

# THE KNOCKOUT II

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

March, 2018 • Page One

## President's Message

At right is your hard-working PGHSAA Board of Directors at their January meeting, and they are asking you to join them. If you are in P.G. or nearby, e-mail one of us using the contact information on p. 2 to talk about joining the board! And now, I want to turn this page over to Pat Elmore '60, whose letter expresses my other fondest wish....

Dear *Knockout II* Staff:

The following is an open letter appeal to my fellow Cool and Nifty Class of '60 mates; I am surprised the other class president has not taken action as yet. The letter that accompanied the latest PGHSAA dues notification stated we have approximately 620 paying members. My last roster, received in summer 2015, shows a total of 43 Class of '60 members. I read every year that Cool and Niftys have the most attendees at the Alumni Dinner. I know our class had the winningest, most active class participation in our four PGHS years, as old yearbooks will attest to.

Now, my friends, it would seem our Alumni Association could use a united effort by our class **(this a challenge to other classes as well)** to raise contributions for disbursements to our school and our students. I am urging you to consider said contribution in an IMO/Scholarship fund/Senior Support Fund (no, not us oldies)/Music/Art/Sports/family member capacity or simply a general contribution.

We can start this Breaker rolling. Some can

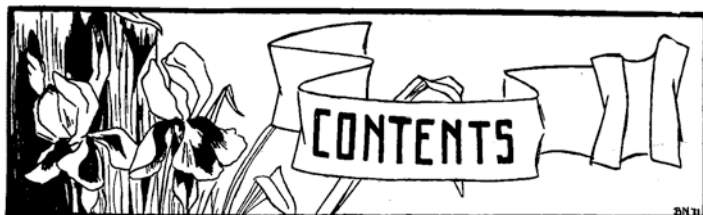


Your PGHSAA Board of Directors. In front: Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71, Erin Langton Field '71. Standing, from left: Michelle Sherwin Thomas '63, Edie Adams McDonald '56, Faith Van Woerkom Collins '73, Patty Fifer Kieffer '60, Bebo Parker Logan '63, Joanie Hyler '68 (in rear), Beth Penney '73, Lupe Villalpando Dosda '68 (in front), Donna Murphy '79, Les Field '71, and Dolores Soares Silveira '59. Missing: Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56, Lillian Griffiths '70, Mike Tryon '72, Cate Goblirsch Lee '94. Photo by Marabee Rush Boone '60

give more, some can give less, some can wish us luck in our endeavor. However you can step up will assist the PGHSAA to be able to continue making disbursements to our legacy. Send some dollars, send some dimes, got some change in your pocket, send it. Turn in your beer or soda cans and bottles, send us the proceeds/give up a latte, send the \$5 in. Please, Cool and Nifty Class of '60, let us show other alumni classes the way.

Oh, and by the way, let's outdo them as well. If all 43 '60ers send in \$11.62, that's darn near \$500.00, which will be matched. Let's go, Breakers! Let's go, Class of '60! *Knockout II*, thanks for the forum.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Elmore, Cool and Nifty Class of '60  
Suisun City



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### The Knockout II Staff

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*Volume 32, Spring Issue*

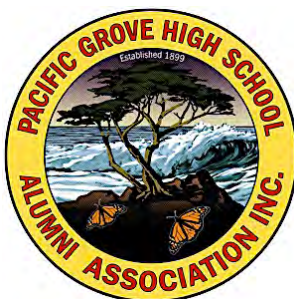
### The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.

A Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Founded June 2, 1899

Reactivated April 1, 1962

Incorporated September 27, 1995



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

**E-mail:** info@pghsaa.org

**Web site:** pgae.pgusd.org/alumni

**Membership dues** (January 1-December 31):

\$20 per year, single or couple

**For digital delivery (.PDF file via e-mail),**  
e-mail joanie@pghsaa.org

### PGHSAA Officers

Beth Penney '73, President

Edie Adams McDonald '56, Vice-President

Patty Fifer Kieffer '60, Recording Secretary

Donna Murphy '79, Corresponding Secretary

Erin Langton Field '71, Treasurer

### PGHSAA Board of Directors

*Serving through December 2018*

Les Field '72

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Lupe Villalpando Dosda '68

Mike Tryon '72

*Serving through December 2019*

Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Marabee Rush Boone '60

Joanie Hyler '68

Bebo Parker Logan '63

Michele Sherwin Thomas '63

*Serving through December 2020*

Sherry Welsh Gruwell '56

Lillian Griffiths '70

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

### PGHSAA Committee Chairs

**Auditor:** Rob Lee '94

**Bylaws:** Dolores Soares Silveira '59

**Disbursements:** Donna Murphy '79

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

**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 2018 Dates

The PGHSAA Board of Directors meets on the following dates in 2018: March 8, April 12, May 10, July 12, September 8, and October 11. The September meeting is the General Membership Meeting and is at noon. All other meetings are at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are at the Pacific Grove Community Center unless announced otherwise. Our 2018 annual reunion is Saturday, October 6. If you are interested in joining our board, please e-mail one of our board members for an invitation to a meeting!



