

THE KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

"It's the ☆ glue ☆ that keeps us together"

September, 2021 ● Page One

President's Message



In P.G., we don't have much call for the phrase "the dog days of summer," which have always evoked, at least for me, a period when everyone is worn out from the summer heat and kind of dragging themselves along, waiting

for the first cool breath of fall. But this year, after a heavy summer school load at MPC, I am feeling the "worn out" part. And it seems that's true for many of us, as we received fewer submissions and thus have a smaller issue for you this time.

There is, however, a lot of interesting information! Thanks to Terrell Moss '50 for his writeup and photos from his visit to Mongolia, and thanks to Dixie Layne '66 for both the update on the Feast of Lanterns' plans and the story about John Miller '59. John, who died recently, was the son of former PGHS band teacher Herb Miller and the nephew of legendary bandleader Glenn Miller, but information on his death proved difficult to find, so we turned to Dixie and a story she had written for our local *Cedar Street Times*. We also have a number of updates about goings-on in town, reunion announcements from individual classes, and, of course, our beloved "Classic Bowhay."

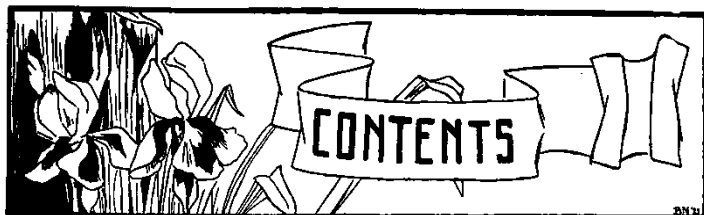
Given the fears surrounding the delta variant of the COVID-19 virus, the PGHSAA board is satisfied with its decision to cancel the 2021 reunion, but we are looking forward to its return in 2022. Carol Bradley Lauderdale '66, our events chairperson who shepherded us through the pandemic and has our reservation at the Elks Club in Monterey lined up for next year, has had to retire from the board because of other commitments. So, we are again in search of an Events Chair! Please consider joining us to help with the 2022 reunion.

Our board meetings are currently a combination of Zoom and in-person meetings, so you can join us from outside the Monterey area. We'd love to have you on the board; e-mail me at president@pghsaa.org if you're interested. We have two more meetings in 2021—our September 11 General Membership meeting, which at noon; and our October 14 regular meeting, which is held in the early evening (see the schedule on p. 2). The 2022 meeting schedule will be published in December.

Here are some figures from our Membership Chair, Joanie Hylar '68, with the number of PGHSAA members from each class. Joanie was thrilled to see that her class almost won the prize for the most members! Encourage other members of your class or family to join the Association; visit www.pghsaa.org, which will soon add the ability to pay for membership and reunion registration, and donate, via PayPal. Thanks to you who have been members and donated generously over the years; we

1939	1	1959	21	1976	7
1943	3	1960	34	1977	6
1944	4	1961	29	1978	2
1945	1	1962	20	1979	2
1946	8	1963	23	1980	4
1947	7	1964	22	1981	2
1948	10	1965	18	1982	2
1949	12	1966	22	1983	2
1950	16	1967	23	1985	1
1951	9	1968	33	1986	1
1952	14	1969	12	1988	2
1953	9	1970	18	1989	2
1954	16	1971	20	1990	1
1955	12	1972	11	1994	2
1956	24	1973	14	1995	1
1957	18	1974	12	2006	1
1958	13	1975	7	2021	2

Beth Penney



Recent Memberships and Contributions	3
Letters	3
Obituaries	5
Feast of Lanterns Update	8
The Miller Family in P.G.	9
Classic Bowhay: Songs	13
Terrell Moss '50 Travels to Mongolia	13
Who Is It?	16

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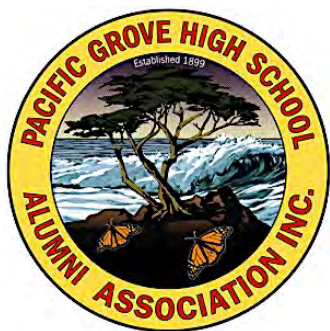
The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.

A Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

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Reactivated April 1, 1962

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

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PGHSAA Officers

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

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Serving through December 2021

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Malcolm Colvin '67

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

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Disbursements: Donna Murphy '79

Events: Carol Bradley Lauderdale '66

Historian: Sydney Berg Tabler '64

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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: September 11 (noon) for its General Membership Meeting, and then on October 14. Meetings are currently being held at Beth Penney's home in P.G. 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)

2021 Caroline *Coen* Pacific Grove
2021 Preston Kirch Pacific Grove

Returning Member(s): Glad to have you back

1971 Bonnie *Acker* Jackson Waco, TX
1957 Michael Williams Reno, NV

“In Memory Of” Contributions

1967 Robert Scardina Monterey
IMO: “Mini” Marie Louise Mimi Cleary ‘67
1975 Mary *Gaudoin* Grove Monterey
IMO: Michael David Gaudoin ‘63
IMO: Mark Noel Gaudoin ‘75
1971 Greg Mensik Willows
IMO: Steve Hughes ‘71
IMO: Neil Menasco ‘71
IMO: Karen *Samora* Mahaney-Low ‘71

Thank You for Your Recent Contribution

The Coca-Cola Company Atlanta, GA*

PGHSAA Scholarship Fund

1956 Jon Olivetti Peoria, AZ

**This donation “matches” a donation from a PGHSAA member. Check with your own company to see if they offer such a program; it’s a great way to increase your donation.*

Remember to use **Amazon Smile** to donate to PGHSAA!

Bookmark **Amazon Smile**, choose PGHSAA as your charity, and shop there instead of Amazon.com. PGHSAA will receive a donation of .5% of your purchases. Thank you, and thanks to all of our donors!

Letters

To the Fabulous “Glue” Ladies of the KOII:

Your B*R*I*L*L*I*A*N*C*E*, E*F*F*O*R*T*S*, and D*E*D*I*C*A*T*I*O*N* continue to astound & delight me (and hopefully, many other PGHS Alumni!!). K*U*D*O*S* for all the info, photos, and general sense of "Being Home", that comes with such a WONDERFUL edition!! BRAVA, BRAVO, and GOOD WORK!! Keep it up . . and BLESSINGS to you ALL!!!! (Fleming is from A British Navy -Leading Radio Operator on the HMS Puma, which came into Monterey Bay in April 1971 . . .thanks to a chance encounter of the Captain - with John Steinbeck, in a pub in London; long story!!!) [Sadly, LRO D.W. Fleming recently passed away, in his home in Inverkeithing, Scotland.] Monterey Bay, California has many, many stories to tell, and students of P*G*H*S* may be a part of those stories!?! {A subject for the KOII's editor??} 'Til we meet again . . . in October . . .Adios & Gracias!!

*Marian Marsh Fleming '60
Santa Rosa*

Editor’s note: Yes, we are happy to have your stories for the Knockout II! Send them to the editor, president@pghsaa.com.

Hi Beth,

Just a quick note. Hope this finds you doing well, as we are in Westbrook Village, Peoria, AZ. We’re in a heat wave (a big wave): 110, 115, 118, etc. Sure miss the P.G. fog. Sorry, again, to see some more of my Class of ‘56 classmates pass away. However, we’re still kickin’ and upright and breathing. Hope this check helps with keeping the rising costs of higher education down to some degree. Great to see more alumni giving. Thanks to all,

*Jon Olivetti ‘56
Peoria, AZ*

Remember the new “Butterfly Days” celebration on the first weekend in October. Updated information is on the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove and the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce websites, and on the “Butterfly Days” Facebook page.

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.

PGHS Class of 1971**50th Class Reunion**

Friday, OCT 1st "No Host"

OPENING RECEPTION

at Bill Lee's "SUR Restaurant"

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, then

stay for dinner. Call Bill for dinner reservations (831) 250-7188

Saturday, OCT 2nd

BUTTERFLY PARADE

Assemble at Pine Ave & Monterey Ave
Walk as a class (wear red and gold)

10:00 am – Noon

Saturday, OCT 2nd

DINNER GATHERING

at First Awakenings Restaurant
(beer, wine, tacos, rice & beans)

5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Sunday, OCT 3rd

PICNIC AT LOVERS POINT

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Bring your own food and drinks
(charcoal grills available)

Also a possible golf outing on October 1;

contact Don Ostergard,

donaldostergard@gmail.com

More Information: Facebook Page,

John S Miller, johnmiller1971@gmail.com,

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth, (831) 484-2924

Spread the News!!!

