

THE KNOCKOUT II

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

June, 2021 ● Page One

President's Message



There will be no PGHSAA reunion again this year; sorry, folks, but at the time we had to start planning for an October reunion, both our caterer and the Elks Club were unwilling to take reservations or make any commitments because of the uncertainty about a possible resurgence of the COVID-19 virus. So, rather than play a guessing game with vaccine availability and re-opening plans, we decided to put our energy into the 2022 reunion, which will be held Saturday, October 1, 2022, and which we hope will be well-attended.

But we still invite you to Pacific Grove the first weekend of October—see the story about Butterfly Days by Dixie Layne '66 on p. 12. We hope that in 2022 we will be able to invite all of you to a reunion weekend that will include a fully functioning Pacific Grove—Butterfly Parade, high school football game, dinner, and everything else.

Meanwhile, P.G. schools opened in March along with other California districts, but not all students returned to campus. They were given the option of returning or continuing with online instruction; reports were that about a third chose distance learning in the middle and grade schools; about half of PGHS students chose distance learning. See p. 15 for a story and photos of events held in honor of the graduating PGHS Class of 2021 and for news about how your donations helped to make this class's experience special. A big "Thank You" to all of you for the donations that made these gifts possible!

More good news for the Alumni Association is that Teri Kier Kuhle '74 has joined our Board of Directors. She was named to the board at our May meeting to finish out a vacated term ending in

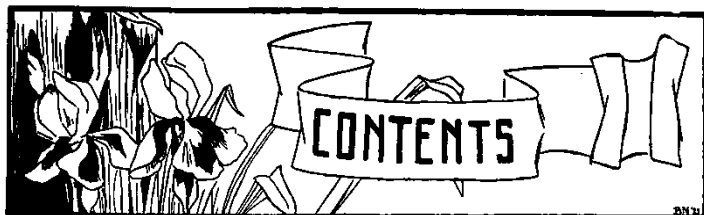
December 2021, at which time she will become an officer when she moves to the Treasurer's position. She and current Treasurer Joanie Hyler '68 have been working together to coordinate duties; Teri is not local, although she visits family in Pacific Grove often, so Joanie will continue to complete some of the work that requires being in town, while Teri takes over the bookkeeping and coordination with our auditor. Thanks to Teri for volunteering to take this on, and we look forward to working with her!

The Alumni Association board resumed in-person meetings in May, but Zoom has proved to be such a good way to allow those with transportation, mobility, or scheduling issues to attend without having to drive that we also offered a Zoom link for our May meeting and will continue to do so. The meetings are being held at your President's home in P.G. for the time being; we hope to return to meeting at the P.G.H.S. Library in the near future. And, we're thrilled to have Teri on the board, but that wasn't the only open spot! We have several unfilled seats, so wherever you are, we welcome you as a board member! E-mail president@pghsaa.org if you're interested in joining us—in person or via Zoom from anywhere. Many thanks to Cate Goblirsch Lee '94 for hosting the Zoom end of our meetings.

There's lots of interesting news and a number of special memories in this issue, including photos of the "new" P.G. Public Library interior on p. 17, reunion plans for several PGHS classes on p. 5, the naming of P.G. Middle School as a Distinguished School (p. 20), "Classic Bowhay" (p. 21), a P.G.H.S. winner in the Central Coast Writers' 2021 Monterey County High School Writers' Contest (p. 14), a "P.G. Love Story" (p. 14), and more.

Do you have a memory, an update on your life, news of PGHS classmates, a photo, or a funny story to share? Send them to us at president@pghsaa.org!

Beth Penney '73



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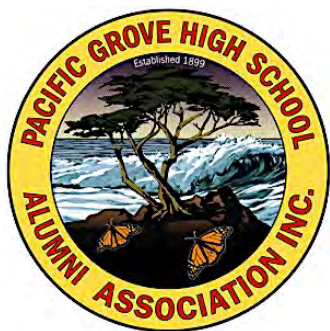
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Beth Penney '73, President

Edie Adams McDonald '56, Vice-President

Patty Fifer Kieffer '60, Recording Secretary

Donna Murphy '79, Corresponding Secretary

Joanie Hyler '68, Treasurer

PGHSAA Board of Directors

Serving through December 2021

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Malcolm Colvin '67

Carol Bradley Lauderdale '66

Teri Kier Kuhle '74

Serving through December 2022

Marabee Rush Boone '60

Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

Joanie Hyler '68

Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Serving through December 2023

Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56

Lillian Griffiths '70

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Erin Langton Field '71

PGHSAA Committee Chairs

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Bylaws: Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Disbursements: Donna Murphy '79

Events: Carol Bradley Lauderdale '66

Historian: Sydney Berg Tabler '64

Knockout II Editor: Beth Penney '73

Membership: Joanie Hyler '68

Nominations: Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Parliamentarian: Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Publicity: Beth Penney '73

Scholarships: Lillian Griffiths '70

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 July 8, September 11 (General Membership meeting), and October 14. Meetings are currently being held using a combination of in-person and Zoom attendance. **Our 2022 annual reunion is planned for Saturday, October 1, 2022, at the Elks Club in Monterey;** we unfortunately had to cancel the 2021 reunion because of planning uncertainties due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Donations

A Friendly Welcome to Our New Member(s)

1967 Michele <i>McGuire</i>	Pebble Beach
1975 Cindy <i>Kier</i> McCullough	Monterey
1980 Becky <i>Kier</i> Anderson	San Diego
1982 Andrea <i>Kier</i>	San Ramon

Returning Members: Glad to have you back!

1950 Marian <i>Galt</i> Layton	Bloomington, IN
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“In Memory Of” Contributions

Dawn Palmer*	Justice, IL
IMO: Carole <i>Carter</i> Brown ‘58	
1949 Joy <i>Riley</i> Fugitt	Arlington, TX
IMO: David Fugitt ‘49	
IMO: Warren Fugitt ‘50	
IMO: Lydia <i>Gillespie</i> Davis ‘59	
1949 Keith Lowrey	Glen Allen, VA
IMO: Vance Lowrey ‘48	
IMO: Deceased Classmates 1949	
IMO: Jane <i>Lowrey</i> Weisser ‘52	
1958 Bill Booker	Salinas
IMO: Carole <i>Carter</i> Brown ‘58	
1958 Bill Dorman	Sacramento
IMO: Rene Vit ‘58	
1960 Arden Handshy	Murrieta
1963 Lynn <i>Edwards</i> Handshy	Murrieta
IMO: John Dorman ‘60	
1969 Gary Gasperson	Monterey
IMO: Donald Gasperson ‘47	

Thanks To Our Recent Contributors

1954 Jean <i>Hurlbert</i> Jorgensen	Green Valley, AZ
1958 Charles Lunt**	Lakeport
1960 Edward Spencer	Washington, IN
1963 Paula <i>Fontana</i> Buckman	Del Rey Oaks
1963 Michele <i>Sherwin</i> Thomas***	Pacific Grove
1980 Daniel McGreal	Woodbridge, VA
1983 Kelly <i>Blackwell</i> McGreal	Woodbridge, VA

Senior Support Fund

1968 Stacey <i>Souders</i> Golding	Carmel
1969 Ted Golding	Carmel

PGHSAA Scholarship Fund:

1956 Jon Olivetti	Peoria, AZ
1962 Ken Chamberlain	Auburn
1966 Clint Gruwell	Woodstock, GA

*culinary

**golf

***arts

Letters

Hi Beth,

I have never written a letter to you before, so here it goes. I just graduated from P.G.H.S., Class of ‘43—yes, I said 1943. A week after graduation, I was in the Navy—it was WWII. I got lucky, as I was set to go overseas from San Francisco. They came around and wanted guys to sign up to go to diving school. I didn’t really want to go to diving school, but I thought it was better than no school at all. I signed up and went to diving school in Tiburon and became a deep-sea diver. Only one other diver and I became salvage divers in the S.F. Bay area. They couldn’t find guys to be divers, so I was kept in San Francisco for the next 2.5 years, diving regularly, having some exciting times, maybe I should say scary times! Lucky because I am still here at 96 years old. Do you know of anyone from the class of 1943? If you do, please let me know! Thanks, Beth, for all your work! P.S. I retired from the Monterey Fire Department with 35 years service.