## Donations

### A Friendly Welcome to Our New Member(s)

William Neish '83 Pacific Grove

### Returning Members: Glad to have you back!

Frank Adams '59 San Jose

### "In Memory Of" Contributions

1941 Howard Cowen

1941 Wynette Walker Cowen Pacific Grove

IMO: Rosslyn "Ross" Cowen '31

IMO: Howard "Wayne" Cowen '34

IMO: Roberta Walker Bodine '42

IMO: George Walker '47

IMO: Terry "Terry" Farrell '56

IMO: Gary Cowen '69

IMO: Robert "Bob" Cowen '63

1944 Thomas Cerney Redding

IMO: Mary Len Cerney Wartenberg '42

IMO: Frank Allen Cerney '45

IMO: Reid Charles Cerney '46

IMO: Leonard William Cerney '47

1951 Beverly Silva Dunbar Citrus Heights

IMO: Georgia Silva Cotenias '54

1953 Arthur Busby Pleasanton

IMO: Gene Thomas Bailey '52

1953 Jane Lowrey Weisser '52 Sacramento

IMO: Vance Jefferson Lowrey '48

1953 Darold Sunkler Del Rey Oaks

IMO: Robert "Bobby" Charles Rosa '53

1958 William Dorman Sacramento

IMO: John Carroll Dorman '60

1958 Pat James MacFayden Romance, AR

IMO: Howard Leo James '56

1959 Don Phillips Pt. Arena

IMO: Andrew "Andy" Kier '59

1960 Lora Bowman Masche Lincoln

IMO: Robert "Bobbie" Joseph Bommarito '60

1960 Arden Handshy and

1963 Lynn Edwards Handshy Pacific Grove

IMO: Robert "Bobbie" Joseph Bommarito '60

IMO: John Carroll Dorman '60

1964 Dennis Falke and

1964 Vicki Osborne Falke Bandon, OR

IMO: Robert "Bob" Jack Woodruff '47

IMO: Linda "Lynn" Alta Kahle Williams '63

1965 Charlene Howell Lowery Pacific Grove

IMO: Charles "Charlie" Howard Howell Faculty

IMO: Suzanne Howell Candela '72

1966 Carol Bradley Lauderdale Marina

IMO: Richard Hartwell Chamberlin Faculty

1967 Robert Scardina Monterey

IMO: Morris Grant Fisher '56

IMO: Robert Akira Kuwatani '67

1963 Ann Campbell Davis

IMO: Lindsae Gutekunst Tugwell '63

1968 Joanie Hyler Pacific Grove

IMO: Elmarie Leslie Hurlbert Hyler Dyke '15

IMO: Gladys Sarah Ernst Dean '19

IMO: Gertrude "Gertie" Louise Ernst '22

IMO: Elgin "Oxy" Hurlbert '23

IMO: Mildred E. Ernst McMath '25

IMO: John "Johnny" Francisco Mattos '29

IMO: Dorothy "Dodie" Rebecca Ernst Mattos '30

IMO: Robert "Bob" Elgin Hyler '40

1977 Anna Marie Coletti Gardnerville, NV

IMO: Paul & Pat Coletti Faculty

*A note about a change to our "contributors" listings: This year, we amended the contribution form to include the ability to donate to specific areas of PGHS. A single asterisk after the donor's name indicates the donation is to go to sports-related activities, and a double asterisk indicates that the donation is to go to arts-related activities. A # indicates the donation is to go to postage. Thanks to all who gave to these special needs, and for those who gave to our general fund!*

### Thanks To Our Recent Contributors

1944 Don Ruble Pacific Grove

1947 Richard Baxter Redding

1948 Shirley DePonte Baldwin\* Lake Oswego, OR

1949 Richard deLorimier\* Monterey

1950 Florence Hinman Hall Pacific Grove

1950 Salita Morris King Florence, OR

1950 Luther Thomas Augusta, GA

1953 Darold Sunkler Del Rey Oaks

1954 Richard Greilich\*\* Pleasanton

3 1955 Noreen Beron Woodfin# Salinas

## Donations (cont.)

1956 Gail Swengel Lee	Lafayette
1957 Roberta Fifer Peters	Las Vegas, NV
1959 Betty Bowman Jackson	Pebble Beach
1959 Lana Green Schneider	Cathedral City
1960 Lora Bowman Masche	Lincoln
1963 Paula Fontana Buckman	Del Rey Oaks
1965 Sharon Goulart LoManto*	Monterey
1965 Sandra Brooks Randazzo	Pacific Grove
1965 John Timar	Salinas
1966 Larry Cram	Bluffton, SC
1966 Susan Stutzman Carlson	Redding
1968 Nora Bawaan Norton	Fayetteville, NC
1968 Tom Wright	Knights Ferry
1970 Suzy Stillwell Derowski*	Marina
1970 Nicole Mulé	Middletown
1975 Bill Derowski*	Marina
1974 Sandi Dix Easton	Pebble Beach
1974 George Thornally III	Sacramento
1995 Kaye Coleman**	Pacific Grove
2006 Creston Whiting-Casey* **	Sacramento

\* donation to sports activities

\*\* donation to arts activities

# postage

### Senior Support Fund

1959 Duane Ricks	Salinas
1963 Erik Johnson	Santa Cruz
1966 Judy Ravanelli Johnson	Santa Cruz
1968 Stacey Souders Golding	Carmel
1969 Ted Golding	Carmel
1974 Frank Consiglio	Pacific Grove

### PGHSAA Scholarship Fund

1939 Richard Gamble	Pacific Grove
1947 Virginia Green Tamblyn	Cupertino
1951 Mary Lou Boone Hudson	Fresno
1954 Bert Saunders	Monterey
1957 Thomas Flynn	Anderson
1957 Donald Jamarck	Elk Grove
1958 Sue McPhail Maruyama	Honolulu, HI
1959 Lynn Davis	Carmel Valley
1959 Beverly Watson Flynn	Anderson
1960 Lydia Gillaspie Davis	Carmel Valley
1965 Greg Kaufman	Battle Ground, WA
1966 Clint Gruwell	Woodstock

1967 Richard Hunter	Pacific Grove
1968 Kim Kovalik	Mosier, OR
1970 Kathy Shirey Hunter	Pacific Grove
1989 Ed DaSilva	San Jose
2006 Creston Whiting-Casey	Sacramento

### Nelson William "Bill" Hyler '39 Scholarship Fund

1968 Joanie Hyler	Pacific Grove
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### Olive Dean Hyler '40 Scholarship Fund

1968 Joanie Hyler	Pacific Grove
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### Robert "Bob" Lester Hoag '45 Scholarship Fund

1943 Maxine Wilson Hoag	Pebble Beach
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## Thanks to Our Many Contributors

Contribution amounts are always kept confidential from the general membership, and contribution amounts made In Memory Of (IMO) are not disclosed to the deceased person's family, although names and addresses of donors can be furnished to family members on request. Keeping your contribution amount confidential does not preclude us from honoring your gift. We enjoy recognizing each member whose giving enables our mission to remain a viable funding source for future generations. Also, although we may publish only a single contributor's name, we understand there is often an entire family represented in the contribution. We are incredibly grateful for your generosity to the Alumni Association, and by extension to Pacific Grove High School and its students. Please accept our deepest thanks!

### "In Memory Of" Donations

are a wonderful way to commemorate the lives of friends, relatives, and faculty members, and to help us help PGHS students. Send your donation to the address on P. 2. Thanks to those who have made these donations over the years.



## Letters

Hi Beth,

Jeanette *Schafer* White '62 here. In the last "Who Is It?" I recognize my bro. Jerry Schafer. He is second from the right on the front row. It was Robert Down school, but my bro. who lives in TX is not sure of the year. We think it is second grade class and the year is either 1947 or 1948. Thanks for all of the work you folks do. A great job by everyone on board.

*Jeanette Schafer White '62  
El Dorado*

Dear Beth,

The boy on the left in the front row is my brother, Charles Price, class of 1957.

*Sincerely,  
John Price '50  
San Francisco*

Dear Beth,

The picture in the newsletter is I think from Ms. Smith's 6th grade class of 1951/1952. I think I remember Charles Price, Joe Bommarito, Jackie Steinecke, Wayne Merserve, and Fred Lockhart. The girls I do not remember at all. The picture was taken at Pine Ave. School, I think. I remember the faces but may have names wrong. I do recognize 1st row on end Charlie Price, middle front row Jackie Steinecke, and maybe Guy Clark middle row on left end. Maybe not Ms. Smith's 6th grade after all, or I would know more faces!

*Fred Lockhart '57  
Edmonds, WA*

*Ed. Note: Thanks, Jeanette, John, and Fred! Ann Bruscas Knox '57 sent the photo, and she said she thinks it was a 4th grade class, but she wasn't sure. So it is a real guess!*

Beth,

I just wanted to tell you I received my *Knockout II* a while back, but Luke has been sick with pneumonia and I with flu since just after

Christmas and we are trying to get well. Hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday. We enjoyed the holiday with family and friends. The flu has hit a lot of people, hope it missed you! Take care and thanks for putting in the article I wrote along with some of the pictures I submitted. I've received nice feedback.