Classes of 1980 and 1981: see the post concerning your reunion plans on the Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.'s Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/PGHSAA/>

Obituaries

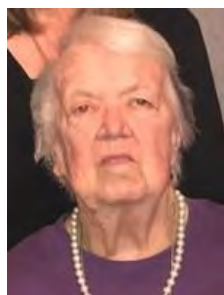
MAY

1954 Alice *Clough* Smith Pacific Grove
1949 Odessa *Richards* Crandell Pacific Grove

JUNE

1973 William "Billy" Brewer Monterey
1959 John Arthur Miller Unknown

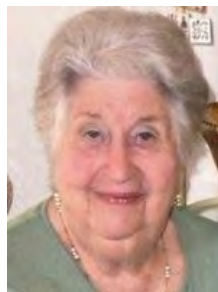
MAY



Alice Marie Clough Smith, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, died Wednesday, May 19. Alice was born February 21, 1936, in Oldfield, MO, to Herbert Milo and Georgia Mae Clough. As a child, Alice, her brothers, mother, and

grandmother moved to P.G. for her mother to accept a job with Purity Grocery Stores. As a teenager, attending Peninsula Baptist Church in Monterey, she met Travis, a handsome officer from Fort Ord. They became engaged, but her mother required that she finish high school before getting married, she graduated from PGHS in 1954 and they married in 1954 and had 5 children. Travis preceded her in death in 2014, a few months short of their 60th wedding anniversary. Alice loved children and was a daycare provider for many years in her home as well as at church. She and Travis were long-time members of the First Baptist Church in Monterey, serving in many capacities throughout the years. More recently Alice became a member of Sanctuary Bible Church in Carmel Valley. She is survived by her sons Jeffrey '74, Joseph '76, Jonathan '78, and daughter Genevieve, as well as 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter Julianna.

Odessa Richards Crandell passed away peacefully on May 21, 2021, at her home, surrounded by her family. Odessa came to California at the age of 12 from Bowie, TX, and lived in Pacific Grove the rest of her life. Odessa was in the Class of 1949. Along with being a homemaker, Odessa enjoyed camping with her family, quilting with her sisters and brothers, playing cards with friends, and attending



her grandchildren's sporting events. To her, family meant everything. She was a 14-year member of PGHSAA. Odessa was predeceased by her husband of 42 years, Olvey Crandell '41, and her 8 brothers and sisters, Oran, Jeff, J.C., Lorene, Lola, Ailene, Paul, and David '52. She is survived by her 4 children; Vernessa Johnson '66, Nancy Russo '68, Debbie Crandell '74, and Will Crandell '83; 5 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, her church family, and her kind caregivers.

JUNE



Classmate John Lovejoy sent us the following obituary and some of his own remembrances of **John Miller '59**: It is with great sorrow, regret and inconceivable sadness that we are today announcing the death of our treasured and celebrated friend, bandleader and "boss man," John

Miller, 79. John was a charismatic, passionate, nurturing and gentleman, always with a story to tell. An icon, a treasure, a dedicated pioneer of swing music which was the drive to keep his uncle's music alive and kicking - and he really did give it a kick with his John Miller Orchestra. John touched so many of our lives and gave us so many happy memories and stories that we'll all treasure and cherish for our lifetimes. Our beloved John hasn't left us. While ever we have memories of him, our own stories to tell and the memories to relive of all the happy times we've enjoyed at the concerts around the world, John and his music will live on forever. Rest easy, John, and from all of us, thank you. The big band world in the sky has received one helluva a showman! Lovejoy remembers that 'I learned to play the trumpet from Herb when I was in fourth grade. Later, Herb started his own Miller-style band around 1956 in Pacific Grove, and John was a singer and bass player.' He later took over the band and toured Europe and Asia with it until just a couple of years ago.

Editor's note: see the story about John and his family by Dixie Layne '66 on p. 9.

