully for the holidays, although I will have none of my usual parties and visitors this season. When I complained to a college friend in Fresno about suffering from “COVID-19 depression,” she said, “Get out every Christmas decoration you have and put it up. If you have to get someone to help you, get someone.” So I did, and it does help. I hope all of you have done the same.

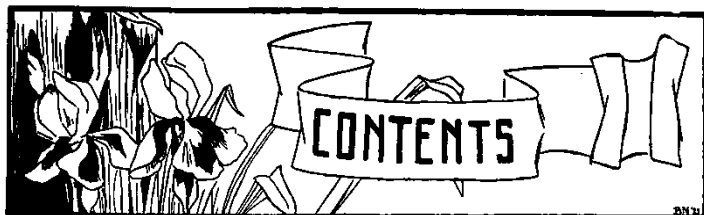
This issue contains some other wonderful pieces, and I hope that whenever you are reading it, you will

enjoy them. Thanks to Virginia Fox Abplanap ’50 for more of her memories of “pioneering” in Del Monte Park (p. 14), to Patty Fifer Kieffer ’60 for her Highway 101 memories (p. 11), and to Patty Wyman Giesler ’71 for her wonderful memories of early “diversity” via her friends’ mothers’ kitchens while she grew up in P.G (p. 3). We also feature another photo essay of Pacific Grove houses, this time some of those that echo Carmel’s “fairytale” houses, by Hugh Comstock, that we all remember, “Joanie’s Scrapbook” full of goodies, and more. As always, we welcome your memories and photos—send them to president@pghsaa.org or to the post office box on the next page!

Your PGHSAA board of directors, thanks to Events Chair Carol Bradley Lauderdale ’66 and Nominations Chair Cate Goblirsch Lee ’94, has started to hold its meetings via Zoom and will continue to do so until the pandemic is no longer a threat. Your president has been reluctant to embrace this technology, so she is grateful to Carol and Cate for pulling her forward into the 21st Century. Our meeting dates are listed on p. 2 of this newsletter. We have a number of open spots on the board that need to be filled, so if you have been thinking about joining, please let us know. Being local is no longer a requirement!

Jon Olivetti ’56 has contributed his quarterly letter asking for scholarship donations, and we second his request. As you are making your end-of-year contributions, please consider this worthy cause. The pandemic doesn’t mean that high school seniors aren’t going away to college. Rather, they often face added expenses as they negotiate the “new normal” of online learning and its accompanying equipment and accommodations. With your help, we can ease the burden for graduates of our alma mater. Here’s to a happier and safer 2021!

Beth Penney



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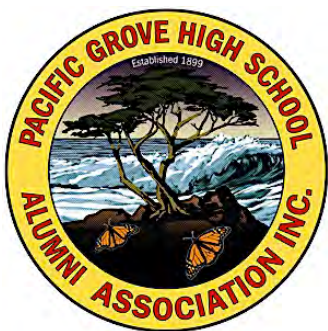
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Edie Adams McDonald '56, Vice-President

Patty Fifer Kieffer '60, Recording Secretary

Donna Murphy '79, Corresponding Secretary

Joanie Hyler '68, Treasurer

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Serving through December 2020

Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56

Lillian Griffiths '70

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Erin Langton Field '71

Serving through December 2021

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Malcolm Colvin '67

Carol Bradley Lauderdale '66

Serving through December 2022

Marabee Rush Boone '60

Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

Joanie Hyler '68

Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

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Senior Class Liaison: Lillian Griffiths '70

Sunshine: Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56

Website: Joanie Hyler '68

Important 2021 Dates

The PGHSAA Board of Directors will meet on the following dates in 2021: January 14, March 11, April 8, May 13, July 8, September 11 (General Membership meeting), and October 14. Meetings are currently being held via Zoom. Our 2021 annual reunion is planned for Saturday, October 2, 2021, at the Elks Club in Monterey if COVID-19 restrictions are lifted by then. If you are interested in joining our board, please e-mail us! We are still active even though we are not having physical meetings.

Donations

“In Memory Of” Contributions

Gregory & Robin Aeschliman Pacific Grove
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 Jane Day & Family Salinas
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 Mrs Edwin Getz Pacific Grove
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 Sam & Phyllis Rodrigues Salinas
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 Michael & Gersie Williams Reno, NV
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 1953 Ben Mosley Richmond
 IMO: Donna *Sibbald* Hadrian ‘53
 1956 Charles Houseman Pebble Beach
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 1956 Diane *Davis* Garrison Pacific Grove
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56
 1959 David Nightingale Charlotte, NC
 IMO: Robert Bratty ‘59
 IMO: Lydia *Gillaspie* Davis ‘59
 1960 Patricia *Elmore* Suisun City
 IMO: Lydia *Gillaspie* Davis ‘60
 IMO: Sharon *McCafferty* Schweri ‘60
 IMO: Diane *Messinger* Rodriguez ‘60
 IMO: Archie Stewart ‘60
 1971 Patricia Wyman Giesler Manchester, IA
 IMO: Roger Bannerman ‘63
 1985 Richard Russo Pacific Grove
 IMO: James “Jim” Gruwell ‘56

PGHSAA Scholarship Fund

1968 Stacey *Saunders* Golding Monterey
 IMO: John Fader ‘68
 1968 Ted Golding Monterey
 IMO: John Fader ‘68

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If you are an Amazon customer, go to smile.amazon.com, register with **Amazon Smile** (it’s a single click), and then bookmark **Amazon Smile** and shop there instead of Amazon.com. PGHSAA will receive a donation of .5% of your purchases. Thank you!

Letters

Dear Joanie,

I’m enclosing a donation in memory of my dear friend and classmate Donna *Sibbald* Hadrian, who unexpectedly passed away October 18, 2020. We had been friends since the eighth grade at P.G. Grammar School in 1948. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Ben Mosley ‘53
 Richmond, CA

Dear All,

Hello from Iowa! I see it’s time to renew my membership, so enclosed is a check for two years. Also enclosed is a check for “In Memory Of.” My good friend Gillian Bannerman ‘71 lost her brother Robert Bannerman ‘63 this fall. I’m living now in Manchester, IA, and whenever Gillian would come out to visit her brother in Madison, WI, we would always get together. Two years ago, I got to go on a trip with all of them to Door County, WI. Roger and Jane were quite the tour guides! I would also like to honor the memory of Karen *Samora* Low ‘71, a childhood friend from David Avenue School. We would walk home together, stopping at the “Cookie Lady’s” house. I remember Karen making me tortillas, warmed up on the gas stove, rolled up with butter! Years later, when we talked, Karen remembered my mom making us chopped black olive sandwiches. Cultural exchange, got to love it! Irene Nishimura’s mother served us seaweed crackers as a snack, and Helen Vu’s family, next door to us on David Avenue, made Vietnamese hot dogs (egg rolls with octopus). We had diversity, before we even knew what it was. Since I moved to Iowa four years ago to be around my grandkids, I look forward to *The Knockout II*, enjoying the articles, and I hope this finds everyone staying safe and sane. Wear a mask and keep the faith!

Patty Wyman Giesler ‘71
 Manchester, IA

Hi Beth,

Happy holidays to all. To help get into the holiday spirit, how about a gift to the scholarship fund? Again, happy holidays to all!