Thanks,
Jack (John) Reynolds, 43
Monterey

Dear Friends,

We love P.G. High; we love P.G., and we left P.G. for Paradise, CA. Well, we got burned out and lost everything in the Camp Fire there in 2018. Our youngest daughter, who lives in Colorado, had us moved to Aurora, CO, after we lived in our RV for five days. We sold the RV and moved into a care home, which took up our money for the RV, and we couldn’t do both! Anyway, we are “at home” with nothing but what we had in the RV, which is basically all new! Couch, TV, bed, dresser, and things that were given to us by well-meaning new friends. God bless them! After 65 years of collecting stuff, it is all gone, but we are still married and happy with each other. Thank you; we do love getting the *Knockout II*.

Bob ‘55 and Judie Evans ‘56 Miller
Aurora, CO

Dear Beth,

I want to compliment you on the last issue. I am learning a lot from your recent issues that include so much local history. I bought the book about early

Letters, continued

days in P.G., going clear back to the very beginning to tell about the explorers, etc. Fascinating! The picture of that 8th grade graduating class has a connection to my family. Harold Harper grew up to be my dad's first boss in Monterey and the one who hired him as a bus driver in 1938. My dad had never driven a bus before in his life but lied and said he had. Mr. Harper gave him a test and he passed. It was during the depression and my dad needed the job desperately. My folks had just moved up from southern California where they had lived for 8 years while he was in the navy. Both men were in their mid-thirties. Keep up the good work and enjoy being "sprung."

Gratefully,
Virginia Fox Abplanalp '50
Walnut Creek

P.S. Just re-did the math and both men were 31 years old at the time Mr. Harper hired my dad. I was in 1st grade and the Mr. Down in the picture was my principal. His son was my English and Journalism teacher and my advisor on the P.G. High *Knockout* newspaper.

Hi Joanie,

Really enjoyed this month's *Knockout II*! Must, however, point out the "Where We Are Now" section's reference to subscribers in Virginia seems to be missing an "n" for "Oakton" where I reside.

Best Wishes,
Dave Nelson '64
Oakton, VA

Beth,

I am submitting a "letter" for the next edition of the *Knockout II*. I'm keeping the story a secret from Joe. Will he ever be surprised when he gets the June *Knockout II*...Woohoo!

Flo Nedeff Martin, '59
Woohoo!
(our class motto was "More Beyond")
Costa Mesa

Ed. Note: See Flo's lovely "letter" on p. 14.

Good Evening, Joanie,

Thank you for sending the reminder, as I had the first notice buried in my bills. So here are my dues for 2021 and 2022 to continue my membership with the Alumni Association. Called it quits on Dec. 31, 2020, and retired for a second time. The first after 33 years with the City of Pacific Grove Recreation Department in 2008 and then 13 years with USA Softball in Oklahoma, with my last assignment as the Chief Operating Officer. Christie and I will be staying put in Edmond, Oklahoma, for the first year of retirement to figure things out. We have six kids between us, and 10 grandkids, who are spread all over the U.S. We plan to visit them all in 2021, as we purchased a travel trailer to do so. We still have our house in P.G. so have the ability to return if we deem that to be our best option. As I write this letter on Feb. 17, it is 19 degrees, feels like 9 degrees, and we just had over 20 inches of snow dumped on us in 3 days. This could help us make our decision of where to live in the future! LOL. Hope you are doing well these days. Please say hello to President Beth and the rest of the Board Members.

Take Care and Stay Safe,
John Sidney Miller '71
Edmond, OK

Dear PGHSAA:

I really enjoy *The Knockout II* and would hate missing an issue. Enclosed you will find a donation to use as you see fit.

Mary Anne Skinkle Hernandez '61
Fair Oaks

Hi!

I'm writing about the location of The Way Out House. I remember it to be on Forest Avenue across the street from the P.G. Police Department. When I was in P.G. Junior High, I thought it was such a cool store. I remember a person working there named Heidi. She had long brown hair and smiled and said "hi." She seemed friendly. I admired the clothes of satin and velvet. I appreciate receiving the *Knockout II*!

Thank you,
Mary Ulrich Perrone '73
Levering, MI

Letters, continued

Beth,

The “Where Is It?” was a clothing store owned by the Curry family on Forest Avenue just up from Cecil’s Ice Cream across the street from the Police Dept. “Groovy” mens and ladies clothing. Gretel is standing on the left and Heidi on the right in the picture. They both worked there and maybe owned part of the business. Not sure. Some of their mannequins were flat cutouts (cardboard?) with painted faces hung from the walls, ceiling, and stairs that went up to the loft. I loved shopping there. They had some cool clothes. It was a very popular place to shop when we were in high school.

*Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth ‘71
Salinas*

Beth,

I believe this shop was on Forest Ave. That’s Heidi Curry (long dark hair) and gang! She and I were classmates at P.G.H.S., graduating in 1969.

*Lisa Craig ‘69
Denver, CO*

Beth,

The Way Out House was on Forest Avenue across from the Grove Market. The two owners were Gretal Curry (girl on far left) and Heidi Curry (girl on far right). Gretal was class of 1970, and I think Heidi was a year older. Both were students at the time the store opened, and it was “the place” to purchase mini skirts! I believe this photo was for an ad in the *Sea Urchin*.

*Lillian Griffiths ‘71
Carmel*

Ed. Note: Thanks for all the responses to the “Where Is It?” picture in the last issue! The Way Out House was at 223 Forest, which is now occupied by a dog groomer, right.

Use Amazon Smile to donate to PGHSAA!

Bookmark **Amazon Smile** and shop there instead of Amazon.com. PGHSAA will receive a donation of .5% of your purchases. There’s also an app for your phone! Thank you!

PGHS Class of 1971 50th Reunion
October 1, 2 & 3, 2021

More Information @ Facebook Page, or
John S Miller, johnmiller1971@gmail.com,

or

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth, (831) 484-2924
Spread the News!!!

COOL & NIFTY CLASS of '60

File this under “You Can’t Keep a Good Class Down”! 2020 was to be the 60th reunion celebration for the class of 1960. Unfortunately, fate had other plans, and the pandemic caused us to postpone our celebration. Well, we have decided to go ahead and plan for a get-together in 2021. We will be having a scaled-down, Covid-compliant weekend starting Friday night October 1st. Class members are being advised via email. Direct any questions to Patty Kieffer @ pat.kieffer42@gmail.com.

We hope to see everybody then!

--Your Class of '60 Reunion Committee

The P.G.H.S. Class of 1973

will revive its yearly wine-and-cheese get-together Saturday, October 2, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Beth Penney in P.G. Info: www.pacificgrove73.com or bpenney@sonic.net.