Obituaries



William Frances “Billy”

Brewer passed away peacefully, surrounded by friends, at Community Hospital on June 6, 2021, after a valiant four-year battle with cancer – he was a youthful 65 years old. Billy was a soulful, caring, much loved, and much respected member of the Monterey Peninsula community,

and his sudden passing was a shock to many who were unaware of his illness. Billy was born in Germany on July 22, 1955, to Dee and Junior Brewer. As a young military child, Billy and his family, including his mother Dee and older sister Katy, moved to Texas, and in 1964, to Granite Street in P.G. A natural athlete, Billy became an all-star baseball player as a shortstop and an All-State champion wrestler. He was a classmate of the Class of 1973. He started surfing at age 14 and quickly rose through the Western Surfing Assn. competition ranks, at contests held mostly at Steamer Lane in Santa Cruz, where he excelled against much more seasoned competitors. Billy’s surfing skills developed quickly, and he was soon a widely respected, stylish, world-class surfer who impressed observers wherever he traveled with his daring bravado when charging large, challenging surf conditions. His exploits on huge Lovers Point waves and other spots up and down the coast are now legendary. He loved traveling to great surf destinations in Mexico, Hawaii, Central America, Australia and Indonesia, where he impressed locals and made many good friends over the years. Surfing was Billy’s passion, and he was an undisputed legend in the waterman community along the Monterey Bay and Central Coast. Throughout his life, his easygoing and friendly personality endeared him to his many friends and acquaintances. In his later years, Billy also embraced kayak fishing in the Monterey Peninsula waters. He developed his own business as a professional painting contractor – Billy Brewer Painting – and was known locally for his high quality work. He is preceded in passing by his mother Dee Brewer and is survived by his sister Kathy Konkler of Washington State.

Pacific Grove’s Last Hippie

By Gary Baley

Randy Johnson ’69 is a jovial, if somewhat flamboyant, Pacific Grove native, born at the corner of Gibson and Cedar in 1950—perfect timing to enter the 1960s counter-culture scene as a teenager. His father, Robert “Kenny” Johnson bought property in Pacific Grove and built three houses, one of which Randy and his family lived in. One day, when Randy was 13, his father placed a ten-foot totem pole he brought from Alaska in the front yard. It must’ve created quite a sensation. Nowadays, this would likely fall into the cultural appropriation rubric, but then it was cultural appreciation of art. Their home became known as the Totem House.

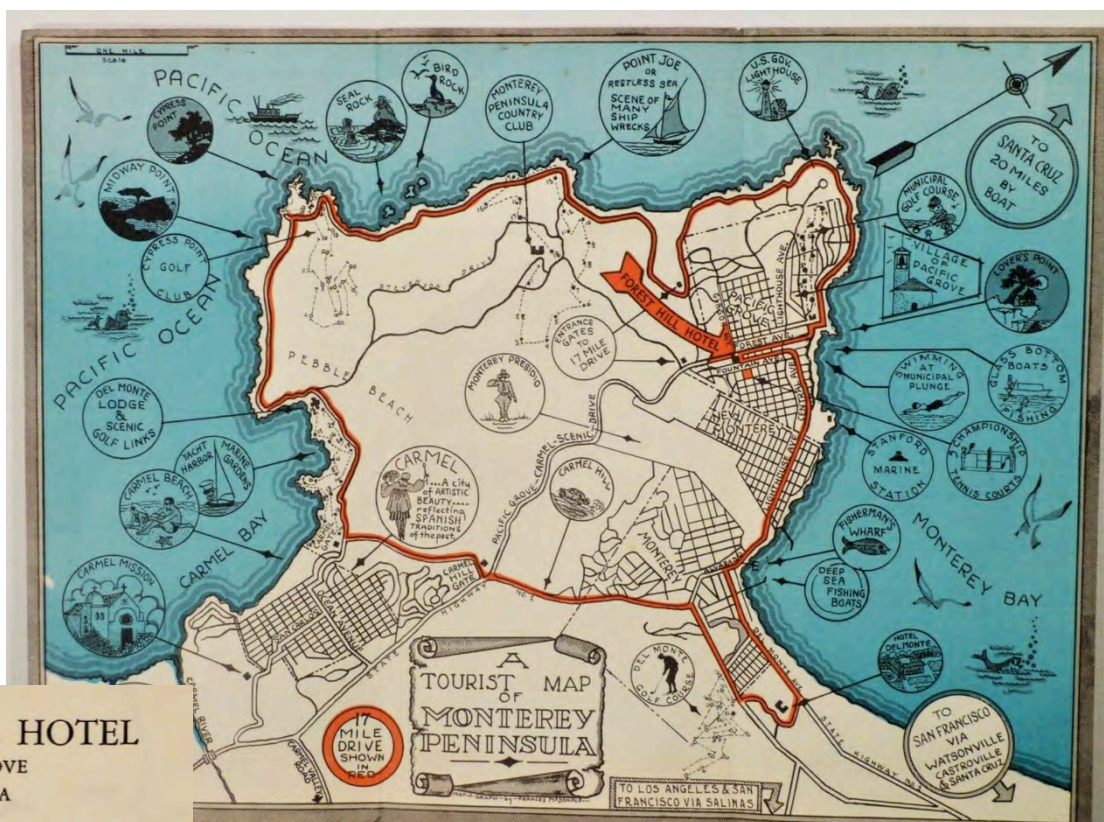
Randy cared for his mother, Beth Elayne, in her later years. She loved to collect memorabilia, a habit Randy inherited. When she died, Randy’s elder brother took over the estate and sold everything, which prompted Randy to leave town.