Jon Olivetti ‘56
 Peoria, AZ

Obituaries

APRIL

1950 Carol *Johnston* DeLory Los Gatos

JUNE

1990 Ross Blankenship Monterey

JULY

1951 Marilyn *Popovich* Brookman Carmel
1967 Ken Nieto Las Vegas, NV
1975 Gary Robert Nair Tombstone, AZ

AUGUST

1971 Karen *Samora* Mahaney-Low Pacific Grove
1956 Jim Gruwell Seaside
1947 Phil Bowhay Pacific Grove
1962 Bill Phillips Grants Pass, OR

SEPTEMBER

2008 Steven Yoo Monterey
2000 Candace *Roman* Salinas
1944 Paul Edgar Trejo Newburgh, IN
1970 Mike Miller Monterey
1966 Ben Culala Turlock

OCTOBER

1967 Betty *Rose* Kumre Medford, OR
2006 Jennifer *Smith* Fairbanks, AK
1963 Roger Bannerman Madison, WI
1968 Sharon *Hill* Albright Mt. Shasta
1992 Justin Bossard Seaside

NOVEMBER

Bill O'Neill '62 Rolling Hills Estates
Bob Gruber '56 Pacific Grove

APRIL



Carol Jean Johnston

DeLory was born December 19, 1932, in Red Bluff, and passed away in Los Gatos on April 30, following a stroke. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Beverly Pais '54, and her husband Paul DeLory. Carol grew up in Pacific Grove, graduated from PGHS in 1950, and from San Jose State in 1960. She taught

school in Soledad, Castroville, and Salinas. After the death of her husband Paul, she relocated to Los Gatos to live with her sister Geraldine *Johnston* Richey '56. She was a 39-year member of PGHSAA. She is survived by Geraldine, her sons Steve of Lincoln and Jim of Arizona, and one granddaughter.

JUNE



We lost **Ross Blankenship** suddenly on June 20. He was a friend to many. He touched us all with his humor, laughter, and loving smile. He grew up in P.G. and was a proud PGHS Breaker in the class of 1990. He also was a Chico State alum. He was a loyal friend and a gentle soul who will be greatly missed. He is survived by a son, Kyle.

JULY



Marilyn Joyce Popovich Brookman, 87, passed away peacefully at her home in Carmel on July 4 after a long battle with Alzheimer's. Marilyn was born in Chico on October 8, 1932. She helped run Strickland Plumbing in Seaside with her first husband, Ken Strickland. She and her late husband Anthony Brookman lived in Walnut Creek and Carmel. Marilyn was a 25-year member of PGHSAA. She is survived by a son, Terry Strickland of Seaside; a daughter, Cheryl Stewart of Carmel; a brother, Mark Popovich of Seaside; and nieces Sheila Smith, Natalie Afflerback, Montye Puma, and Lisa Munoz.

Kenneth Leo Nieto died

peacefully in his sleep July 5 after a seven-month battle with congestive heart failure. Ken was born January 15, 1949, in Alameda to Edna Anna and Leo Nieto, the younger twin by minutes of Philip Allen Nieto. Shortly after, the family moved to



P.G., where they were raised. Ken graduated from PGHS in 1967. He volunteered for the United States

Obituaries, continued

Army and served three years, including a combat tour at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, with The 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), the “Red Devils.” Having achieved the rank of Sergeant, he earned an Honorable Discharge in 1971 and returned to P.G. He married his childhood neighbor Judy *Siria* ‘62, and they had three sons. Ken built and grew his own business, Clean Sweeps and Son. He also worked for PG&E. In his retirement, he moved to Las Vegas. He loved playing slot tournaments and dancing into the early morning hours. He had a talent for creating poetry and became Las Vegas’ own Cupid, founding another enterprise, Cupid’s Notes, a romantic poetry service for those in love and falling in love. In Las Vegas he met the love of his life, Joanne Lampe. They spent many happy years traveling the world together and dancing into sunsets. Survivors include his son, Jimmy, of Las Vegas; two granddaughters, Sophie and Isabella; his older brother Richard Nieto ‘65 of Glendale, Arizona; his twin brother Philip ‘67 of Las Vegas; his sweetheart Jo Lampe of Las Vegas; his first wife Judy *Siria* Nieto ‘62 of Las Vegas; his niece Annamarie of Las Vegas; his nephew Phil of Sisseton, SD; and his nephew Michael of Chesapeake, VA. He was preceded in death by his oldest brother, James Allen Nieto; his mother Edna Anna Peary Nieto; his father Leo Nieto; and stepmother Frances Nieto-Trout.



Gary Robert Nair ‘75 died on July 13 in Tombstone, AZ. He was 63, born on April 23, 1957. This is all the information we have about Gary; if you have information, please let us know.

AUGUST

Karen Samora Mahaney Low died the day before her 67th birthday in August. Karen was born to Frank G. and Bertha C. Samora at the old Carmel Hospital on August 11, 1953. She was the youngest of three sisters and was raised in the family home in Del Monte Park. She loved her hometown of P.G. and graduated from PGHS in 1971. Karen was a



majorette for many years, which she greatly enjoyed. Even as an adult, she always kept her trusty baton next to her bed just in case she needed it. Karen was also a nature lover. She loved Big Sur and Arroyo Seco in

particular, where the family camped often for summer vacation. She loved her family and friends, gardening, cooking, playing cards and board games, animals, and music. She also visited the beach as often as possible. Her love of art began in her youth, and she cultivated that strength throughout her life, focusing on painting. She was a part of the Monterey Peninsula Art Foundation Gallery on Cannery Row and the Central Coast Art Association, in charge of their monthly newsletter for many years. She was also active in the Pacific Grove Art Center. She recently won first place for a painting she did in a showcase. Karen volunteered and delivered meals to elderly citizens for many years and was also a homemaker, bookkeeper, and hairdresser. She spent many nights playing cards games with her special son-in-law Matthew, whom she greatly adored and considered one of her own kids. She was known as “Grammy K” to her grandchildren Chase and Reed. They had a special bond, and she was a big part of their young lives. Karen found great joy in coming to their school performances, sporting events and they especially looked forward to their story time together. Karen is survived by her children Sarah (Matt) Borek and Frank Mahaney, plus her two grandsons Chase and Reed Borek. Also surviving Karen are two sisters, Victoria Samora Phillips ‘64 and Katie Samora Henden ‘68; nieces Kacey ‘96 (Phil) Giammanco, and Keri (Bobby) Dillard. She is also survived by her cousin Toni (Rick) Slater, who was a favorite to get into mischief with from early on, and by the Mahaney family, who stayed close to her heart, as well as many other family members and loved ones. She was preceded in death by her nephew Chris Henden ‘93.



Obituaries, continued



After a lengthy illness, **James "Jim" Samuel Gruwell** passed away on August 24. Jim was born in San Francisco to Clinton Gruwell and Lucy *Ventimiglia* Gruwell. The family moved to Monterey Peninsula, where Jim spent the rest of his life. After attending PGHS and graduating

in 1956, Jim joined the US Air Force. In the service he learned sheet metal work, and upon discharge he went to work for Bohn Sheet Metal until starting his own company in 1974, Gruwell's Heating and Sheet Metal. He retired in 2009, and he enjoyed spending free time with his grandchildren at the family cabin at the White Rock Club. Jim and his wife of 53 years lost their only son James '85 in 2002. He leaves behind his wife Sherry *Welsh* Gruwell '56 and three daughters, Susan '76 (Jeff) Vordermark, Judy '79 (Steve) Azevedo, and Laura '81 (Steve) Urquidi. Jim also leaves two brothers, Clint '66 and Charles '70. He also leaves seven grandchildren, Lacey, AJ, Danika, Adam, Kaley, Seth, and Johnnie, as well as one very cute great-granddaughter, Illya, along with many nieces and nephews. Jim was a 34-year member of PGHSAA.



Philbrick "Phil" Bowhay, 90, passed away August 27, after a long and happy life. Phil was born in Bakersfield, the oldest of five, and grew up in Kernville and P.G. After graduating from PGHS in 1947, he went to the

University of New Mexico in Albuquerque (flunked out, got back in) where he met and married Suzanne Murray. After college, he spent three years on active duty with the Navy and then went to work for Dean Witter as a stockbroker and branch manager in Oakland and San Francisco. Phil and Suzanne raised their family in Piedmont and then moved to Carmel when he retired. Phil's voice and humor will live on in the stories and memories that his friends and family share and in the columns he wrote for the *Monterey Herald*, many of which

were, and will continue to be, reprinted in this newsletter. He was a natural-born storyteller, but he only started writing shortly after Suzanne's death in 2003. He took a class at MPC, where his first assignment was to write about growing up in the '30s and '40s, and he couldn't stop. On the rare occasions when he suffered from writer's block, he'd ask his daughter Laura for a prompt. "Tell them about the time you wet your pants in school!" she'd suggest, and he was off and running. Phil was a 28-year member of PGHSAA. He is survived by his son Scott (Vicki) of Moraga, his daughter Laura Shumaker (Peter) of Lafayette, his daughter Carolyn Whalen (Robert) of Tucson, by six grandchildren and by his sweetheart Francie Blinks of Pebble Beach. Phil also leaves behind his brother Mike '56 (Alice) of Pacific Grove, his sister Shirley McCarthy (Frank) of Savannah, GA, his brother Tom (Laurie) of Jackson, and countless friends, including each of you. In addition to his wife Suzanne, Phil was predeceased by his son David and his brother Brooks '50.