Former location of The Way Out House on Forest, directly across from the Grove Market. It’s difficult to get pictures these days because of the trees and the large vehicles! Photo by Beth Penney

Obituaries

OCTOBER

1973 John Stephens Phoenix, AZ

NOVEMBER

1972 Rocky Nightingale Ponte Vedra, FL

DECEMBER

1955 Zoe Hill San Bernardino

JANUARY

1945 Art Jackson Pacific Grove

1944 Alice Gillis Morgan Scotts Valley

1964 John Mata Lompoc

FEBRUARY

1956 John Scardina Pacific Grove

1966 Gary McAlister Nocona, TX

1959 Joan Sammis Collin Visalia

1958 Carole Carter Brown Watsonville

MARCH

1969 Ramon Ayres Palo Alto

1967 Larry Goodson Lincoln

APRIL

1987 Carissa Coleman Pacific Grove

NOVEMBER



Robert Ray "Rocky"

Nightingale passed away unexpectedly, yet peacefully, in his sleep on November 11, 2020. Born and raised in P.G. by his loving family, Rocky grew up attending P.G. schools, and graduated with his P.G.H.S. class in 1972. As a young boy and throughout his high

school years, Rocky was renowned for his exceptional athletic ability, particularly in the field of baseball. He could master just about any sport he set out to play, including football, basketball, golf and tennis. In high school, he was recognized as an impressive high-speed pitcher with a mean fastball! Although he was a fierce and focused competitor on the field, earning the accolade of most valuable player, he was also known for his fair and friendly nature, which earned him best sportsmanship awards as well. Rocky knew how to recognize that a game was just a game and when it was all over, he had no problem being his competitor's friend. Rocky left the Peninsula in his twenties and moved to North Carolina, then later to Georgia, where he began his career in sales and marketing, working in the communications industry. There he met Kathy, his wife and best friend of 34 years. They eventually settled in Ponte Vedra, FL, where they raised their two sons. Rocky was a loving husband and devoted father. Those who knew Rocky will remember him as an intelligent, generous person, a gentleman, handsome, charming, kind and engaging. He truly enjoyed people and was a great conversationalist and storyteller. We can still hear him laughing. Rocky was attentive, a good listener and made one feel important; you knew he was interested in your story. He seemed to know no enemies and easily became a friend upon first meeting. It has been noted by friends and family that no one had ever heard Rocky say a negative word about anyone...ever! In his later years, he regularly reached out to old friends and family. Many have mentioned how special that was for them and how that will forever be in their hearts. Rocky is survived by his wife Kathy, his sons Robert (Danyella), Thomas (Jessica), his siblings Betty Rae *Nightingale* Wallace '57 (Norman),

OCTOBER



John Stephens of the P.G.H.S. Class of 1973 died in October, 2020, at his home in Phoenix, AZ. His friend Robert Meagher '72 remembers that John was an avid tinkerer; Robert took this photo of John on his last visit to Phoenix. John had been fighting throat cancer for a while,

and was still recovering. He was still an avid photographer. Before his illness and surgeries, he was an ethernet and fire alarm installer in the Phoenix area. John was predeceased by his brother Tom '64; he is survived by his sister Doris '70 and Helen '67.

Obituaries, continued

David Nightingale '59 (Dana), Stacey *Nightingale* Amaral '76 (John), seven nieces and nephews, twenty-four great nieces and nephews, and friends too numerous to list. Rocky was predeceased by his parents, Bud and Betty Nightingale, and his mother-in-law Kathrine Moore.

Ed. Note: Thanks to Rocky's family for providing a full obituary after the incomplete one appeared in our last issue. If you know of a P.G.H.S. alumnus who has passed away, especially if an obituary has not been published, please let us know. We need your help with this!

DECEMBER



Zoe Ann Hill, age 83, passed away on December 14 in Riverside. Zoe was raised in P.G. and was a graduate in the P.G.H.S. class of 1955. After graduation, Zoe received a B.A. in music from San Jose State, a B.A. in Bible/Christian Education from LIFE Bible College in Los Angeles, and an M.A. in

Theology from Fuller Theology Seminary. After receiving her degrees, Zoe moved to Pueblo, CO, where she accepted a position as Christian Education Director at a local church and also taught music at a local private high school. Zoe returned to L.A. to accept a position as a professor at LIFE Bible College, where she taught for over 30 years. She was also the director for the correspondence program at LIFE. She retired from LIFE as a Professor Emeritus. After retiring, Zoe was a docent at the Los Angeles Zoo for a number of years and then at the Long Beach Aquarium, where she enjoyed sharing her knowledge with the public, especially children. Zoe on occasion was able to return to the Peninsula throughout her life, visiting her favorite place, Point Lobos, where she enjoyed the serenity and beauty. Zoe was preceded in death by her parents and her two brothers, Calvin Hill '51 and Alfred Hill '53. She was a 17-year member of PGHSAA. She is survived by a sister, Beverly McKinney '57. Zoe will be buried in P.G. next to her parents.

JANUARY



Arthur Jackson passed away peacefully in P.G. on January 20. His family and friends knew him as a kind, generous, and humorous man. He was born in Mount Pleasant, MI, in 1928. His family moved to California during WWII when his father, a technical officer in the Navy, was stationed in P.G.

During high school Art was a standout football player and was Student Body Vice President in his senior year. During the summers, he worked on Cannery Row. Art graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1945 and immediately enlisted in the Navy. He trained in the V5 pilot program before being honorably discharged in 1947. After the Navy, he attended the University of Phoenix and graduated as a Mechanical Engineer. He moved to Spokane, WA, in 1953, where he met his wife Joan and raised three children. He enjoyed a successful 33-year career as an industrial sales engineer for Westinghouse Electric. In 1990, Art transported the sculpture "Yesterday's Dream, Tomorrow's Memory" from Spokane to Lovers Point Park for artist Dorothy Morgan Fowler '44. Dorothy and Art were friends, and both ended up settling in Spokane to raise their families. The sculpture was commissioned by the P.G.H.S. Class of 1944 as a memorial to classmates lost during WWII. Art returned to the P.G. area to live permanently in 1994. He reconnected with high school classmates still living in the area, and together, they often formed a loud and impolite cheering section at Breakers football games. Art spent much of his time in retirement trying unsuccessfully to learn the game of golf, but the closest he ever came to a good golf game was as a volunteer PGA course official at Pebble Beach. He volunteered as a Docent at the Monterey Bay Aquarium and a driver for Meals on Wheels. He enjoyed traveling around the world, and his friends and family enjoyed listening to his stories of his misadventures. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed skiing, fly fishing, and sailing. In 2003, Art moved to the Canterbury Woods retirement community in P.G. Coincidentally, his apartment was on the Forest Ave. side, and he could look out to the grounds of the high school he graduated from 60

Obituaries, continued

years earlier. He often joked about the circular path his life had taken. He cherished the great friendships he formed with other residents and the staff at Canterbury Woods. He was a 22-year member of PGHSAA. He is survived by his three children, Art Jackson, Jr. of San Francisco, CA, Lisa Hope (Neil) of Puyallup, WA, Sam Jackson of Colorado Springs, CO, and his wife of 33 years, Joan Jackson of Spokane, WA.



Alice Gillis Morgan, 93, passed away January 27 in Scotts Valley. Alice was born on February 2, 1927, to Hal and Luverne Gillis. At the age of 7, following her parents' divorce, Alice went to the Los Angeles Orphan's Home, where she lived until she was 14. At 14, Alice

moved to P.G. to live with her sister Betty. During her high school years, Alice worked at the Pacific Grove Athletic Club and picked fruit in the Salinas Valley. While in P.G., Alice met her childhood sweetheart, Gerald Morgan, whom she would later marry. After attending P.G.H.S. with the class of '44, Alice moved to Yosemite to work at the Ahwahnee Hotel. There she met and married Paul F. Keesaw in 1946, and went on to have 6 children, Susan, Fred, Paula, Frank, Barbara, and Laurie, with him. Following Paul's passing in 1973, Alice moved to the San Lorenzo Valley, where she continued to raise her 3 youngest children as a single parent. Alice worked as the secretary of San Lorenzo Valley Baptist Church until her retirement in 1996. After reuniting with her childhood sweetheart in early 1996, Alice and Gerald Morgan were married on September 14 of that year. Alice was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great-grandmother, aunt, and friend who held an unwavering faith in God. She enjoyed flying with Gerald, going to the beach, and spending time with her family and friends. Alice is survived by her loving husband, Gerald K. Morgan; sons Fred Keesaw and Frank Keesaw; daughters Paula Keesaw, Laurie Stoeve, and Barbara Keesaw; stepchildren Tom Morgan, Jim Morgan,

and Susan Richards; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren. Alice was preceded in death by her daughter Susan.