*Cordially,  
Victoria Samora Phillips '64  
Monterey*

Dear Joanie,

I was especially interested in Phil Bowhay's column in the December *KOII* about working as kids in Pacific Grove, given that in addition to yard work in the late '40s at a very early age and a very low wage, I worked for several of the employers he mentioned and several he didn't. As a freshman at PGHS I sold *Chronicles* at the Ft. Old NCO Club on the weekends, and as a senior I covered Breaker sports for the *Monterey Peninsula Herald*, at \$5 a story, my first paid writing stint. Up until my senior year when I went to work for La Porte's Studio moving



*The Margruss name lives on in a refurbished glass-bottom swan boat in its place of honor at Lovers Point. In the background: The former Slat's restaurant, now the Beach House restaurant. Photo by Beth Penney.*

auction items, I spent my high school summers working for Russ Sprague cutting bait, serving as a deck hand on the sport boat *Margruss*, rowing glass bottom boats and, yes, cleaning row boats. My highest salary was 85 cents an hour, no overtime. (Working on the P.G. boats was my

## Letters (continued)

favorite occupation.) I also spent part of one summer working for the City cleaning bathrooms at the public swimming pool and raking the beach (my least favorite occupation). During the school year, at night I either worked running the elevator at the Forest Hill Hotel just after it converted to a retirement home or washing dishes at the French Cafe in Carmel. I'm not certain how much my labors contributed to building character, but I can say, without hesitation, like Phil, deciding to pursue higher education wasn't a difficult life decision.

*Bill Dorman '58  
Sacramento, CA*

Dear Joanie,

Enclosed you will find my check for the annual dues for the *Knockout II*. I have always enjoyed this publication and I want to thank you for all you do.

*Best regards,  
Mike Sexton '61  
Niatic, CT*

Hi Joanie:

Happy New Year! I just got my December *Knockout II*. It must have been misdelivered as the label said it was unable to forward. My name and address is correct. Who knows with the post office these days! You can get all of the junk mail with no problem! I'm sorry my dues are late, and I appreciate the reminder letter. I thought I had sent them early. I have been recuperating from another surgery on my back (unsuccessful) and I guess I forgot. Please renew my membership, one for Sandi Mitchell Lewtschuk '66 and add Marcia Mitchell Bowersox '67. Say hello to Gail.

*Nancy Mitchell Vermeer '64  
Valencia*

*Knockout II Staff:*

Thanks for the extra attention to Bob Lopez. Thanks also for your great alumni paper. I, too, like many others, read every word.

*Nancy Williams Burton Hoy '55  
Turlock 6*

Dear Joanie,

Sorry...late again. I have good intentions around the time I get the last *Knockout II*, but I guess good intentions don't write the check. Thank you for the reminder...again.

*Ken Chamberlain '62  
Auburn, CA*

Hello Down There,

I was really bummed out to see Bobby Rosa in the obits. We had been great friends in our youth, and I had the privilege of being with him when he pulled off one of the greatest stunts in PGHS history. This took place in the auditorium at the old high school. The year was 1952, and it was the grand assembly at the end of the school year, when the scholarships and special awards were handed out. The house lights were out, and on the lighted stage, sitting on the bleachers that soon would be used by the graduating class, were all the teachers, the principal, and the superintendent of schools. Bobby, who had picked an aisle seat, had a paper bag on his lap.

"What's in that sack?" I asked.

"Bats," he said.

About that time, the principal came to the microphone, and Bobby opened the sack, reached out into the aisle, and shook out the bats. As soon as the bats gained a little altitude, as bats will do, they flew to the light, and like little fighter planes they swooped in over the heads of the teachers, who screamed and ran from the stage, both men and women, leaving only Pappy Johnson, metal shop teacher and football coach, to whale away at the passing bats with a broom he found somewhere.

Needless to say, the kids were loving it and falling down laughing. As they say, "The Rest is History."

*Roger Sherman '52  
Sweet Home, OR*



## Letters (continued)

Dear Friends,

Please accept this donation toward the "In Memory Of" fund in the name of my dear, deceased friend and classmate, Betty Jean Harrington Downing '49. Also, please be advised that my friend Marie Partridge Rosenblatt '47 has relocated to Davis, CA. I look forward to receiving the *Knockout II*, especially enjoy reading Phil Bowhay's articles. Keep up the good work you do for Good Old PGHS.

Gratefully,  
Yvonne Puget Merrigan '49  
Alameda

Beth,

I love receiving the *Knockout II*. Whenever I get one, I sit down and read it from front to back. It keeps me informed of what's going on in Pacific Grove. I can understand how expensive it is to print and mail it out. I must say I don't do computers. Therefore, I am willing to pay a little more to get my *Knockout II*. As for the Roster, I see no reason to receive it every year. Most of us have names and addresses of those we are in contact with. I also want to THANK YOU and the Board of Directors for all the work you do to keep us up to date. I am enclosing a check to cover two years of the *Knockout II* and more for mailing or whatever you want to use it for. Once again, thank you for all you do.

Rosemary Souza Jackson '60  
Alameda

## An Important Letter from Your Membership Chair

Dear Alumni,

As the Chair for Membership, I want to put out a great big THANK YOU for all who have renewed their dues in such a timely manner. Of the 447 members whose dues needed to be renewed this year there are at this time only 109 who have yet to send in their check. A great response!

The process for us is quite a job, data-entering the checks, changing your membership expiration date, typing out all the wonderful donations for our March *Knockout II*, and sending our corresponding secretary this information so she can send you a thank you. It is a labor of love.

I go down to the post office three to four times a week to check for incoming checks, sometimes going past the treasurer's house to drop off a deposit that I have completed, or past the newsletter editor's house to drop off a letter for publication. I don't think I would be exaggerating when I say that my time alone can be close to 40+ hours. So, when you fill out the envelopes and let me know if your information has changed or not, I really appreciate it.

I want to say now that I will be doing a full roster this year. I am sure some of you may see that your information has not been updated, or that something has been left off. But, if you do not fill out the envelope with emails, phone numbers, spouses' names I have to assume that you no longer want this information listed. As much as I would like to be a mind reader, I'm not!

Thank you again for your continued support of PGHSAA.

All the best,  
Joanie Hyler '68



## Go Green!

Have your **Knockout II** e-mailed to you in .PDF format. Save paper, and see color photos in color!

E-mail Joanie Hyler, [joanie@pghsaa.org](mailto:joanie@pghsaa.org)  
to sign up.

## Obituaries

### September

Craig Clark '54 Monterey

### November

Bob Rietkerk '51 Lake Havasu City, AZ  
 Mary Len *Cerney* Wartenberg '42 Pacific Grove  
 Georgia Lee *Silva* Cotenass '53 Georgetown  
 Maxine *Pruett* Lingenfelter '43 Carmel Valley  
 Kim Marie *Luiz* '72 Monterey  
 Fred Phillips '58 Gilroy  
 Diane *Messinger* Rodriguez '60 Ventura

### December

Donald Duerr '39 Elk Grove  
 Michael Lytle '76 Raleigh, NC  
 Eva Lorraine *Soper* Stefani '51 Santa Cruz  
 Jacquie *Myers* Jones '45 Auburn

### January

Susie *Mandeen* Brassfield '56 Newcastle  
 Susanne *Barton* '56 Pacific Grove  
 Richard Barraza '73 Monterey  
 Bobbie Bommarito '60 Redding  
 Patty *Mace* Parkhurst '75 Madison, NY  
 Robert House '62 Kentfield  
 Pat *Flynn* Crabtree '41 Juneau, AK

### February

Robert Zimmerman '41 Las Vegas, NV

wine steward, and banquet manager. He was an active member of AA for 32 years. He was a five-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include his brothers Guy '57 and Rodney '60; three sons, Chris Clark, Brendon Clark, and Jay Bulgier; and life partner Laurie Bulgier.