William "Bill" Phillips, age 77, of Grants Pass, OR, died August 27. Bill was born May 24, 1943, in Carmel to the late Julius B. & Shirley Phillips. He grew up in P.G., graduating from PGHS in 62 then attending

MPC. Bill married Patsy Jo Hatwig in Las Vegas in April 1965, and in 1966 they moved to Porterville. For many years, Bill owned and operated an antiques shop and then for 16 years worked for "Tom's Peanuts" out of Visalia, California. After selling his candy route, he moved to Grants Pass, OR, in 1983, where he purchased Willow Lane Market, which he owned and operated for 22 years until selling the store to retire. While living in California, Bill volunteered for Search & Rescue in Tulare County and was a member of the Elks Lodge. Bill's hobbies included fishing, hunting, working around his house, and rappin' and rhymin'. Bill was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Robert Phillips '55. He is survived by his wife Patsy Jo Phillips of Grants Pass; two daughters, Lisa Van Dyk of Wendell, Idaho, and

Obituaries, continued

Vanessa M Blacksmith of Grants Pass; Brother Don Phillips '59; four grandchildren, Madisen Van Dyk, Alexander Van Dyk, Ryan Blacksmith, and Derick Blacksmith; and great-grandchild Isabella Blacksmith

SEPTEMBER



Musician and composer **Solomon Yoo**, 31, died peacefully in his sleep at his Monterey home earlier this fall. Solomon was born April 22, 1989, in Seoul, South Korea, where he was given the name Sang Woo Yoo. He arrived on

the Monterey Peninsula at the age of 15, and here he added the name Steven in recognition of the film director Steven Spielberg, then Solomon in honor of King Solomon. He attended Monterey Bay Academy and PGHS, graduating in 2008, then went on to MPC, Westmont College, and Cabrillo College. His interests included photography, poetry, hiking and martial arts. Solomon began directing the choral singers at Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula more than a year ago, becoming an important, valued part of the congregation. He was also was the musical director, organist, and choral accompanist for the church. He was well known on the Peninsula for his musical performances and compositions. A memorial service officiated by Pastor Paul Wrightman was held out of doors, with all attendees masked and social distancing. Pianist Michael Martinez performed a song he composed for Solomon, "Song for Sol." Solomon leaves behind family and friends in South Korea and countless friends on the Monterey Peninsula.

Candace Roman, who died September 14, was born with many challenges already lined up. Born with tuberous sclerosis on November 3, 1982, she had to fight with benign tumor growths, which affected her as a newborn and through the rest of her life, requiring numerous surgeries and prompting doctors to claim that she would not live past 17. But she graduated from PGHS in 2000 and



followed her heart to create her own path in jewelry design and high-end fashion. At age 30, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and beat it several times, but finally the cancer claimed her. During her fight with cancer, she insisted on building up her

home business. She never gave up until complications in her liver sent her to the hospital, and it became necessary to keep her sedated due to the unbearable pain. Candace is survived by her brother Curtis '96 and sister Cristin '06.



Paul Edgar Trejo, 93, passed

away at his home in Newburgh, IN, with his wife at his side on September 15. Paul grew up in P.G., where he lived until his graduation from PGHS in 1944.

As a boy during the Great Depression, he contributed to the

family finances by selling sacks of pine cones, huckleberries by the quart, and magazines door-to-door, as well as packing eggs at Holman's Department Store. At the end of the week he was permitted to keep ten cents for the Saturday matinee. During these formative years, he was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout of Pacific Grove Troop 92, and a Sea Scout. At the age of 12, he worked on a commercial fishing boat named the Two Brothers during the summer, which helped fuel his love of the sea and the life of a sailor. During high school Paul excelled in athletics, lettering in track and football three years and winning his class number three years in intramural track. His senior year he was elected captain of the track team. Paul served in the Navy and attended the University of Redlands and USC, where he earned a BS in Naval Science in 1947. In 1955, Paul earned a degree in electrical engineering from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey. He joined the Naval Reserve in 1959 after leaving the regular navy. During Paul's reservist years he also attended San Jose State University, where he earned a master's degree in physical science. He retired from the Navy, heavily decorated, in 1984 with the rank of Captain after

Obituaries, continued

forty years of service. He then taught at San Jose State and in the Foothill-De Anza Community College District. He was a 53-year member of PGHSAA. Paul was preceded in death by his newborn son, Paul, Jr., his brother Ernest '42, and his half-sister Margaret '57. He is survived by his devoted wife of 32 years, Kathleen; his son Lesley; his daughter Catherine; grandchildren Oceana, Sky, Natashya, Ruth, and Tamara; and ten great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a half-brother Glen '62; and two half-sisters, Hazel '61 and Dorothy '65.



Michael Alan Miller, age 68, a 56-year resident of Monterey, passed away September 15. He was born on January 23, 1952, in Columbus, OH. Mike graduated from PGHS in 1970 and attended MPC. He was a skilled athlete in swimming,

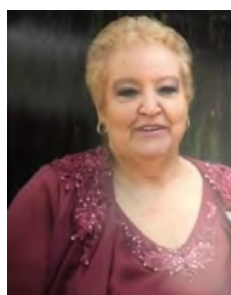
football, and tennis. Mike started his career washing cars at Stahl Motor Co. and was an integral part of setting up the body shop there. His career continued in other automotive-related businesses to include custom car builds, stretch limousines, and armored vehicles, as well as managing a full service body shop. Mike was a true craftsman in the auto body trade. He could paint and do bodywork and was a master at fiberglass repair and fiberglass mold making. Mike spent the latter part of his career working at All Around Auto with his friends Josh Hageman, Shad Pendergraft, and many others who came and went. Mike rode his bike everywhere and had a lifelong love of sports, pizza, beer, pinball, and soap operas—*All My Children* was his favorite. Mike also loved to play and write music. He was preceded in death by his parents, Eleanor and Brown Miller, and his sister, Patricia Lynn. Mike is survived by his brother, Randall, his son, Jacob '89, his daughter Erin, and his two granddaughters.



Benjamin "Ben" Joseph Kenneth Culala Jr. passed away peacefully on September 21 after suffering a stroke. Ben was born to Benjamin Culala Sr. '39 and Caroline Wheeler Culala '44 on June 16th, 1947 in Salinas, California. Ben graduated from

PGHS in 1966 and attended MPC before joining the military to serve in Vietnam in 1967, earning two purple hearts. He returned in 1970 and eventually earned his BA in teaching. He also majored in history. He moved to Turlock and was a teacher and coached football, baseball, and golf, to name a few sports, at Turlock High School for 35 years. He was a passionate and devoted man who always gave his best to anyone he came in contact with. He was a 10-year member of PGHSAA. He is survived by his six children, Nichole, Caroline, McKinley, Karsen, Carter, and Cameron; his grandchildren, Nicholas, Julia, Brooke, Dylan, Romeo, and Levi; his brothers, Mikeal '70 and Scott '72; and his sisters Sara and Annette. He was preceded in death by his father Benjamin, mother Caroline, and brother Tommy '67.