John Thomas Mata passed away January 29 at the age of 74 in Lompoc. John was born September 22, 1946, in Monterey to Fred and Margaret Mata, and he was raised in P.G. Upon graduation from P.G.H.S. in 1964, he enlisted in the US Navy, where he was stationed aboard the U.S.S Kearsarge, serving four campaigns in the waters of Vietnam. After his honorable discharge, he relocated to Santa Barbara and began working at GTE Utility company, retiring after 30 years. During this time he met his wife Linda Mata, and together they raised their four children. He is preceded in death by his daughter Hope Marie Mata, his parents Fred and Margaret Mata, and his sisters Isabel '69 and Margie '67. He is remembered by his wife Linda Mata and his children along with their spouses. Rene, Toddrick, Rachele, John, Cathy, Philip, and Esperanza, as well as a large number of grandchildren and his brothers Jesse '62 and Joe '73 Mata and their families.

FEBRUARY



John Scardina, 82, passed away peacefully on February 14. He was born October 16, 1938, at the old Pacific Grove Hospital on Carmel Ave. He attended P.G. schools, graduating in 1956 from P.G.H.S., where he excelled and lettered in football and baseball. He enlisted in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged in 1958. He worked for the Monterey Peninsula School District his whole life and retired after 31 years. He was a 20-year member of PGHSAA. He was preceded in death by his parents John and Eleanor *Dobler* '38 Scardina, daughter Denise, and son John. He is survived by his devoted wife Maria; three brothers, Tom '61 (Yvonne) Scardina of Pebble Beach, Mike '65 (Cyndy) Scardina of Rathdrum, ID and Bob '67 (Melinda) Scardina of Monterey; and many nieces and nephews. He will be buried at The Veterans Cemetery in Fort Ord.

Obituaries, continued



Gary Dennis McAlister

passed away on February 21 in Nocona, TX. Gary was born on July 3, 1948 in Vernal, UT. He was a loving son to Vada and Bernard McAlister and a beloved brother to his 3 siblings Gaylon, Montez, and Milton.

They are all together now. Gary graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1966. Gary was a military man for a good portion of his life, from the army to the navy and eventually taking care of veterans like himself with home care. He was a teacher, lecturer, reverend, and doctor, among many other accomplishments. Gary served his God, his country, and his community with a great sense of love, pride, and duty. Everyone was his family. He was a member of the VFW, as he served in many missions over seas. Gary had a passion for the arts, photography and playing music. He was the type of person who genuinely wanted to help people with no expectations of anything in return other than to be happy. He is survived by his son Tyler McAlister and in the memories in the hearts of anyone who knew him.



Joan Sammis Collin

was born to John Adrian Balch Sammis and Mary Elizabeth Sammis on January 1, 1942, in Monterey. She had the distinction of being the first birth of that year for Monterey Hospital. Joan graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1959 and from San Jose State

University with a degree in education. While teaching Joan continued her education and got a master's degree in education. She had three children with her first husband, Gordon Edward Hurd '59: Michelle Elizabeth Wollam '81, John Forrest Hurd '83, and Gordon Kennedy Hurd '88. In 1998 Joan retired from the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District after 32 years of teaching and married her second husband, Michael Robert Collin. In her retirement she volunteered for many years for Meals on Wheels of the Monterey Peninsula. After living most of her life on the Peninsula, she moved to

Tracy in 2015. She also lived for a short time in Zimbabwe. She enjoyed traveling, NASCAR, and spending time with family. In addition to her children, Joan is survived by her brother, John Courtney Sammis '66, her grandchildren Amber Nicole Price, Leanne Nicole Songster, Shelby Nicole Hurd, Abigail Marie Wollam, Kayla Nicole Hurd, Eleanor Constance Wollam, Indigo Skye Hurd, and Ruby Maya Hurd, as well as six great grandchildren. She is predeceased by Michael Collin and by her brother William Frederick Sammis '62.

Carole Carter Brown,

a member of the P.G.H.S. Class of '58 and wife of Eddie Brown '57, passed away in April in Watsonville. We have no other information about Carole; please let us know if you do.



MARCH



Ramon Anthony Ayres

peacefully passed away on March 4 at Stanford from continuing medical complications. Ray lived on the Peninsula all his life. After graduating from P.G.H.S. in 1969, he enlisted in the US Navy "to see the big blue

oceans." As it turned out, he was stationed at the Fallon Naval Air Station in the Nevada desert for four years of active duty during the Vietnam War. He then completed two more years of inactive duty back home in P.G. Upon returning from service in 1973, he married and started his gardening business while attending horticultural classes at MPC. He obtained his California Landscape Contractor's License and owned and operated Ayres Landscaping for 38 years, receiving numerous awards for his landscaping designs. After his retirement, he remained on the Peninsula, which he loved very much. Ramon was always ready and willing to tell a good joke. We are grateful for the time we spent with Ramon laughing and sharing childhood memories during numerous family meals together. He made a choice to donate his body to the Willed Body Program at UC San Francisco School of

Obituaries, continued

Medicine, an incredibly generous gift that will touch many lives. He was preceded in death by his mother, Marjorie Ayres, and survived by his father, Tony Ayres of P.G.; his two sisters and brothers-in-law, Rosann '73 and Bill Lopes of Grayland, WA; and Laurie '76 and Roger Snaith of Sydney, Australia; partner Christine Bava of Seaside; and many cousins and friends.



Larry Goodson, 73, passed away due to cardiac arrest on Saturday, March 6, in Lincoln, CA. Born in Stillwater, OK, he moved to the west coast as a child. He met the love of his life, Sandra Lopes '67, at P.G.H.S. Larry immediately enlisted in the US Navy after graduation in

1967 and married Sandie June 21, 1969, shortly before being deployed to the Philippines. He served aboard the USS Coral Sea as Aviation Ordnance Second Class and was honorably discharged in 1971. Upon his return to California, he worked for A-1 Ambulance Service in Salinas until being hired by the Salinas Rural Fire Department in June 1973. Larry worked briefly for the Castroville Fire Protection District (North County) prior to joining the Monterey Fire Department in 1982. There he moved through the ranks and continued to resolutely serve his community until retirement as Captain on December 19, 2003. To know Larry was to love him. He was a man of integrity and highly respected by those who worked beside him. Larry was enthusiastic about sharing his knowledge and experience, teaching several Fire Science courses over the years in his free time. His passion for the fire service was inspiring to young men and women considering it as a career. He was a loving father and devoted husband as his wife battled cancer for over a decade. Although he is gone much too soon, his family finds comfort in knowing Sandie and Larry are together again. Larry is survived by his daughter Deanna Barth (Chris) and granddaughter Kaia of Hollister; son Kevin Goodson (Phie) and grandchildren Paige and Declan of Santa Rosa; his sister Janet Allison (Richard) and their adult

children Rhonda and Russ of Roseville; and Carole Haskell, long-time friend of the family and his loving partner during the second chapter of their lives after the passing of their spouses. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 36 years, Sandie Goodson, in 2005; his father Wilmer Lee Goodson, in 2002; and mother Florence Edith Goodson, in 2016.