### November



#### Robert Henry Rietkerk,

83, a retired telecommunications/PBX technician, avid boater and Harley Davidson enthusiast, passed away on Nov. 6, 2017, in Lake Havasu, AZ. Bob spent his childhood in Pacific Grove, where he attended PGHS, then moved

to Chino. He graduated from Chino High School in 1951. After serving in the US Navy from 1951-1961 on the USS Tortuga, Bob worked for GTE and later with Continental Telephone (Contel) until his retirement. Fifteen years ago, Bob moved from Lathrop to Lake Havasu, where he enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson, being on the water, and dancing the night away with friends. He was a 34-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include his son, David Rietkerk; six grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and his sister, Viola "Toots" *Rietkerk* Nielsen '54. He was predeceased by his daughter, Tammy Miller; and his siblings, Richard '42, Irene '41, Betty '44, and Jack '46.

### September



**Craig Greenleaf Clark,** 81, died at CHOMP on Sept. 27, 2017. He was born Feb. 27, 1936, and his family then moved to California, where Craig graduated from PGHS in 1954. A conscientious objector, he was able to work as a medical lab tech while

serving in the U.S. Army. Craig was a writer, poet, seminary student, sailor, actor, woodworker, wood carver, vegetarian, and raconteur. He designed and built the Wine Cellar at the Sardine Factory, then spent over 25 years there as host,



#### Mary Len *Cerney* Wartenberg,

92, died in Pacific Grove on Nov. 9, 2017, after a lengthy illness. M.L., as she was known, was born Nov. 27, 1924. Her family moved from Omaha, NE, to the Peninsula in 1936, and she graduated from PGHS in 1942.

Her father owned the Oak Grove Market in Monterey for many years. After graduating from Salinas Junior College and San Jose State, M.L. became one of the first cabin safety attendants at United Airlines. In 1948, she left United to marry



## Obituaries, cont.

and settled in New York State. In 1968, the family moved to San Francisco and then returned to live on the Peninsula in 1975. M.L. volunteered with the Sally Griffin Center/Meals on Wheels for 28 years. She also was a board member for the Alliance on Aging. Her interest in watercolor and crafts led her to volunteer for Museum on Wheels and the Monterey Museum of Art. She greatly enjoyed traveling all over the world. She was a 13-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include her children, Judy, Christopher, Michael, Matt, Lisa, and Mark; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; her brother Tom '44; and sister-in-law Jane *Emmons* '46 Cerney of Redding. She was preceded in death by her husband Everett, and brothers Frank '45, Reid '46, and Len '47.

**Georgia Lee Silva Cotenass**, 82, passed away two days after a car accident on Nov. 10, 2017. A native of Los Banos, she was born Oct. 16, 1935, and moved to Pacific Grove in 1948, where she attended PGHS with the class of 1954. Georgia was a talented artist and gardener, a rock hound, and avid reader. Her family says: "She spent many hours digging for crystals, gathering feathers, bones and any other treasures she could find for her many creations of dried floral wreaths, which adorn many homes." Survivors include her sons, Michael, Richard, Robert and Aaron Cotenass; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild; her sister, Beverly *Silva* Dunbar '51; and brothers, Stan '59 and Lew Tim Silva. She was preceded in death by her husband Demos and daughter Lynn.

**Maxine Lorraine Pruett Lingenfelter**, 91, died at her home of many years in the Cachagua area of Carmel Valley on Nov. 11, 2017. Born March 10, 1926, in San Joaquin County, Maxine attended PGHS in her freshman and sophomore years with the class of 1943. She loved gardening. Preceding her in death were her husband, Raymond L. Lingenfelter '43; son Sam Lingenfelter '69; grandson Gary Blackwell '77; son-in-law Richard Backeberg '61; and five siblings, including Edgar Pruett '38. Survivors

include her son Donald Lingenfelter and daughters Linda *Lingenfelter* McCleerey '61 and Nancy *Lingenfelter* Backeberg '63; sister Bonnie *Pruett* Crider '41; daughter-in-law Deborah *Beaird* Lingenfelter '70; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including Christy *Blackwell* Shields '79 and Kelly Marie *Blackwell* McGreal '80.



**Kim Marie Luiz**, 63, died unexpectedly of cancer at CHOMP on Nov. 13, 2017. A native of Monterey County, Kim was born Sep. 6, 1954, and grew up in Pacific Grove. She attended St. Angela's until transferring to PGHS her senior year, graduating with the class of 1972. Kim was a manager at Rapid Printers and then ran the production department at Paul Kagan Associates Inc., a publishing company in Carmel. Later, she attended Monterey Peninsula College, where she also worked in the Supportive Services office. She also owned and operated her own framing company. Survivors include her partner, Ginny Deming; parents, Domingos and LaVoyne Luiz; and brother, Kirk Luiz.



**Frederic Eugene Phillips**, 77, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Gilroy on Nov. 13, 2017. A native of Los Angeles County, he was born Jan. 25, 1940, and grew up in Pacific Grove, where he graduated from PGHS in 1958. Soon after, he joined the Marines and later obtained an A.A. and began his career in law enforcement, serving in Montana, Los Angeles, and Seaside. Fred retired as interim chief of police of Seaside Police Dept. in 2001. Survivors include his wife Sally Ann and daughter Valerie. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Anthony.



## Obituaries, cont.



**Diane Armstrong Messinger Rodriguez**, 75, died of lung cancer in Ventura on Nov. 22, 2017. A native of Alameda County, she was born Sept. 9, 1942. After graduating from PGHS in 1960, she graduated from UC

Berkeley and joined the Peace Corps. Diane taught elementary school for 35 years and spoke four languages. She was a 12-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include her partner Pete; two daughters, April and Alison; a sister, Marlene; and three grandchildren.

### December



**Donald A. Duerr**, 96, Sausalito's first city manager, passed away on Dec. 6, 2017, in Elk Grove. Born Nov. 17, 1921, in Melrose Park, IL, Don moved to Southern California in 1928, then Sonoma in 1929, and later to Monterey

County. After graduating from PGHS in 1939, Don attended Salinas Junior College and the University of California at Berkeley. During WWII, he served as a navigator/bombardier in the Army Air Corp. After the war, he earned degrees in political science and public administration from UCB. Don held many positions in business and civil service in Fresno, Glendale, Sausalito, and San Anselmo. After retirement in 1984, Don was a board member for Redwood Credit Union, and he also taught English to new immigrants. In 1999, he relocated to Lincoln, where he lived an active life pursuing his many interests, including classical music, literature, painting, and traveling to France to visit a friend made during the war. He was a 28-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include two daughters, Beverly and Lisa; two granddaughters; three great-grandchildren; his brother George; and his sister Jeanne. He was preceded in death by his brother Edward and his wife Sybil.