OCTOBER



Elizabeth "Betty" Anne Rose Kumre of Medford, OR, passed away at the age of 71 on October 3. Betty was born in Turlock but was raised in P.G. She graduated from PGHS in 1967 and moved to Oregon in 2005. Betty loved

her family, playing Bingo and working. She is survived by her daughter Gidget Rose of Royal Oaks; son Christopher Kumre of Salem, OR; and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Betty was preceded in death by her parents Reginald and Delores Rose, her brothers Reginald Jr. '68, Tony '70, and Manual '77, and her sister Diana '71.

Jennifer Smith died on October 4 in an ATV rollover accident near her home in Fairbanks, AK. Jenne was born in Monterey on February 21, 1988. She attended Forest Grove, PGMS, and Santa Catalina, and graduated from PGHS in 2006. She

Obituaries, continued



then graduated from the University of Oregon. Jenne's dream was always to live a simple life in a house in the woods with many dogs and animals. In 2015, she moved to Alaska and fell in love with Lance Mackey, who shared her love of dogs and of being in nature. Jenne and Lance

had two children, a son, Atigun (4) and a daughter, Lozen (2). With them, Jenne realized her dream of living in a forested area surrounded by dogs and a menagerie of other animals. Most of the jobs she held were in service to others. She was a youth minister in California and Oregon, she worked at a residential treatment home for emotionally disturbed children, and she served in a classroom for children on the autism spectrum. She served on the Oregon Grand Jury for child abuse cases, as a hospice volunteer, and as a suicide/crisis helpline counselor, and she taught organic gardening to children and teens. Jenne also loved music, and she sang with a choir at the University of Oregon and I Cantori in Monterey. She also played the piano. Jenne leaves behind these immediate family members to cherish her memory: her partner, Lance Mackey, and children Atigun and Lozen, who all live in Fairbanks, AK, her parents, Sid '68 and Joan Smith of Pebble Beach, and her sister, Valerie Smith '10 of San Diego.



Roger Trevor Bannerman, aged 75, of Madison, WI, died October 15 after living with advanced prostate cancer for several years. Roger was born July 2, 1945, in London, England, to his father, Raymond, an

American serviceman, and his mother, Doreen, a British citizen. After a childhood with frequent moves due to his father's army career, his family settled in P.G., where he graduated from PGHS in 1963. After receiving his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Humboldt State University, he drove across the country to begin graduate school at

UW Madison in the Water Chemistry Program. While in graduate school he met his future wife, Jane. Roger and Jane married in 1971 and settled in Madison. Roger worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and retired with 40 years of state service. After retirement, he worked for the United States Geologic Survey. He loved working with others, and he mentored university faculty, graduate students, fellow water quality staff, administrators, and the public to build understanding. He loved walking, biking, camping, canoeing, cross-country skiing, and sharing his love of the outdoors with others. Roger and Jane also enjoyed canoeing with family and friends on local lakes and rivers. Roger was a passionate photographer, capturing images of nature and adventures with family and friends. He was a 17-year member of PGHSAA. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Jane; their two children, Eric of Madison and Julie of Tuscaloosa; and by his grandsons, Santiago Ponce Bannerman, and Alejandro Ponce Bannerman. He is also survived by his two siblings, Brian '65 and Gillian '71, and his sister-in-law Cathy Tesar. He was preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Doreen Bannerman and his parents-in-law Ladislav and Katherine Krno.



Sharon Gay Hill Albright

passed away on October 17. Sharon was born and raised in Santa Cruz and P.G. She graduated from PGHS in 1968. She later moved to Texas, where she started her family and raised two children and started her career in the banking industry. She moved

to Siskiyou County in 1989 and was employed by the Siskiyou Opportunity Center, which she enjoyed. She is survived by her two children, Lisa Manzo and Karl Albright; and her grandchildren, Hope Melody Manzo, Edgar Joseph Manzo, Jacob Lee Manzo, Gage Lee Albright, and Monroe Josie Sky Albright. She is also survived by her brothers, William Kingsland and David Eaton. Sharon is remembered by her family as a very caring, loving woman who would do anything for her family. She was always there for any of them; including her grandchildren, of whom she was very proud.

Obituaries, cont.



With great sadness we said goodbye to a wonderful son, grandson, brother, nephew and friend on October 26. **Justin Bossard** was born in Monterey on July 2, 1992, and attended P.G. schools, graduating from the P.G. Community High

School in 2010. He worked in construction and customer service. Justin enjoyed spending time with his friends; he was very humorous and loved to make people laugh. He also enjoyed fishing, biking, skateboarding, and cooking which he was really good at. He will be missed and remembered by so many. Justin was preceded in death by his grandmother Lucille Rowe. He is survived by his girlfriend Jessica Klossing, mother Cheryl Rowe, father Ed Bossard, brother Eddie, grandmother Emma Bossard, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and his many friends.



NOVEMBER

William "Bill" Robert O'Neill of Rolling Hills Estates died Nov. 2 after a short battle with cancer. Bill was born January 11, 1944, in Orlando, FL to William R. O'Neill, Sr. and Chrisanthy G. Kenis

O'Neill. He spent most of his youth in P.G., where he excelled in sports, a life-long passion that continued into his career and retirement. A 1962 graduate of PGHS, he went on to graduate from Northern Arizona University, where he played collegiate basketball and was an active member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Bill married Carole L. Van Camp in 1975. Bill and Carole were avid travelers, including many summer trips to Europe where Bill bravely chaperoned graduating high school seniors. He taught high school mathematics for the Palos Verdes Unified School District for nearly 40 years, while coaching basketball, baseball, and cross-country. He was a life-long golfer and active member of the Los Verdes Men's Golf Club. Bill was preceded in death by his father, mother, and brother, Timothy O'Neill '67. He is survived by his

beloved family: wife Carole of 45 years; daughters Jennifer O'Neill, Tarin O'Neill and Kelly Vander Hamm; son John O'Neill; grandchildren Riley, Noah, Teagan, Ezra, and McKenna Vander Hamm; and nephew Dugan O'Neill.



Robert (Bob) Matthew Gruber

passed away November 6 at the age of 81 due to complications of gallbladder disease. Robert was born February 8, 1939, in Detroit, MI. When Robert was 3, the family

moved back to P.G. to live in his maternal grandfather's log cabin. Robert attended P.G. schools, graduating from PGHS in 1956 and enrolling at MPC. He began his 32 years with the US Post Office after his service in the US Navy. Robert remained active in the American Postal Workers Union until his death. After retiring from the postal service in 1992, he began working for Central Coast VNA (Visiting Nurse Association) and Hospice as a courier, a job that brought him great joy because he had an opportunity to interact with so many dedicated, caring people. He also occupied his time as a marathon runner, entering races all over the state, including the Big Sur Marathon. He also enjoyed bowling, horseback riding, and bird watching, and for many years participated in historical reenactments. He also spent many hours at the dog park with his golden retriever, Bailey. He leaves behind his wife of 57 years, Barbara Legg Gruber '56; his sons Robert Paul Gruber '82 and Daniel Gruber '85; and his granddaughters Caroline Gruber '15 and Catherine Gruber '18. Robert was preceded in death by his brother George Gruber '60, mother Maude Taylor Gruber '29, and father George Gruber.

"In Memory Of" donations are a wonderful way to remember friends and loved ones and to support PGHSAA. Donate to the address on P. 2 of this newsletter! Thanks to those who have made generous "IMO" donations recently and over the years.

The Hunters Point Crane

By Patty Fifer Keiffer '60

I wish I had a nickel for every time we have driven Highway 101 on our way to some northern destination. When we are in the vicinity of San Francisco, we always find ourselves gazing up at the Hunters Point Shipyard crane. I am guessing that probably a lot of travelers do the same.