APRIL

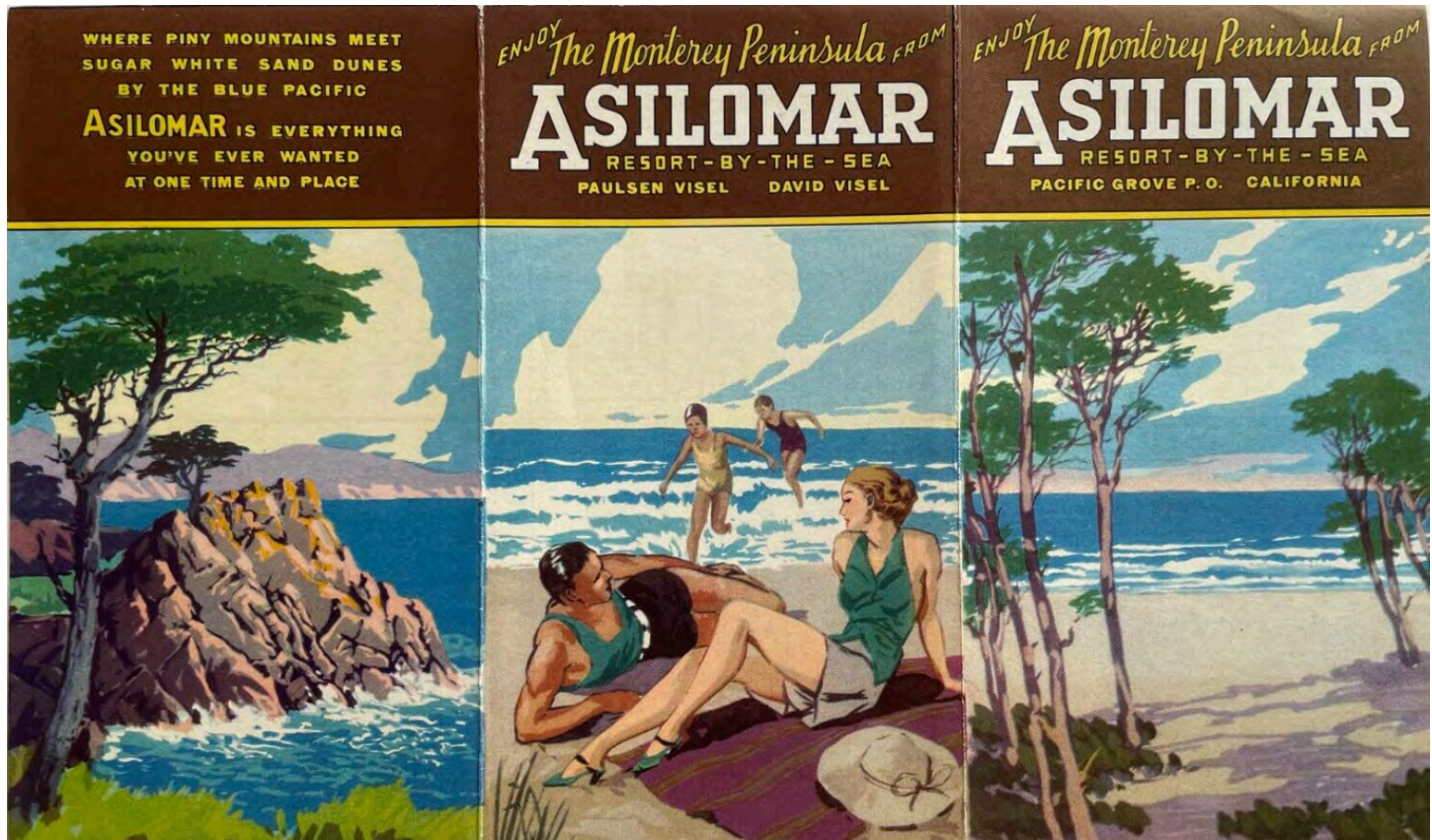


After many years of battling a long illness, **Carissa Coleman** passed away on Friday, April 2; a week before her 52nd birthday. Carissa was born in Oakland on April 9, 1969, to Jo-Ann and Tom Coleman. She was a

classmate of the P.G.H.S. class of 1987. After high school, she lived in Santa Cruz and San Francisco before returning to P.G. Carissa was an artist as well as an accomplished guitar player and musician. She had many lasting friendships with other artists and musicians within the local Monterey Bay music scene. She was also a proponent for animal rights. Carissa is survived by her mother Jo Ann Coleman, her brother Clark Coleman, her aunt Darlene Berry, and her cousin Colleen Berry.

"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! The family will be notified that you have donated in their loved one's name. Thanks to those who have made generous "IMO" donations recently and over the years.







VIEWS AROUND PACIFIC GROVE

**Map of 300 Home Sites in
PACIFIC GROVE**

Which Will Be Sold Separately At

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By Instruction from the Del Monte Properties Co.

To the Highest Bidder Without Reserve or Protection Whatsoever

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Butterfly Days Is a Go!



The PGHSAA annual reunion had to be cancelled this year because of COVID-19 concerns, but with enthusiasm and optimism, Butterfly Days plans are in the works for the weekend of October 1-3. The

Butterfly Days Committee, headed by Dixie Layne '66, is planning "Welcome Home" and "First Friday" events for October 1 that includes music, face painters, businesses selling monarch centric merchandise, and restaurants offering Butterfly Days specials. P.G.H.S. classes may hold their Friday-night "meet and greet" events at some of the downtown pubs and restaurants; check with your class reunion organizer. The P.G. Art Center will host a Gallery Night.

Plans for Saturday, October 2, and Sunday, October 3 currently include afternoon children's activities in the park, the birdhouse auction, exhibits, lectures, and happenings in Chautauqua Hall. Other activities may include the traditional blessing of the Monarch Grove Sanctuary by the OCEN (Ohlone, Costanoan, Esselen Nation) Tribe, and a sunset celebration event at the Point Pinos Lighthouse. Robert H. Down Elementary School will be announcing its plans for its iconic Butterfly Parade as the date gets closer, and their PTA board is also in the process of developing plans for its Butterfly Bazaar. Stay tuned.

Everything is subject to change – whether it is the addition or cancellation of an event(s), or changes to the locations and disciplines required for any event(s) – but things are looking good. Mark your calendars, and as we get closer to October you will be able to find updated information on the Heritage Society and Chamber's websites, and on the Butterfly Days Facebook page. Wings up!

--by Dixie Layne '66

The "Butterfly Bills"

On March 27, Congressman Jimmy Panetta announced the introduction of a pair of bills that would study, fund, and protect the Western Monarch butterfly population, a species that is on a fast road to extinction and that is important to the city of Pacific Grove. Speaking at the Pacific Grove Natural History Museum, Panetta laid out the reasons the migratory butterflies need protecting through the Monarch Action, Recovery, and Conservation of Habitat Act, or MONARCH, in addition to the introduction of the Monarch and Pollinator Highway Act. Panetta said the western monarch population has fallen to just 1% of the numbers seen in the 1980s.

"Something is wrong," he said. "Something is leading to the shrinking numbers and depletion of this species. The numbers are staggering and are leading to the imminent risk of extinction." Exact causes of the dramatic drop in the population are not well understood. Habitat loss from deforestation in Mexico is key. Other causes could include overuse of herbicides and pesticides, climate change's fluctuating weather patterns, developmental sprawl and the conversion of U.S. grasslands into ranches and farmlands.

"We don't want to lose this important pollinator for our crops and this icon of our communities," Panetta said. Among the aspects of the bipartisan MONARCH legislation is the need for more planting of milkweed and nectar species and protecting existing habitats.