**Michael Francis Lytle**, 60, died on Dec. 14, 2017, following complications stemming from his paraplegia. Born in Wilmington, NC, on Jan. 28, 1957, Mike spent his freshman year at PGHS in 1972, but later graduated in Wallace, NC, in 1975. He was a sports enthusiast, and he played football and baseball in high school. After an auto accident in 1976 that caused his paraplegia, Mike earned a BA in math and computer science at St. Andrews Presbyterian College, and then worked as a software engineer for 20 years at Nortel. Survivors include two brothers, Ted Lytle '72 of Morgan Hill, and Ervel Lytle Jr. of Casper, WY. Despite unforeseen hardships, Michael always held his head high, displaying nothing other than a upbeat, positive attitude. He always kept in touch with friends made in Pacific Grove and North Carolina.



**Eva Lorraine Soper Stefani** died in Santa Cruz on Dec. 15, 2017, at the age of 85. A native of Santa Cruz, Eva was born Dec. 2, 1932, and later moved to Pacific Grove, where she graduated from PGHS with the class of 1951. While in high school, she worked at Dyke's Pharmacy with her mother, who ran the snack bar. Soon after graduation, she returned to Santa Cruz, where she worked for Pacific Telephone, Plantronics, and as a waitress, and then spent 20 years with Pacific Bell. Her hobbies were sewing, quilting, knitting, gardening, cooking, reupholstering, and entertaining. Survivors include her husband, Leo Stefani; daughters, Randi and Rachel; stepsons, Greg, Fred and Michael Stefani; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her daughter Roberta Samuels, her brothers John and Theodore Soper, and her sister Joanne Olimpio.



## Obituaries, cont.



**Jacqueline Fay Myers Strachan Jones**, 90, died in Auburn on Dec. 30, 2017. A native of Monterey County, Jacquie was born Sept. 17, 1927, and graduated from PGHS in 1945. She married her high school sweetheart in 1947, attended San Jose State, and then moved to Washington. After her divorce, she returned to California, where she married her second husband in 1959. As a military family, they moved quite a bit until retiring to Pacific Grove in 1969. Jacquie loved gardening, was an amazing seamstress, and was strong in her Christian faith. She was a 36-year member of PGHSAA. She is survived by four children, including Terry Strachan '66; eight grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Her brother, James Myers '48, and her husbands, Don Strachan '45 and Harold Jones, preceded her in death.

### January



**Susanna Elizabeth "Susie" Mandeon Brassfield**, 79, died in Newcastle, her home of 30 years, in January 2018. Born Jan. 27, 1938, in Minneapolis, MN, she and her family moved to Pacific Grove, where Susie attended PGHS

with the class of 1956. The family moved to KY, then Palo Alto. In 1957, Sue attended Pacific Lutheran College in Seattle and then went to work for Boeing. After her marriage in 1958, she settled in CA to raise a family in 1962. Susie was a member of the Placer County Central Committee and was politically active for years. She enjoyed travelling and attending yearly family reunions. She was a beautiful, gracious, and classy lady, the lynchpin of her family and a 21-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include her husband John; three sons, John Jr., Jeffrey and Todd; one daughter, Heather; 10 grandchildren; one great-grandson; and her brother John of India.



**Susanne L. Barton**, 78, died in Pacific Grove on Jan. 5, 2018. She was born in Montana on Nov. 23, 1938, and her parents moved to Pacific Grove in 1945, where she attended PGHS with the class of 1956. While attending San Jose State, she decided to become a model, and she spent the next 25 years as a top couture model in the US and Europe. Sue then opened her own public relations firm in London, taught modeling in San Francisco for a couple of years, and then became a senior vice president of marketing for Columbia Pictures. During her adventurous life, she interacted with many famous people and even dated a few. She married and divorced Richard Gregson and an unnamed rock musician. In the 1990s she returned to what she considered her hometown, Pacific Grove, and gave up the Hollywood lifestyle. Sue's friends say she will be remembered for her robust, infectious, and endearing laugh, and that she was a charming, vivacious, and stunning woman.



**Richard Barraza**, 62, died in a car accident on Jan. 6, 2018. Born September 19, 1955, in Watsonville, Richard grew up in Monterey and Pacific Grove, and he graduated from PGHS in 1973. He was a legend in

both the PGHS and MPC track & field and cross-country community. Running was a life-long interest, and Richard more recently served as an assistant coach for the PGHS track and field and cross-country programs. He attended Bethany Bible College, where he received a bachelor of science. He served as minister of the Foursquare Gospel Church in Redwood City since 1986, and had recently returned to the Peninsula to live. He also worked in the mental health field. Survivors include his wife Jacqueline, his mother Carmen Shaw, and his siblings Manny Gomez '71, Greg Noga, and Sammy Barraza. He was preceded in death by his father, Bill Barraza, and another



## Obituaries (cont.)



**Robert Joseph Bommarito**, 75, died at a Redding hospital on Jan. 11, 2018. A native of Carmel, he was born Aug. 26, 1942, and lived in Pacific Grove for nearly 50 years before moving to Woodland. At PGHS, he

earned many medals and honors in football, basketball and track, graduating in 1960. Bobbie joined the Navy in 1961 and was in the Naval Reserve until 1967. He was a master carpenter for over 30 years and was a member of Carpenters Union Local 605. In Woodland, he opened a custom framing business, and he was a member of Professional Picture Framers Association and the Rotary. He rescued and fostered many dogs and cats and enjoyed traveling, kayaking, and fishing. Survivors include his wife Charlene; daughter Pamela *Bommarito* Walsh '86 of Derry, NH; sons, William of Monterey and Brian '91 of Vancouver, WA; eight grandchildren; and two sisters, Joan *Bommarito* Selbicky '52 of Pacific Grove and Dorothy *Bommarito* Coburn '74 of Paradise. His brother Joseph ("Johnny") '64 died in 2013.



**Patricia Mace Parkhurst**, 59, died of cancer at her home in Madison, NY, on Jan. 18, 2018. She was born in Munich, Germany, on July 30, 1958, the daughter of Clyde L. and Joyce J. *Minero* Mace, and graduated from PGHS in 1975. Early in

her career Patty worked for the US Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Mines. Later she worked for many auto dealerships. Patty loved bingo, dancing, driving, and music. Survivors include her husband Bill, son Mike, and several grandchildren.

**Robert Gene House** died of ALS in Kentfield, in Marin County, CA, on Jan. 19, 2018, at the age of 73. A native of Carmel, Geno graduated from PGHS in 1962, and then from San Jose State



College, after which he joined the United Airlines aircraft interior design group. After earning his MBA, Geno spent 40 years with UA. He had a passion for traveling all his life. After retirement, his love for drawing grew, and he utilized many mediums: pencil, pen and ink, watercolor, and oils. Survivors include his wife Rhonwyn; two stepdaughters, Heather and Wend; three grandchildren; and brother Dayton House '57.



**Esther Patricia Flynn Crabtree**, 90, died Jan. 30, 2018, in Juneau, AK. A native of Pacific Grove, Pat was born Sept. 27, 1927, to Michael and Esther *Doney* '23 Flynn, and she graduated from PGHS in

1945. As a wife and mother, Pat enjoyed living in various places, such as Reno, Los Angeles, and Alaska, living on-board the family's own ship for many years. She often taught ceramics in a local senior center. She was a 30-year member of PGHSAA. Survivors include two grandsons, Aron and Jason Lopez. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Crabtree, daughter Dale, brother Michael Flynn '44, and sister Kathleen Flynn Lopez.