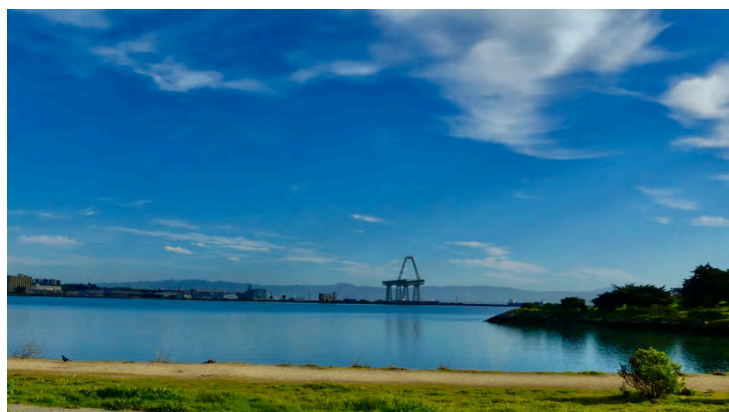
The Hunters Point Shipyard crane in 1948, above, and in 2012, right. Photos provided by Patty Fifer Keiffer

We discovered that if you take the Candlestick Exit, it will take you to Sunrise Point Park. A short hike from the car will give you a beautiful view of both San Francisco Bay and the Hunters Point crane. The free park has picnic tables, benches, and a toilet.

Recently, we did a little research on the crane, and we wanted to share the information with the alumni so the next time they drive Highway 101, they can appreciate what an impressive structure they are seeing.

The crane is called the Hunters Point Shipyard Gantry Crane. It is the largest gantry crane in the world and is visible from five counties. It stands 450 feet tall and weighs 800 tons. At a length of 730 feet, it is longer than the AT&T Baseball Stadium. It is taller than the Statue of Liberty and weighs as much as the Eiffel Tower. It is capable of lifting more than a million pounds. In 1947, the crane was built to swap gun turrets on battleships (presumably our battleships) and was later used in

missile testing. As the Hunters Point Shipyard is slowly repurposed, the crane remains as a reminder of the area's past as a naval shipbuilding center.



The crane from a distance today. Photo by Patty Fifer Kieffer.

A renewal notice for your PGHSAA membership

will be mailed soon! Please open it and respond as soon as possible. Have questions? E-mail our Membership Chair, Joanie Hyler '68, at joanie@pghsaa.org.

Classic Bowhay: Trains

Editor's note: Phil Bowhay '47 may be gone (see obituary, p. X), but his memories remain. We will continue to rerun his columns in the Knockout II. And, of course, we welcome others' memories as well! Photos by Joanie Hyler circa 1979.



With all our wonderful things on the Peninsula, the one thing missing is the sound of trains—especially, train whistles.

As recently as 1971, you could still hear the Del Monte Express moaning in and out of town, and if you can't remember that, rent the movie *Picnic*. Not our whistle, but close enough.

While we lived for a time in the East Bay, nighttime train sounds, in between a few gunshots, lulled us to sleep, or maybe even woke us up, all part of our world. Here in God's Country, we were blessed with a mix of train whistles, fog horns, and bell buoys, and we slept the sleep of the innocent.

In Pacific Grove, the Del Monte was the railroad crown jewel, spending the night by



Lovers Point. The track extended by our classic depot, out through the woods, past Asilomar to the sand plant, where Spanish Bay now sprawls. That toot toot toot as the engine pulled hopper cars through the woods seemed just the right touch. Didn't seem to bother the butterflies, either.

The depot looked just like that model you might have made for your Lionel layout, painted that good old railroad tan. The turntable was just below the depot, and about 50 yards away, where we looked for golf balls, was a very authentic, state-of-the-art

outhouse. The lumberyard was on the other side of the depot, with its own siding. One of the reasons I'm strong today,



70 years later, is that I spent a couple of weeks unloading wet redwood from a flat car. If you really care, the good old Internet holds a lot of history, pictures and otherwise.

Wasn't it the Del Monte that was involved in the collision that led to the death of Ed Ricketts?

The Del Monte, in our heyday, pulled five or six passenger cars, with Oliver's Lounge car the back porch at the end. Oliver, who might have been a Pullman porter in earlier days, was resplendent in a white, starched jacket, serving cocktails to contented passengers coming home from a day marching around Union Square. Of course, the bar closed before the Pacific Grove city line!

The train left P.G. at 7 a.m. sharp, with brief stops at the Monterey depot, the Del Monte Hotel, Fort Ord, and on to Castroville and points north, arriving at 3rd and Townsend in San Francisco at 10 a.m. Plenty of time for lunch at The Palace, St. Francis (meet you under The Clock), The Fly Trap, or Bernstein's Fish Grotto, and to spend a few bucks at The White House. Back on the train at 4 p.m. and home in P.G. by 7.

Well, aside from the Del Monte, there was a lot of railroad here. Sidings up and down the line, big business on Cannery Row, with tin shipped in for the sardine cans and cans of fish and fish byproducts shipped out.

Cement and lumber came and went, and Fort Ord was huge, with tracks all over the place. The Y



at Castroville carried trains south, picking up produce for the rest of the world in Salinas.

¹² DeLorimier's Monterey Bay Packing in Castroville

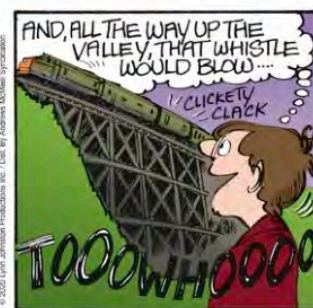
shipped in all directions, taking advantage of both sides of the Y.

Around 1950, brother Brooks and I boarded the Daylight in Salinas, changed to the Chief in Los Angeles, both trains loaded with college kids headed back to school. A wonderful night on the Chief—you fill in the blanks—then off to Albuquerque for another year of serious study at the University of New Mexico.

If you're retired and your schedule is loose, take the Amtrak north. Portland, Seattle, even Sacramento. The food is great, the scenery almost like it used to be, and there's a nice club car. I don't think there's a security check, and you don't have to take off your shoes. You can even walk around. Takes a little longer than Southwest, but what's the rush?

Every year we hear about a new committee, or study group, promising a new, if shorter, Del Monte. Don't count on it, friends. But Salinas isn't that far away, and I think they're going to paint the station.

This column originally appeared in the *Monterey Herald* May 7, 2018. Reprinted with permission.



Yes, it happened! The Butterfly Parade was held virtually this year, brilliantly hosted by two of P.G.'s elementary-school teachers. If you're reading this on paper, type the link below into your browser; if you're reading this on the screen, click on the link to see the video. It will warm your heart.

<https://youtu.be/tLNqXe3uKW8>

Pioneering in Del Monte Park, Part II

By Virginia Fox Abplanalp '50

When I was in kindergarten, we were living in Sierra Madre. My maternal grandfather, "Bumpy," got one of his wandering urges, so he and my grandmother, "Munner," took off for Northern California. We received a telegram from Bumpy saying, "Must come up here immediately. Have found the most beautiful place on the face of the earth." He was talking about the Monterey Peninsula.

So, my parents drove up there to look it over. We stayed a while near Asilomar, and then went back to Southern California to pack and move to Pacific Grove. We lived in several houses in Pacific Grove before ending up at 420 Dennett Street. I was in the third grade and Jim was in the first. The Southern Pacific train tracks ran right by the back of our yard, so Jim and I would wait for the train to go by on its way to the sand plant near the sand dunes and yell, "Steam! Steam! We want steam!" The engineer would oblige and cover us with it so we couldn't see each other. He and his partner would also toss golf balls to us that they had picked up off the track.

I realize now that at that point, my parents were sick and tired of moving. They had been in New London, CT, where my father had been stationed, and where I was born, then in San Diego and then Arcadia. A year later he was transferred back to San Diego, and we spent the next five years moving all over Southern California. Munner and Bumpy had always lived with us or nearby.

My parents thus decided to buy a piece of



Virginia's father clears land for the house

property and build a home of their own. "County land" was for sale next to Del Monte Forest for \$25 for a quarter-acre. They bought four, giving them an acre right next to the barbed-wire fence that marked the boundary of Del Monte Forest. The only problem was that there was no road leading to that acre. So, every weekend, when I was nine and my brother Jim was seven, we cleared manzanita and other brush to get to the lots. It was hard work, but my parents were determined.