The legislation would authorize \$62.5 million for projects aimed at conserving the western monarch and an additional \$62.5 million to implement the Western Monarch Butterfly Conservation Plan, which was prepared by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies in January 2019.

The Monarch and Pollinator Highway Act would establish a federal grant program available to state departments of transportation and Native American tribes to carry out pollinator-friendly practices on roadsides and highway rights-of-way. The steep decline of pollinator populations poses a serious threat to California farmers and the American food supply, Panetta said.

On the previous page: screenshots of items for sale on eBay at presstime: an Asilomar brochure from the '30s and an undated cover of a map of lots up for auction by Del Monte Properties. "Liberty Bonds Accepted at Par Value" is a clue to the date.

Butterfly Bills cont.

The bills were introduced by Panetta, D-Carmel Valley, and Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon. Rep. Salud Carbajal, whose district includes portions of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, and Illinois Republican Rep. Rodney Davis co-led the introduction of the bipartisan bills in the House.

On hand at the museum on March 27 was Pacific Grove Mayor Bill Peake, who described the butterflies as “part of the community’s DNA that includes the city’s annual Butterfly Parade.” The question becomes, what would happen to Butterfly Town USA if there were no butterflies? “The community recognized the need to conserve monarch habitat by purchasing land for the Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary,” Peake said. “But we can’t do it alone and applaud efforts by Congressman Panetta to encourage others to join us so that monarchs thrive well into the future.”

A version of this story, by Dennis L. Taylor, originally appeared in the March 30, 2021, Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.

Beacon House Sold

Beacon House, across Pine Ave. from Robert H. Down School, sold to Oroville-based Sierra Health and Wellness Center for \$3.25 million in February. It had provided alcohol and addiction treatment since 1959, but an increase in substance use disorders and demand for mental health care for disorders such as depression and anxiety, combined with a decrease in the amount of time at treatment centers that health insurance companies are willing to pay for treatment, forced it to close in December. Sierra Health plans to open “New Start Recovery Solutions” in the building this summer. Renovation on the four-story home, which was built in 1902 and includes a finished basement that had been used for offices, will be confined to the inside; the outside will be kept as is. According to a recent *Herald* story, the house was designed by William Weeks for J.J. Osborne, who moved his family from Cleveland to Pacific Grove, where they lived until the 1930s. It was later broken up into apartments and then was a guest house before

it became a treatment center. Sierra Health and Wellness also has treatment centers in Walnut Creek, Concord, San Rafael, Roseville, Fair Oaks, and Bangor.



Beacon House, across Pine from Robert H. Down, has been sold but will remain a substance abuse treatment center. Photo by Beth Penney

P.G.H.S. Student Takes Second Place in Regional Writing Contest



Taylor Castellon. Photo courtesy CCW.

Pacific Grove High’s Taylor Castellon was recently awarded second place and \$200 by the Central California Writers Branch for her short story “Tuesday At Noon” in the 2021 High School Writing Contest. Other winners were from North Salinas High, Seaside High, Greenfield, and King City. All contest winners and honorees were

featured at a special Zoom meeting, where each writer read their story to CCW members, teachers, and family in attendance. Read Taylor’s story at <https://centralcoastwriters.org/>. She also has several poems in the high school’s literary magazine, published by the school’s Young Writers Club, <https://pghigh.pgusd.org/Our-School/Literary-Magazine/index.html>.

A P.G.H.S. Love Story

My husband, Joe St. Clair and I (both '59) read the Spring edition of the *Knockout II* a few evenings ago and felt sadness. So many obituaries of classmates we knew and loved.

Lying in bed later on, I thought, "How about sharing your story, Flo...not something to mourn but rather something to celebrate."



Our shared story began in Sarge Hutton's chemistry class in the fall of 1957. Joe sat in the front seat of a middle row and I sat behind him. He was always raising his hand to answer Sarge's questions. I fell in love with that hand...long, slender fingers and long, slender forearm.

A month later, Joe disappeared. Turns out he had contracted tuberculosis and was in a Salinas sanatorium. Over the months Joe was there, my parents and I visited him. Joe and I wrote letters to each other—the beginning of something special.

Joe returned to school at the beginning of our Senior year. I was "ready" to continue our story. We sat together on a school bus for a field trip to the Spreckles sugar factory and by the end of the day, Joe and I were holding hands.

We ate lunch together every day on the football field behind the school buildings. We talked on the phone. We went for long walks. No dating, though, since my parents thought I was too young (sweet 16 for most of my senior year until March of 1959).

Joe continued at UC Berkeley and I at MPC. Whenever he was home for a visit, he would drive to my parents' home and we would hang out. We also started to date.

Our story ostensibly ended when Joe moved to France to study medicine. He married there and started a family. After graduating from UC Berkeley, finishing an M.A. at the Monterey Institute of Foreign Studies, and teaching at Santa Catalina School for several years, I married and

moved to Southern CA.

End of story? Nope!

Joe's remarks in our 50th Class Reunion Memory Book read like this:

"...Florence, throughout the years, always nestled in a special place in my heart and my father, God bless his romantic nature, made sure I was informed of her life by sending me every letter that she sent to him. The fact that I saw and talked to Florence at our 20th class reunion didn't help me forget her either. So it was, that in 1998, I summoned the courage to renew contact with Florence, having heard that she had divorced a few years earlier. 'Some other man will grab her again,' I reminded myself, 'so the fear of disappointment shouldn't stop you.'"

My remarks in that Memory Book read like this:

"...Fast forward to 1998. My phone rang and I heard Joe---long distance from France. Fifty years later, that chemistry-class feeling is alive and well. Joe and I share our love together every day."

Our love story has lasted long than fifty years. We will celebrate twenty-one years of marriage in November. So...more like SIXTY-FOUR years.

By Florence Nedeff Martin '59



The Class of 2021 Graduates in Style

In March, 2021, Pacific Grove schools reopened, giving students the choice to attend full time or continue online. About half of P.G.H.S. students chose the in-person option; a third of middle- and grade-school remained at home.

The Class of 2021, then, unlike the Class of 2020, did have some time on campus during their last year of high school. The Pacific Grove PTA went all out to make sure those still learning at home were included, scheduling doorstep “spirit drops,” managing the “Light the Way” fundraiser that sold red-and-gold light strings during the holidays and beyond, and painting flamingos red and gold to be displayed in front yards. Debby Beck of the local Real Estate Group donated money for downtown banners that listed each graduate’s first name (see p. 22), and your own P.G. High Alumni Association donated money to produce a yard sign for each graduate, which bore the senior’s first name and picture. PGHSAA also paid for stadium blankets with the Breaker logo that were distributed as the final “spirit drop” for the year.

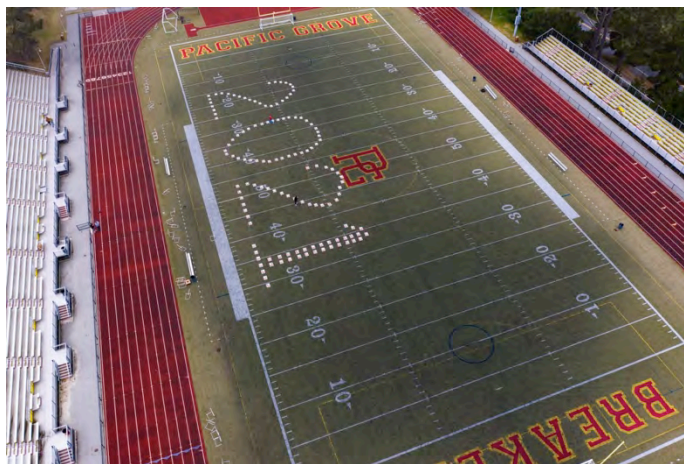
The Class of 2021 was not without a prom of sorts. Comstock, the company that is developing the hotel featured on p. 17 of our December 2020 issue, put up the money for “The Beach Ball.” At press time, graduation ceremonies were scheduled for 6:00 p.m. June 2 at Breaker Stadium, unlike other local high schools, which chose to return to Laguna Seca.