## February



**Robert Frank Zimmerman**, 95, passed away on February 1 in Las Vegas, NV, where he had lived for many years. A native of Pacific Grove, Frank was born Oct. 1, 1922, and graduated from PGHS in 1941. He worked in the funeral industry for many years as a funeral director and embalmer in Nevada. Frank was one of the earliest licensed funeral directors in Nevada, holding the low License Number 15. His brother John Zimmerman '35 died in 1965.



## Basketball History

### *By Virginia Fox Abplanalp '50*

1948-49 was the year that the PGHS basketball team made history. After going undefeated the entire season, they were invited to the Tournament of Champions held in Berkeley. Their first opponent turned out to be the vaunted team from Lowell High School in San Francisco, heavily favored to win the whole thing handily. Much to their shock, our boys were leading at half time. Sportswriters up there described it as "the best basketball game they had seen in the Bay Area in several years." Marty Baskin's team had taken so much out of Lowell that they lost their next game due to physical and emotional exhaustion. A moral victory but a disappointment nevertheless. They had planned to win. The class of 1950 contributed the following team members: Leland Hoag, Bill Larkin, and Walter Pattison. What fabulous memories they must have.

P.S. At this writing Bill and Walter are still living.





## How the *Knockout II* Got Its Name

By Bill Hyler '39

Contributed by Joanie Hyler '68

I have been a member of the Alumni Association ever since it "reformed" back in 1961-62. I have also been a board member for several years and have known almost all of the officers and directors over the years on a first-name personal basis. We have all been friends.

I again became active in the Alumni Association in 1987-88. A little later, our then editor of the newsletter, Patricia Annand Bispo '52, was moving to Idaho, and we needed a new editor. I accepted the job but wanted to change a few things about how it had been written in the past. Not that anything was wrong. It was a wonderful newsletter; I just wanted a "New Face" for the paper.

I was in contact with Dee Brendel Litch '44 who told me about Tom Gillis '30, who lived in Greenbrae, CA, in Marin County and was publishing a newsletter mostly about alumni of his generation or classes near his class. He was using the term, *The Knockout*. This term had been used since Bill Gould '22 and Everett Gregory '22, two PGHS fellows, had started the paper back in 1921 and first named it *The Knockout*. Everett worked after school for the Pacific Grove newspaper, and he had access to a printing press and the typefaces and other stuff to create a newspaper. They wanted to publish something for the school, and make a little side money charging 5 cents a copy. But they were stuck on what to call this paper.

One day, they were seated in the hallway of the high school in front of Mr. A.B. Ingham's office, trying to think of a good name for this paper. Just then a beautiful girl came sauntering by, and Everett said, "Wow. What a knockout!" Hence the word "knockout" came up, and they both knew they had a good name for their paper. So, *The Knockout* it remained for more than sixty years.

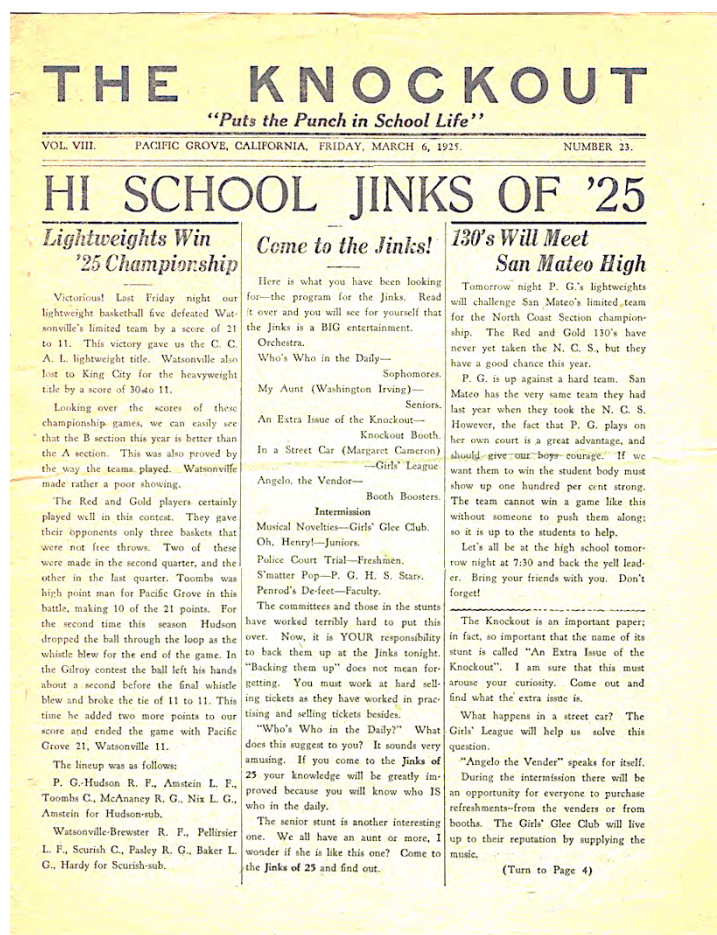
When they graduated from high school in 1922, they gave the paper to the school. Over the years, hundreds and hundreds of students have

worked on *The Knockout* to make it the success it became.

Then in 1987 the students decided to change the name to *The Newsbreaker*. The *Knockout* title was no longer used.

Tom Gillis '30 heard about this, and one of his buddies, Ted Lyman '30, suggested that we adopt the name and re-name our "Update Bulletins" to *The Knockout*. No sooner said than done!

Now along comes Bill Hyler a couple of years later, and knowing PGHS no longer used *Knockout*, planned to use the name for his newsletter. When Dee told Bill about Tom Gillis and his use of the name, Bill called Tom and asked, "Tom, would you have any objection to my using *The Knockout II* for the name of my version of the Pacific Grove High School Alumni newspaper?" Ted replied at once, "Not a bit, and I think it is a good idea." So that is how we came to call our newsletter *The Knockout II*.



Front page of the four-page March 6, 1925 Knockout (10 cents a copy!)

## Happy Birthday, Edie!

**Edie Adams McDonald Maruyama '56,  
PGHSAA Vice President,  
Celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> with More Than 80 Friends**

Two days before her eightieth birthday, over eighty friends gathered at Monterey's Crown & Anchor Pub to surprise Edie Adams McDonald Maruyama with a birthday party. However, when you have so many people coming to surprise you, there is no surprise except to walk in and find so many people gathering from near and far to have a great time. There are some near and dear to her who couldn't keep their mouths shut completely, and Edie, being a wise Pacific Grove High School alumna, figured out that there was a party. Edie was never shy about attending a party, so she came down into the pub for the celebration.



Edie and her daughter Debbie, who organized the event.

Sunday January 7 at 1 p.m. at the Crown & Anchor was chosen for several strategic reasons. First, football: The college football championship game would occur the next day. The NFL only had one of its wildcard play-off games that afternoon, and the pub has several TV screens. Second, parking: On street parking is free in Monterey on Sundays. Third, visibility: Having the party during daylight allows a lot of the attendees to drive. Fourth, the weather: we're still in the middle of a drought, so chances were that it wouldn't rain. Even if it did, we'd be overjoyed.