The outhouse by itself in the forest

Somehow, they came up with another \$100 to buy building materials. The first structure they built was a two-hole outdoor toilet. They bought a cast-iron woodstove and set it up in the front yard. My mom would cook for my dad and the carpenter he hired to help him.

When we first moved in, we had no electricity, and water had to be hauled in buckets from a faucet on the other side of the fence. The stove was moved inside, and our light source was a kerosene lantern. I can still remember how that little house looked and smelled. Our parents told us we were being pioneers, and I guess we were.

All of this was to be temporary, but WWII broke out and building materials became unavailable. My dad was frozen on his job as a bus driver, working for 88 cents an hour. On November 15, 1941, just before the war started, my brother Gilbert was born. He was a sickly child. Life became very different due to the war and the influx of military personnel, their families, and military vehicles.

Once the house was built, my dad built a chicken coop and rabbit hutches. He and my mother returned to their roots, established in the Midwest, and we

Pioneering, continued

raised chickens and rabbits. Dad bought a goat because Gil was unable to keep down cow's milk. Guess who got to feed and water the chickens, gather the eggs, feed and water the rabbits, clean their hutches, and milk the goat? Yours truly. The goat's name was Angel, but she was not. She kept trying to kick the bucket over and kick me. I was only nine, so I felt put upon. The worst part was that they made us drink that milk, also, and it tasted terrible! I let the goat go dry on purpose so I wouldn't have to drink that milk anymore. I knew they could buy goat's milk from our neighbors, the Alsops, who lived two blocks away, and just enough for Gil. So, I was sneaky but not totally evil. Never told my parents I did it on purpose. They thought *I* was the angel.



Virginia's brothers Gil (standing) and Steve on the front porch circa 1946. Notice more new construction behind them.

Despite all the chores I had as the oldest child, living next door to Del Monte Forest made up for it. All we had to do was go under the barbed-wire fence, and we were in paradise. No other children ever went there, so we had it to ourselves. We could climb trees, make forts out of branches, and play make-believe by the hour. The pine cones were my subjects and I was Queen of the World. It was always disappointing when we heard the whistle my mother blew, calling us home for dinner.

At night, we played hide-and-go-seek and kick-the-can with other neighborhood kids who lived nearby. I even played touch football with the boys—a real tomboy.

Jim and I walked two miles to school and two miles home. Nobody every worried about

kidnappers or child molesters. We were on our own and liked it that way. I even walked to the Baptist church in New Monterey by myself just because I loved to hear Mrs. Bentley's choir solos. I was only 10 and 11 years old at the time.

I guess I decided there was no hope for me once my third brother, Steve, was born, as far as family duties. I mustered all my courage and went down to Holman's and asked for a job. I was all of 13 years old and in the eighth grade. Much to my surprise, I was hired even after I confronted the manager in the elevator! He put me to work in the advertising department for 35 cents an hour. I did odd jobs to help my boss and saved my salary so that I could make a hair appointment and have my braids cut off. When my dad came to pick me up, he was furious. He said, "I hope you're satisfied. Now you look just like everyone else." I told him that was the whole idea. He didn't speak to me for days.

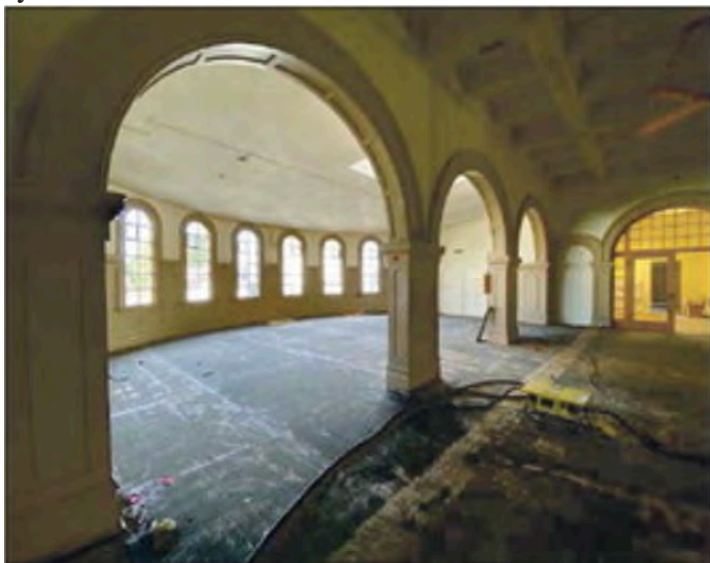
I always loved school, both for the activities and the learning; I have a love of learning to this day. I took clarinet lessons and ended up first clarinet, first chair, in the band and orchestras. Even though I didn't have a strong voice, I fooled the teacher and ended up in the glee club and mixed chorus. When she came around to listen to our voices, I quit singing and faked it. The friends around me were all very strong singers, so they carried me the rest of the time. I always loved music, and I was thrilled to be part of it; I kept this up through high school. I chose to drop band in high school, because I wanted to sit in the stand with my friends at football games and not be stuck in the marching band on the field.

My senior year at PGHS, in addition to working in various soda fountains downtown, something I had done for three years, I was editor of the school paper, manager of the annual school variety show, second lead in the senior play, member of the honor society, and an attendant to the May Queen. I also earned my letter in girls' sports.

Editor's note: Virginia's "Part I" of this story ran in the December, 2016, issue of The Knockout II. Our September, 2020, issue also contained some "Fox Family Photos" of the building site. Virginia's accomplishments as related here are not bad for a little pioneer girl who started out in Pacific Grove clearing roads, milking the goat, and tending to chickens and rabbits! We hope she will send us Part III soon.

P.G. Library Renovation

A grand reopening of the Pacific Grove Public Library has been put on hold as final touches are made on a \$2.5 million renovation project, but it isn't preventing city officials from at least quietly celebrating. "It's within an eyelash of being finished and it's fantastic," said Pacific Grove Mayor Bill Peake. "It's as if everything had been redone. It's opened up the interior and is more expansive when you walk in."



Mid-renovation photo looking through reading room toward Fountain Ave. Courtesy Pacific Grove Library Foundation.

Certainly city staff and members of the P.G. Public Library Foundation and Friends of the Library, which helped raise capital for the project, couldn't have anticipated the pandemic some 18 months ago when the renovation began.

"It won't be as joyous as we had hoped," Peake said, addressing the shelter-in-place order that prevents libraries from opening to the public.

Now-retired library director Scott Bauer said when the project started last spring that it had received little if any upgrades for decades. The structure received additions in 1926 and 1938, followed by two expansions in 1950 and 1978. Its original construction in 1908 was funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

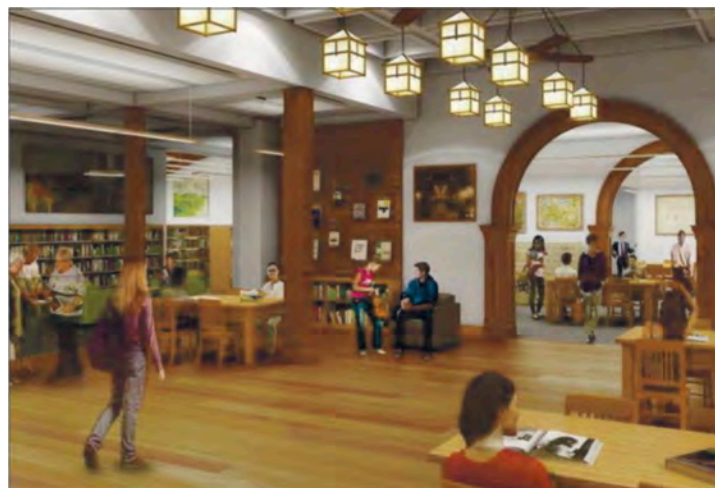
"Since the 1978 expansion not much has been done to the building," Bauer told the *Herald* at the beginning of the project last year. "That was 40 years ago and time has aged the building quite a bit." ¹⁶

The renovations had three primary focuses. The first is a renovated "Carnegie core," the original 2,500-square-foot structure built in 1908. It was swallowed up when the library expanded to 12,500 square feet with the addition of what is now the front section of the library.