There was also an earlier senior-class “event” at Breaker Stadium in May. Marabee *Rush Boone* ’60 reports: “It was called a ‘Celebration.’ They had refreshments,



Marabee Rush Boone '60 poses with Billy the Breaker at the May event

and the main event was the seniors picking up the signs we sponsored. The parents had the signs laid out on the field spelling out ‘2021.’



The P.G.H.S. Class of 2021 holds up signs at Breaker Stadium

“Each student’s name was called, and they went to stand by their sign. A drone took pictures and videos. It was great fun. The drone guy asked them to put their signs facing up. I mostly want you to know that the parents and staff are soooooo appreciative of our contributions for the class. They kept saying ‘Thank you,’ and I think it was announced over the PA system at least 15 times. The event was not open to the public, but I talked my way in and I’m so glad they finally let me in!”



Graduating seniors hold up their yard signs at Breaker Stadium in May

PGHSAA also awarded scholarships this year, although the traditional in-person awards night was not held. We hope that that event will return in 2022.

Class of 2021 continued

PGHSAA scholarships went to Lauren Defensor. Eva Mills, Caroline Coen, Anastacia Hunt, Adam Robertson, Tianna Battistini, and Janica Okuhara. The Maude Marian Smith scholarship went to Sophia Ripke, the Don Harlan '42 scholarship went to Ethan Lo, the Tommy Stillwell '74 Scholarship went to Reed Samuels, the Beverly Wilson Stillwell '49 Scholarship went to Claire Roggeman, and the Richard Reynolds '57 scholarship went to Molly Momberger. The Richard Reynolds award, which is handled through the Community Foundation of Monterey County, is a two-year scholarship of \$6000.00 year one and \$3000.00 the second year. All other scholarships are \$1000.00 and are funded by PGHSAA members' donations.

Photos on these two pages were contributed by Marabee Rush Boone '60, Cate Goblirsch Lee '94, Lillian Griffiths '71, and Beth Penney '73. Thanks also to Marabee for her report from the May event.



Left-hand column, top: the P.G.H.S. Class of 2021 at the "Beach Ball" at Asilomar. Below that and immediately above: students' yard signs. This column, top: students line up to form "2021" on the football field. Middle: students with yard signs. More school photos, p. 22.

P.G.'s "New" Library



Above: the original library archways, lights re-created using photos of the Carnegie originals, and the original wooden card catalog in the new Local History Room.



The Pacific Grove Public Library was recently remodeled, and the work restored many of the features of the original Carnegie Library. Your editor was invited for a private tour recently; the library is now open to the public on Thursdays from 2-4. This column, top: the new circulation desk; sandblasted and restored chairs and tables; and the children's library room, with the iconic arched windows.

Surf Story #2: Heaven on Earth, August, 1965

I woke up really excited thinking about my first day at our new home, Pacific Grove. My mom had a job at Holman's. She said she would drop me off at the beach for the day on her way to work. As she drove down Lighthouse, I paid close attention, figuring out the lay of the land. I saw the post office, and then the Greyhound bus depot and then the movie theater. Another block, and we turned left, and I could see the ocean up ahead at the bottom of Forest Ave. She pulled into a parking spot and said, "Okay, son, I'll pick you up at 5:30." She gave me a whole dollar, and off she went to work.

As I crossed the street, I stopped at the rock wall and took it all in. I didn't see anybody surfing, but as far as I could tell, I had my hands full with what was in front of me. I saw a hamburger stand with people and kids gathered around, I saw a swimming pool with a high dive and a slide, and a little beach with a pier made of cement. Next to the pier was a dock with some funny looking boats tied up next to it. They didn't look like the fishing boats I was used to. And then I heard on a loudspeaker, "All aboard for the glass bottom boats! Come see the beautiful marine gardens! Next boat will be leaving in 10 minutes! All aboard!"



Beyond the cement pier was a little cove and a rock point. I thought, first things first. I walked down to the beach stand and added up how much a burger, fries, and shake would cost because I knew I'd be hungry later. 25 cents for a burger, 30 cents with cheese, 10 cents for French fries, and 15 cents for a milkshake, plus some left over for an ice cream cone, maybe even double scoop! I was in good

shape. I saw three kids my age off to the side joking around and laughing. I looked over, and they gave me a nod, so I walked over and I said I just moved here from Oregon. They said they were heading to a place they called Cannery Row along the rocks and asked me if I wanted to come along.

I said sure, so off we went, that is, me and my new friends, Evan Weber, Chris Houston, and Ricky Rodewald. It took a long time to get to where we were going, but there was lots to see in the tide pools and just being in a new place. They said when we got to Cannery Row, we were going to go to Evan's dad's shop, a place called Cannery Row Imports. We finally arrived at the shop. I was amazed at what I saw inside--things I've never seen or imagined even existed. There was a sweet smell in the air from these little burning sticks, and along the walls were things that I would imagine would be from Africa, since Animal Kingdom was my favorite show on Sunday nights.

I guess we made enough racket for Evan's dad to come out of the back. He had silver hair, longer than what I was accustomed to seeing, combed straight back. He wore a corduroy coat, blue jeans, and sandals, and he smoked a pipe with sweet cherry-smelling tobacco. The look on his face, I think, meant it was time for us to skedaddle. Evan said if we were lucky, we could hop the train back to Lovers Point, so we darted up a block up and walked along the train tracks. Eventually the train came along, moving just about the right speed for us to hop on. In no time, we were back at the beach stand. There was a really nice lady flipping burgers on a giant flat grill. My friends addressed her as Mrs. Mothershead. She was sweet and kind and interested in what we had done so far that morning.

The day was only half over, and as I looked around, there was much more left to explore. Over time, I learned the ropes. This is where we spent most of our days before school started, running errands for the boat hands so we could get a ride on the boats, rock hopping, making forts in the aloe and the stunted cypress groves, and doing cannon balls in the pool to splash the girls, with, of course, Mrs. Mothershead keeping an eye on us from the beach stand. My mom picked me up that day, and she said, "Well, son, did you have fun?" All I could do was nod and smile and think wow, what a first day!

--by Richard Molé '74

Our *Active* Alumni



Pacific Valley Bank in Salinas has appointed Sandi Dix Eason '74 as Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer. Sandi Eason is a senior banking executive with more than 40 years of experience in banking, financial services and

lending, with broad knowledge in developing strategies that leverage relationships, community service and economic development to achieve growth and profitability through unparalleled passion for service. Most recently, she served as Regional Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking Group Wells Fargo Bank and is the former President and CEO of Coast Commercial Bank. Eason is a 4th generation Monterey County resident and her family, including her children and grandchildren, represent six generations that call Monterey County their home.

--From the *Salinas Chamber Business Journal*
March 2021



Margaret Selbicky Stewart '54 has been named the James R. Hughes Citizen of the Year for 2021 by the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce. This award is given each year to a P.G. resident who has gone above and beyond in volunteer duties within the city. Margaret will

be honored at the Chamber's Annual Membership Luncheon at the Inn at Spanish Bay on Friday, July 30th, 2021 at noon. For more information, contact the Chamber at (831) 373-3304 or at www.pacificgrove.org.



Irene Evers '68 makes pretty discs and tiles out of clay and scraps, and decorates utilitarian things with them. She has put them all over. Photos of beautified garbage cans by Joanie Hyler.