PGHSAA suspects were well represented. Edie has been on the PGHSAA board for two decades. It would have been for over five decades, had she not left the area traveling to wherever the U.S. Navy assigned her and her family. Actually Edie has been the vice president of PGHSAA and the Go-To contact for the annual Alumni dinners for so many years, she's been forbidden to move away from this area.

One surprise attendee was Molly Francis and her daughter Debbie, a friend from back in 1958 whom she met at La Mesa Naval Housing Monterey. Molly, now living in Tucson, Arizona, originally hails from Weymouth, England.

Her friends from her working years with Washington Mutual Bank, from the Scottish American Military Association and from the American Legion, from the old *Pacific Grove Hometown Bulletin*, which Edie edited and Pacific Grove High School were all in attendance.

Neighbors from her home in Castroville and Carmel wouldn't miss a good party, either.

Most gratifying was the presence of her family. Daughter Debbie Bennett masterminded the party. Her granddaughter Colleen, from San



Edie's granddaughter Colleen enjoys the food and hubbub with Bob Miller '55

Diego, her brother, Butch Adams '59 from San Jose, her sister-in-law, Roseanne, from San Francisco, step-son Ted, also from San Francisco, and her brother-in-law, Joe, from Arroyo Grande, and all their spouses. Her friend Tita, and Edie's



## Edie's Birthday, cont.

goddaughter Carrie, and her clan from Lemoore and thereabouts in the Central Valley all made the long journeys to be with Edie. Tita and Edie first met in 1960 at the Officers' Club in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

One gratifying fact is that Edie might have gotten her AARP membership before anyone in attendance. Oh, yes, and Xavier was having a good time intermingling with all the guests and listening to proprietors Tony and Sarah.

*Thanks to Edie's husband Xavier Maruyama for this report and the photos!*

## News of Our Active Alumni

### ***L.A. Soccer Club Drafts PGHS Grad***

As a senior at Pacific Grove High, Jordan Jones '14 made a bold decision, graduating early to pursue his dream of playing soccer at a higher level. "It wasn't easy foregoing my senior year of soccer," Jones said. "But I wanted to take that next step. Leaving early for college seemed like the right thing. It was worth it. In the end, it worked out."

Jones got the phone call he had envisioned four years ago when he left for Oregon State. He was drafted in January by Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Football Club. "It really didn't sink in

until I got to Los Angeles and started training with the team," Jones said. "It is surreal. I am training with players I grew up watching."

Jones was taken in the third round by the expansion franchise, which will play in a new stadium in its inaugural year near the Los Angeles Coliseum. The 6'2" forward will become the third player in Monterey County to have played in MLS, joining North Salinas product Ramiro Corrales and Alisal grad David Estrada.

Jones spent four years at Oregon State and earned a degree in sociology. On the field, he produced 29 goals and four assists. He scored 13 points last fall in earning All-Pac 12 second-team honors. "Oregon State is famous for producing forwards at the next level," Jones said. "That was one of the biggest reasons I went early. I focused on everything I could to get to the next level."

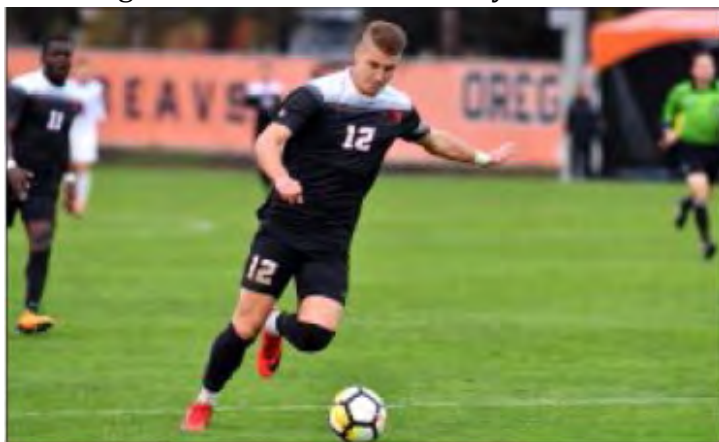
Jones was the only forward drafted by Los Angeles. He was the team's eighth pick overall. "That's so awesome," said Jones, who scored 36 goals as a junior at PGHS, earning Mission Trails Athletic League Player of the Year honors in 2014.

Ironically, the Los Angeles club wasn't on Jones' radar as a potential suitor. Leading up to the draft, Jones had workouts with the San Jose Earthquakes and six teams in Las Vegas. He was also one of 60 players invited to the Major League Soccer combine in Orlando. Among the teams that spoke to Jones were Atlanta, Vancouver, the Los Angeles Galaxy, and Seattle.

Jones is currently in the L.A. team's preseason training camp. As one of four rookies on the roster, he will fight for immediate playing time for the start-up team. "It's always tough as a rookie," he said. "You have to understand your role. You have to fight for your spot. But there's a lot of opportunity with this being an expansion team."

Jones is a fast and physical player on a 180-pound frame. His objective since he was a youth has been to score. "I love to get in behind a player," he said. "I love a good pace. I love to score. And I love to win."

*By John Devine. This story originally appeared in the January 24 Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.*



*Jordan Jones '14 plays for Oregon State. Photo from the January 24 Herald story.*



## Today's P.G. Restaurants

By Herald writer Mike Hale

When it comes to marketing slogans, "America's Last Hometown" reflects well a provincial, slow-paced life. But I imagine it does little to stoke a contemporary dining scene.

Yes, there are a handful of fine restaurants in Pacific Grove, but the sleepy city as a whole has never been known as a vibrant dining destination. Walk downtown after 8:30 p.m. and the dark streets are left to rogue raccoons and a few befuddled tourists tripping over the rolled-up sidewalks.

I love Pacific Grove. I live there. Eat and drink there. A lot. And I expect more. Now it's time to celebrate some game-changing additions on the culinary landscape. The scorecard? Freer-flowing booze, Italian "tapas" called spuntini, a long-awaited pub, and new life at an old French bistro.

But let's begin with cocktails (always a sound idea). There are three new full liquor licenses (two of them pending) in Pacific Grove, a remarkable achievement for the last dry town in California, a city that boasts zero standalone bars. (Due to its religious history, Pacific Grove did not allow alcohol to be served to the public until 1969 — more than three decades after Prohibition ended; see next story by Phil Bowhay!).

The one active liquor license has been put to use by Carl Alasko, the passionate owner of Il Vecchio on Central Avenue near Eardley, the local pantheon to modern Roman food. Alasko has launched an innovative new cocktail program

centered around popular Italian digestifs and liqueurs.

"Italy makes 1,000 different forms of amaro and digestivos," said Alasko. "People would ask and ask, and now we can offer them a new wave of Italian cocktails." Il Vecchio bartenders can also handle the usual martinis and Manhattans, and Alasko also promises a new happy hour, offering drink specials and various spuntini, small snacks reminiscent of Spanish tapas.