The second focus is long-neglected maintenance issues, such as missing ceiling tiles, stained walls, sub-par restrooms, and old lighting, which was replaced with modern lighting, including replicated chandeliers for the old portion of the library.

Finally, new construction included accommodations for future growth and new technologies. "Our library is many things," Peake said. "It's the books and videos, but it's also a cultural hub where friends can meet up and catch up on the news or where parents can take their kids for active children's programs." Other amenities include a dedicated space for community history and a refurbishment of the children's room.

The P.G. library has the distinction of being one of just a few Carnegie libraries still used as a library in the state. Between the 1880s and the 1920s, Carnegie poured more than \$2.8 million—roughly \$76.4 million in 2020 dollars, adjusted for inflation—into libraries in California. Many of the original libraries have been converted to churches, law offices, museums and even vacant lots.



Artist's rendition of completed renovation. Courtesy Pacific Grove Library Foundation.

By Dennis L. Taylor. This story was originally published in the Monterey Herald November 12, 2020. Reprinted with permission.

New Hotel Planned in P.G.

A large new hotel is planned for the space currently partially occupied by the American Tin Cannery building, bordered by Ocean View, Eardley, Dewey, and Sloat, next to the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Comstock Homes, operating as CCS Pacific Grove Manager LLC, is proposing the project, which would demolish a portion of the historic tin-can manufacturing building and turn the rest into part of the hotel.

According to the City of Pacific Grove's website, "The project is a proposal to replace the existing 165,000 square feet of 'factory outlet' and related uses...providing 225 guest rooms in two guest wings with a restaurant and bars, meeting and gathering spaces, spa and fitness center and approximately 20,000 square feet of street retail uses along the Ocean View Blvd. frontage. These street retail uses would retain and incorporate portions of the existing industrial structure.

"Project actions include grading, tree and vegetation removal, partial demolition of existing onsite buildings and improvements, additions and alterations to existing structures and construction of new buildings to establish the new hotel and related

commercial uses. The project's parking plan calls for a total 304 valet parking spaces on site, including approximately 260 subgrade parking spaces."

The project has gone through the required Environmental Impact Report process and a public comment period, during which a number of residents voiced their concerns about the impact of the project on traffic coming in to Pacific Grove on Lighthouse and Central Avenues. As we go to press, according to the City's website, "The project's public hearing before the City's Architectural Review Board is scheduled for December 15. The ARB will be making a recommendation to the Planning Commission on the Architectural Permit.

"The project will then be scheduled for a public hearing before the Planning Commission (PC). The PC will consider the proposed Final EIR, the Architectural Permit, Use Permit, Tree Permit, and Coastal Development Permit. The Planning Commission hearing is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2021.

"The Planning Commission's decision is appealable to the City Council, and as portions of the project are within the designated Coastal Commission appeals jurisdiction, the final City decision is appealable to the California Coastal Commission, at least for those portions within the

appeals jurisdiction," the City's website continues. "Whether or not the Planning Commission's action on the project is appealed - or called up to - the City Council, the Council will consider the associated lease agreement should the other permits be approved. The City Council's consideration of the proposed lease agreement and any

appeal or call-up of the Planning Commission's decision is tentatively scheduled for February 17, 2021." We'll keep you posted.



Artist's rendition of the new hotel. Existing ATC building is at lower left facing Ocean View Blvd., in front. Eardley runs at upper left. Image courtesy CCS Pacific Grove Manager LLC.

P.G. Hardware

As evidenced by the stories on the previous two pages, some spaces in P.G. experience constant change, while others seem to stay the same no matter what. At Pacific Grove Ace Hardware at 229 Forest Avenue in downtown P.G., one constant you'll find is the leadership of owner Bill Derowski '76 and his staff, who've kept the friendly hardware retailer going since 2000.



Bill Derowski '76, manager of Ace Hardware on Forest in P.G.

The store began in 1978 as M&S Building Supply, "M" for Martine, and "S" for Stillwell. From the outset, the store set itself apart with a focus on

customer service. The focus of this philosophy came from Don Martine, who ensured that customer-centric service would be the backbone of the experience at 229 Forest Avenue. The existence of a second Ace Hardware franchise in P.G.'s Forest Hill Shopping Center and the fact that both stores do a brisk business is a testament.

"Don was a great teacher," Bill, who is the current owner, says. "He taught us to take care of the customer. I learned you go up and greet the customer and ask them what they need. You as an employee are there to help the customer solve a problem."

Bill himself started working the floor at the store in 1982, when it was run by Don Martine and Richard Stillwell '50.

Despite not being in the hardware industry, he honed his retail skills by taking Don's advice seriously and developing an ear for what people want when they choose to go to a hardware store. "I don't have training in hardware," Bill says. "I have training in customers. They'll tell you what they need something for, and that's something you can learn. That's just meeting demand. It's what you learn once you know it all that counts."

It's with that attitude that Bill has seen to it that

his service is extremely customer-oriented, and it is that orientation which has made the business successful year after year. The store stands out for its customer service experience and provides an unparalleled level of expertise to all who cross its threshold.

Walking into Pacific Grove Hardware, any customer is immediately greeted by the first available staff person who kindly inquires what they're looking for. More often than not, they'll also know exactly where to find any requested item if it is in-stock and will lead their customer straight to the item in person and answer any questions they may have. It's a retail experience that stands out for its efficiency, expertise and downright pleasantness.

Clerks are never pushy, just genuinely eager to be of help, and they go behind the counter only when you're ready to check out. Bill says this service component is an intangible but critical aspect to his success in brick-and-mortar retail in a time when the competition has never been more fierce. "It costs you no more to wait on them like that and retail competition is so fierce now," Bill says. "We can't compete on price compared to Home Depot, or Amazon so we have to compete on something."

His commitment to customer service has paid off and ensures he runs a healthy business that relies almost exclusively on full-time staff with a generous bonus and benefits structure that has allowed him to hang on to staffers long-term.

Bill is also active in the business community and has taken his work ethic out the doors of the hardware store and into the business community, serving on the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce's board of directors and remaining active in P.G.'s Downtown Business Improvement District. On the Chamber board, Bill keeps an eye out for retailers and wants to ensure the downtown business district has a strong and diverse mix of businesses.

He chalks up his involvement in the business community to wanting to do his utmost to ensure success both for his own operation and those of others. "Take care of your employees they'll take care of you; do the same with your business and it'll take care of you and always take care of the customer. You get out what you put in."

Originally published in the *Monterey Herald* October 22, 2020. Reprinted with permission.

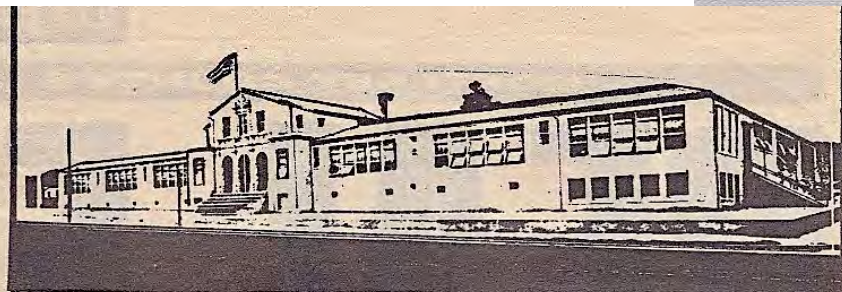
Joanie's Scrapbook



All Hail, Pacific Grove!

All hail, Pacific Grove!
 Our love we pledge to thee;
 Long wave the Crimson and the Gold--
 Triumphantly!
 Beneath the pine trees' majesty,
 From bay to bay, from hills to sea,
 Rings forth our song of loyalty,
 And echoes back--
 "All hail, P. G. High!"