Web Site Manager Wanted

The PGHSAA has a volunteer opening for a Web Site manager! You would work with our Web Site provider, Monterey Bay Design, to keep the PGHSAA Web Site current. If you're interested, e-mail Joanie@pghsaa.org.

**USING YOUR TURN SIGNAL
IS NOT "GIVING
INFORMATION TO THE
ENEMY"**

--CONTRIBUTED BY JOANIE HYLER '68

PGMS Wins “Distinguished School” Award

After a trying year of distance learning during the pandemic, things are starting to look up for Pacific Grove Middle School. Students returned to the campus in March and the school was recently named a 2021 California Distinguished School. “It was a wonderful feeling,” Principal Sean Roach said. “Being one of the two schools in Monterey County to receive this award, we feel honored.”

State Superintendent Tony Thurmond made the announcement late last month, with San Benancio Middle School being the other school in the county to earn the honor. The California Distinguished Schools Program recognizes schools that demonstrate exemplary achievements.

Roach said the achievement was a team effort that would not have been possible without the help of the faculty and staff. “It’s everyone pulling in the same direction with our eyes on the same prize,” he said. “And it came out of the blue.”

Roach and the school’s administration were in the middle of setting up the return of students when they learned of the award. “It went really well,” Roach said of the first day having students back on campus after pandemic restrictions were lifted. “Talk about invigorating, getting kids back on campus is absolutely the tonic we needed.”

PGMS is a staff-wide equity school, according to Roach.

“We pride ourselves on teaching every single student and doing it on as much of an individualized basis as possible,” he said. “Knowing that there are groups of students that are struggling and identifying them and teaching just to them to help support their growth I think is really why we made so much headway in reducing the achievement gap. Being cognizant of students who struggle and keeping a finger on the pulse of those students is

absolutely essential.”

PGUSD Superintendent Ralph Porras praised the school and its staff for its achievement. “We are very proud of PGMS for its recognition as a California Distinguished School, which highlights their exceptional gains in implementing academic content and performance standards adopted by the State Board of Education,” Porras said. “PGMS’s outstanding educational programs, instructional practices and excellent social-emotional support initiatives all combine to provide all students with the opportunities to realize their potential and to guide them on their path to achieve their goals. The entire teaching and classified staff, along with the administrators, are to be commended for their creative, dedicated and inspirational work with students to provide a fantastic educational experience.”



The Herald photo of P.G. Middle School, in the former P.G. High School building on Forest. This story, by Jim Johnson, and photo by Sean Roach originally appeared April 8, 2021 in The Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.

Classic Bowhay

Phil Bowhay '49 passed away in 2020. His past columns will continue to appear in The Knockout II. This column originally appeared in 2008 in the Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.

Lots of reasons to wander out on Monterey Municipal Wharf No. 2. Lou Lou's, where we used to buy bait and now get good calamari. No connection! Then the Sandbar & Grill, with sand dabs about as good as you can get, and out near the end, Royal Seafood, and you can't get fresher fish anywhere. OK, some close, but Royal just feels like fish. Smells just right, too.

The boats still tie up alongside, and yesterday the boys were mending nets on the wharf. In the old days they mended nets in the field just above and across from Tarpy's. That's why it's called Fisherman's Flat. Figures.

In the good old days, fishing off the wharf was potluck and we happily caught mackerel, smelt, perch, and even a salmon or two. The mackerel runs were legendary, with millions of fish swirling both sides of the wharf, no bait necessary. Bare hooks worked just fine, and some of the windows on the east side were shattered as we horsed in the fish, swinging them over our heads. This all before I realized how good mackerel is to eat—if cooked right—but they sure helped the roses grow! One fish per bush.

And boy, the crab! We'd drop our nets over the side, baited with a fish head or two, wait 10 minutes, and then lift up the loot. When we were kids living in Bakersfield, brother Brooks suffered with asthma. Driving to the Peninsula, first stop was the wharf. Brooks, maybe 8 years old, walked to the very end, stood and breathed for almost an hour. It became part of his soul, and yep, Brooks became Monterey's first harbormaster. More about that some other time.

In those good old days the harbor was alive with activity, boats coming and going with whistles and horns. The boats were mostly working boats, supplying the canneries with sardines. The purse seiners were the most beautiful things afloat, or so it seemed at the time. Tom Aliotti owned and captained the California Star, strictly a sardine boat, in and out of Monterey. During the war—WWII—²¹ the Navy took it over as a patrol vessel in South

America. After the war, Tom got the Star back, rebuilt and fished it for a couple of years, then sold it. It was part of a fleet destined for Formosa's fishing industry, but went down in a typhoon, all hands lost. Tom, now 94, was the classic fisherman, working at one time or another from the Bering Sea to South America, cruised up and down the coast, but Monterey was home, between Fisherman's Wharf and Wharf No. 2.

These were the guys that inspired Armin Hansen, and shame on you if you haven't seen his work at La Mirada. There are beautiful models of the commercial boats, along with lots more of our heritage, in the Maritime Museum.



Armin Hansen's Anchorage/Monterey sold for \$230,000 at Doyle Auctions in 2001

There used to be a fine "secret" clam bed right next to Pop Ernst's, just below the monkey grinder. After the clams discovered that lead batteries had been dumped in the harbor, since removed, they left, or so the story goes. Way, way back in the '40s, standing on the end of Wharf 2, you could hear the thump thump thump of ladies pounding abalone in the packing shed across the harbor.

There are dozens of wonderful books and articles about our harbor, but don't be satisfied just reading. Take a walk out on either wharf, or both, and breathe that air, fresh and pungent. It's best early morning. Close your eyes and listen to the sounds still there. Just don't step off the end!

Seen Around Town



Left column: Banners are displayed in the heart of downtown P.G. bearing the first name and last initial of all Class of 2021 graduates. This column, top: all schools displayed "Welcome Back" signs when P.G. schools re-opened in March; this one was at Robert H. Down. Below that, a "Go Breakers" sign. And above, student support in the form of a banner that bears the logos of all P.G. schools: the P.G. Adult School at the old Lighthouse School campus, the Community High School at the old David Avenue campus, P.G.H.S., P.G.M.S., Forest Grove, and Robert H. Down. See P. 15-16 for more Class of 2021 photos. Photos this page by Beth Penney

A Walk Down “Upper Lighthouse”



Here's a photo essay of “Upper Lighthouse”: At top left, construction on the new building across Fountain from Holman's has reached the first floor. Below the medallion, tall 489

Lighthouse was the Antique Clock Shop for years; it's now vacant. Below left, the Grove Laundry building at 13th is now an antique store. Top right, a perennial vacant lot at 12th.

Anyone know what was there? Below that, at 11th there is a concrete bench erected by the California-Nevada Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), which was made up of Union veterans from the Civil War. Look up the GAR on Wikipedia—they were ahead of their time in advocating votes for Black veterans. The house below that, at 8th, is where Ed “Doc” Ricketts of Cannery Row fame lived with his wife Alice and three children. And below right, the famous “Lion House” at 6th is still there to delight children. Photos by Beth Penney



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The Knockout II: The PGHSAA Newsletter

Who Is It?

See “Letters,” p. 4-5, for a number of responses to our March “Where Is It?” photo and a picture of the location today. It seems that many P.G. High students shopped at The Way Out House in the late ‘60s and early ‘70s, and they also remembered the proprietors, Heidi and Gretel Curry, both P.G.H.S. students.

Try as we might, we could not focus on the faces in this issue’s “Who Is It” photo, so we left the image as it was. The location shouldn’t be a mystery to anyone, and the date stamp at the bottom, June ’69, might be a clue to some. Who are these two young ladies? Extra credit if you know who the little boy is! Send answers to president@pghsaa.org.

Do you have a photo for this space? E-mail it to the same address, or mail it to the address on P. 2—we will return it intact!