The second liquor license went to the Monarch Pub and Restaurant, currently under construction inside the formerly underwhelming 17th Street Grille. The brainchild of Britannia



Construction is underway at the former 17th Street Grille on Lighthouse. Note the landmark Gosby House at right rear. Photo by Beth Penney.

Arms (Monterey) co-owner Paul Whitecross, this rarity will serve a cross-cultural mix of American and British pub fare, in an indoor-outdoor environment. The Pacific Grove Chamber has reported a March opening, but that may prove to be a bit optimistic.

The other restaurant that will add spirits is longtime locals favorite Fifi's at the top of the hill, just behind Safeway on Forest Avenue. After decades running Pacific Grove's favorite French bistro, Michele and Calvin Wilkes sold Fifi's late last year. Local hospitality veteran Jacques Melac, who once co-owned with his wife a downtown P.G. restaurant called Melac's in the Hart Mansion, has been hired to manage the new Fifi's. He said updates will roll out slowly. The goal, according to Melac, is to remain faithful to fearful Fifi's fans, while attracting younger diners



Il Vecchio is in the building that, in the late '60s, housed the Great Mont-Grove Craft Guild on Central Avenue. Photo by Beth Penney.

## Today's Restaurants (cont.)

at the same time. "We respect the legacy here," he said. "We have the same staff, and will keep the essence of Fifi's, but there will be upgrades all around."

All these changes represent great news for diners, but existing restaurateurs also embrace the news. Citing the "rising tide lifts all boats" philosophy, Jeninni Kitchen + Wine Bar owner Thamin Saleh loves what he's seeing outside his window.



*The unassuming Jeninni Kitchen and Wine Bar is housed in the lower right corner of the Holman Building. Photo by Beth Penney.*

"Is it competition?" he asked. "Of course, but competition brings out the best of everyone, pushes us to do better. This is good for consumers and for the city."

Saleh, who immediately raised the bar in Pacific Grove when he opened his contemporary restaurant in the Holman Building in 2013, would love for the city to become more of a destination.

Alasko agrees. "The more quality restaurants we can bring in the better," he said. "People want choices, and all restaurants benefit from raising the bar." He'd like people to think of Pacific Grove before heading over the hill.

"With all due respect to Carmel, they have problems with high rent, small spaces, difficulty parking. It's Pacific Grove's time."

*This story originally appeared in the Food section of the February 7, 2018 Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.*

## How It Was in Old P.G.

**By Phil Bowhay '47**

Now and then, I'm asked how things have changed in Pacific Grove in the last 88 years. Well, first of all, I got older ... No, no, wait! How has the town changed? Not me. Well, P.G. has become older, too.

The heart of Pacific Grove is the grand display of Victorian era houses, from mansions to cottages, most in fine repair, painted and polished (think property values). I suppose you can say that our P.G. had a personality, and by golly, it still does.

The trees are taller and the streets are narrower (not really, but they're packed with parked cars). We were able to play ball from curb to curb.

But we had Holman's, biggest department store between San Francisco and Los Angeles. It meant more to us than that. We felt comfortable in Holman's; we knew where everything was, from the roof to the basement. On the roof there was the Solarium where you could get a light lunch and a world-class view. Had one of the two elevators in town. The Forest Hill Hotel had the other Otis.

I think everybody on the Peninsula worked or shopped at Holman's at one time or another. Moms redeemed the S&H Green stamps next to the elevator and all of us, kids or not, marveled at the little trolleys that scooted the money and sales slips across the store. Lucky for all, the grand old building still stands, now with finishing touches for fine condominiums.

Back in the 1940s and '50s we had three pharmacies. Dyke's Grove Pharmacy included a great soda fountain along with the two others in town. Dr. Williams, oldest practicing dentist in California, had his office right above Dyke's and filled teeth for the multitudes. When Don Wald, a retired architect who did some of the second-generation buildings in P.G. — Meals on Wheels, museum addition, and more—took over Dr. Williams' office space, he found dozens and dozens of teeth. Too late now to check out the DNA.



## How It Was in Old P.G. (cont.)

Three grocery stores ... maybe four ... and Varian's classic barbershop at Forest and Lighthouse right across from Dyke's. And then there was the perfect Scotch Bakery. I can still smell the shortbread.



*The block where the Scotch Bakery resided, as it appears today.  
Photo by Beth Penney.*

The Methodist Episcopal Church should have been saved, a magnificent reminder that we lived in Pacific Grove, by God! Next on the list of the overlooked should be Demon Rum and the understanding that fog, fresh air and prayer—and lemonade—should be enough to soothe the soul. Possibly because of the influence of the founding Methodists, Pacific Grove was the last dry town in the state; Elmarie Dyke led the pledge.

There was speculation that some denominations had lobbied for at least communion wine, grape juice be damned. There was some concern that booze would lead our town straight to hell, even though St. Paul had said that a little wine was good for the stomach. However, when it became evident that liquor tax revenue might as well be ours, things changed. The first cocktail was poured in Pacific Grove in 1969. It should be noted that after the lid was lifted, there were very few bellyaches in P.G.

And, ah, the Grove Theater, another classic, built in the grand tradition, and then burned to

the ground. The last movie was *The Toast of News Orleans*. As kids, waiting for the Saturday matinees to begin, we could see the huge velvet curtains, and as the lights went down, *The Velvet Dark!*

As high school kids, we thought we owned the town. After school in the afternoon, unless we had jobs or sports, we drifted down Forest Avenue to the soda fountains, Holman's, or the library. Even on warm days the boys wore the P.G. letter sweaters, and sometimes shared them with special gals.

Then there was the famous fire horn, which may have shaped our lives. Mounted on the roof of the City Hall clock tower, its main purpose was to call the volunteer firemen to immediate duty. There was a code posted in every P.G. home that located the fire ... two short, one long meant the library, and so on. A chalkboard in front of the firehouse told the hard of hearing where the blaze was.

The blasts were never to be forgotten. They woke the kids, scared the horses, and interrupted some romantic situations, but it was still reassuring to know that somebody was watching the store.



*Pacific Grove City Hall Plaza and the clock tower, which housed the fire alarm, as they appear today (from 16th Street). Photo by Beth Penney.*

*This article is a compilation of two of Phil's recent columns that appeared in the Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.*

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## *The Knockout II: The PGHSAA Newsletter*

### **Who Is It?**

See the first several letters in the "Letters" column on p. 5 for a discussion of December's mystery photo. That picture was sent in by Ann *Bruscas* Knox '57, who wasn't sure who the children were and was hoping someone would tell her. There were several guesses!

Here's something new for you. Still a "Who Is It?" but not a picture of a person. On my long walks around Pacific Grove, I come across many sidewalk sentiments old and new. My plan has been to write a full article covering all of the "20th-century" inscriptions that I find, but I never get it done. So, I am including the first ones here. I have many more pictures to take, and I may still write the story!

These are both on the northwest corner of Spruce and 17th, outside the house at 624 Spruce. It's not easy to get the contrast just right so that they are readable, but the top one says, "Terri + Rich '53," and the bottom one says, "Bobby + Jeanette." There are several other names on that corner, but they're mostly illegible. Are these yours? Someone you knew? Send your answers to *Knockout II* editor Beth Penney, [bpenney@sonic.net](mailto:bpenney@sonic.net). And, if you have a photo for "Who Is It?" send it to the same address!