*Alumni Banquet at Asilomar
 December 26-1924*



PIC TOURS

Tad Burness

Monterey County Herald 10-30-93

The Robert H. Down School mystery continues! When was this school actually built? What year did construction start, and when was it completed?

On July 31, Pic Tours presented a feature on the original Pacific Grove Grammar School on Pine Avenue. That Victorian Gothic structure served the kids of Pacific Grove from 1891 until the dawn of the 1920s.

The October-November 1985 issue of Board & Batten (P.G. Heritage Society) reports that the old school building shut down in 1919.

However, there are many conflicting dates for the construction of the present Robert H. Down school, ranging from 1919 to 1926.

Some old-timers say that the present Mediterranean-style building at 485 Pine Ave. was erected in phases, with rooms closed in the old building only after they were ready in the new.

I've been looking for accurately dated early photos of the present school for years and years.

The accompanying photo is the earliest I've seen so far; it appeared in a 1923 book with pictures and stories of local homes and points of interest.

The school looks nearly new in the 1923 picture (if, indeed, it was not taken earlier) because it shows no vegetation around the building.

I'm looking for old pictures or information on Robert H. Down School (or Pacific Grove Grammar School, as it used to be known).

I'm trying to learn just when its construction began and how many rooms were built in each phase. Reportedly, the auditorium was not added until 1930.

If you have information on the school, please let me know. I can be reached at 649-4864, or at Box 247, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

I am also interested in old or recent photos of any homes or buildings on the Peninsula or in Salinas, as well as old Polk City Directories or back issues of Game & Gossip magazine (which have interesting local pictures and articles).

On this page and next are some items from the scrapbook of PGHSAA Treasurer and Membership Chair Joanie Hyler '68. At top left, Pacific Grove's Singing Christmas Tree in 1970. Top right, a souvenir from the Alumni Banquet at Asilomar in December of 1924. At left, a clipping from the *Monterey Herald*, 1993. Tad Burness died in 2012, but the Alumni Association is always interested in your old pictures! On the next page, a menu from the A&W restaurant at the top of Forest Hill, with its 89-cent steak sandwiches. And on page 21, there's a photo from the collection of Ruth Young, Pacific Grove schools teacher and counselor. Read the caption on that page carefully to discover another effort that wants your class photos. Send them to Joanie at joanie@pghsaa.org.

WELCOME

TO

A & W ROOT BEER DRIVE-IN

1225 Forest Avenue

Pacific Grove, California

Telephone (408) 372-5212

MENU**SANDWICHES**

Hamburger	.45	dix.	.55
Cheeseburger	.55	dix.	.65
Jumbo Burger (1/4 lb. Beef on French Bun)	.75	dix.	.85
Jumbo Cheese Burger	.85	dix.	.95
Chili Burger	.60		
Chili Cheese Burger	.70		
Jumbo Hot Dog	.40		
Chili Dog	.50		
Chili Cheese Dog	.60		
Grilled Cheese	.50		
Grilled Tuna	.60		
Grilled Tuna and Cheese	.70		
Grilled Ham	.65		
Grilled Ham & Cheese	.75		
Fish Witch	.65		
Steak Sandwich	.89		
Roast Beef Sandwich	.89		
B.B.Q. Beef	.70		

SUBMARINES

Beef, Salami and Cheese	1.00	1/2 Sub.	.65
Hamburger Submarine	1.15	1/2 Sub.	.75
Cheese Burger Submarine	1.25	1/2 Sub.	.85
Tuna Submarine	1.15	1/2 Sub.	.75
Tuna and Cheese	1.25	1/2 Sub.	.85
Ham and Cheese	1.25	1/2 Sub.	.85

(All Submarines made Deluxe .15 extra)

MENU**SIDE ORDERS**

Apple Turnovers	.30	A la mode	.40
Fish and Chips	.89		
Fries	.30		
Onion Rings	.35		
Korn Dogs	.35		
Chili Bowl	.45		
Tacos	.35		
Potato Chips	.10		

DRINKS

Root Beer - Cola - Orange	Sm. - .15	Med. - .25	Lg. .40
Milk	.15 and .25		
Coffee	.10 and .15		
Tea	.15		
Sanka	.15		
Hot Chocolate	.20		
Milk Shakes	.40		
Malts	.45		
Freezes	.45		

ICE CREAM

Banana Splits	.65		
Hot Fudge Sundaes	.40 and .50		
Cones	.15 and .25		
Sundaes	.35 and .45		

DRINKS TO GO

Root Beer	Qt. .50 — 1/2 Gal. .70 — Gal. 1.00
Cola and Orange	Qt. .50 — 1/2 Gal. .70 — Gal. 1.25

"It takes a little longer to prepare food as ordered but it's well worth waiting for."

Open 7 days a week 11:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. • Friday and Saturday to 1:00 A.M.

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This photo is from the material from Ruth Young. It is of the sixth grade class at Lighthouse School (class of '68), taken May, 1962. Mrs. Young, bless her heart, wrote the students' names on the back. They are as follows: First row, left to right: David Conrad, Mark Young, Stephen Underwood, Bill Garmany, Richard Morris. Second row: Christine Allen, Rosanna McCoy, Cynthia Ashment, Nancy Perry, Karen Lindvall, Nancy Harper, Shelley Pimental, Sharon Hill. Third row: Mrs. Young, Charlotte Dale, Ruby Romano, Anne Brashear, Vivian Smith, Laurette Luff, Rhonda Thornburg, Karen Jones, Linda Heldt. Fourth row: David Steven, Danny Hoffman, Dick Baker, Tom Wright, Jeff Marizon, Doug Davy. Classmates not in photo: John McCulloch, Kathy Ranson, Cheryl Embrey, Steve Stackleather. Steve Ibrahim, one of the P.G. teachers who emceed this year's Butterfly Parade (see P. 13), is collecting class photos like this. If you have any, send them to Joanie Hyler, joanie@pghsaa.com/index.html

Seen Around Town

Those who grew up on the Monterey Peninsula are familiar with Carmel's "fairytale" cottages designed by Hugh Comstock (if you don't remember them, think of the Tuck Box). But Pacific Grove has a surprising number of fairytale-type houses, some of which are seen on this page and next. This page, first row: 306 Cypress, 430 Gibson; second row: 640 Eardley, 650 Spruce; third row, 662 Spazier, 509 18th St. Photos by Beth Penney



Seen Around Town, continued

On this page, one more cute little gabled home at 510 19th, and then three different “fairytale” homes recently built in the Beach Tract: first row, right: Ocean View Blvd. and Balboa (in the spring, this front yard is solid purple carpet); second row: 1142 Del Monte (notice the stone turret partially hidden behind the tree at the entrance), and a similar castle-like home at 1230 Shell. At bottom: colorful butterflies in front of Robert H. Down and the ball park at George Washington Park, both without children during the pandemic. Photos by Beth Penney



PACIFIC GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.**A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION****P.O. Box 51396****Pacific Grove, CA 93950-6396****Return Service Requested**

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*The Knockout II: The PGHSAA Newsletter***Who (and Where?) Is It?**

Ann Bruscas Knox '57 of Chapel Hill, TN, responded to our photo of the three boys in the September issue, saying, "Greetings from Chapel Hill, TN. That is definitely Tom Hoy in the back and the blonde with glasses is Dick Grelich. The other fellow I know but cannot think of his name." Jack Orchard '54 of Carmel could, saying: "Left to right Dick Greilich '54, Tom Hoy '55, and Paul Chalmers '54." Yes, this was a photo of the Block P.G. "Executive Committee" from the 1954 *Sea Urchin*. Dick was Secretary/Treasurer, Tom was



President, and Paul was Vice President. Now, who are these young ladies, and where are they sitting? Here's a hint: Your editor doesn't recognize the people, but she does recognize the place because it didn't change one bit between the time this photo was taken and the time she graduated in 1973 (by which time hats were definitely passé!). Send your answers (and your photos!) to president@pghsaa.org.