After a hiatus roaming about northern California for several years, Randy returned to P.G. and worked at The Granary on Central. Both that and neighboring Tillie Gort’s, in addition to The Great Mont-Grove Craft Guild across the street, were hangouts for the hippie scene. Randy fit right in. He now lives in a small apartment near Lovers Point, below, jam-packed with memorabilia. Randy used to play Santa Claus at Stillwell’s Snow in the Park years ago, but now he needs a cane to walk around safely. If you see him around town, say “Hi” to the Last Hometown’s Last Hippie. He loves to talk.

This article was originally published in the *Cedar Street Times*, June 18, 2021. Reprinted with permission.



At presstime, this lovely little brochure was available for purchase on eBay! It's undated, but from the map, it looks as if the Grove Acre tract has not yet been built. The municipal golf course was there—nine holes 35 cents; all day, \$1.05. And just four bits to get into Pebble Beach!



FOREST HILL HOTEL

PACIFIC GROVE
CALIFORNIA

ROOM RATES

Single	-	-	-	\$2.50 day
Double	-	-	-	\$4.00 day
Twin Beds	-	-	-	\$5.00 day

All rooms with private bath.
10% discount by the week.

MONTHLY RATES

European Plan	-	\$ 60.00 and up
American Plan	-	\$100.00 and up

DINING ROOM

Breakfast (a la carte)	
Luncheon	- .65
Dinner	- .85 and 1.00
Garage	- .35 day

RECREATION

Pacific Grove Municipal Golf Course, 9 holes 35c, all day	\$1.05
Pacific Grove Municipal Pool, at the Beach	.35
Pebble Beach or Del Monte Golf Courses	\$2.50 day
(Receipt at Toll Gate Applies on Greens Fee)	
Del Monte Roman Plunge and Accessories	.75
Dancing - Hotel Del Monte Bali Room—Cover Charge, Week Nights	.50
Saturday or Special Events	\$1.00
(Subject to Change without Notice)	
Horses from Riding Stables at either Del Monte or Pebble Beach, 2-hour Ride	\$2.00
17-Mile Drive and Del Monte Forest	.50
Monthly Pass to 17-Mile Drive	\$2.50

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OVERLOOKING MONTEREY BAY

PACIFIC GROVE CALIFORNIA

PGHS Football Field Update

The PGHS football field is getting a makeover as new synthetic turf fields and tracks are being laid down over the summer. The synthetic field is a huge upgrade from the artificial turf that was put down 12 years ago when the entire stadium was renovated. The Howard Cowen Breaker Stadium is used for football, boys and girls soccer, lacrosse and track and field, and all physical education classes.

"Several examples of different turfs were thrown at us," Pacific Grove football coach Jeff Gray said. "But we wanted it to be similar to what we've had here. We'll have some upgrades." Pacific Grove's synthetic field will include rubber pellets instead of the cork that has been installed in recent surfaces at other local high schools. Before the surface is laid down, padding will be placed underneath to provide a softer cushion on impact with the turf.

The center of the field will feature the traditional "PG" logo, while one end zone will say "Breakers," and the other "Pacific Grove," as shown in the artist's rendition of the finished field below. "The plan is it will be ready a couple of days before we play Carmel in our opener," Gray said. P.G. opens its season on Aug. 27 against Carmel in the annual "Shoe" game.

While the completion of the field is expected to be done before August, the nine-lane all-weather red track will also be redone.

This story, by John Devine, originally appeared in the *Monterey Herald* July 10, 2021. Reprinted with permission.

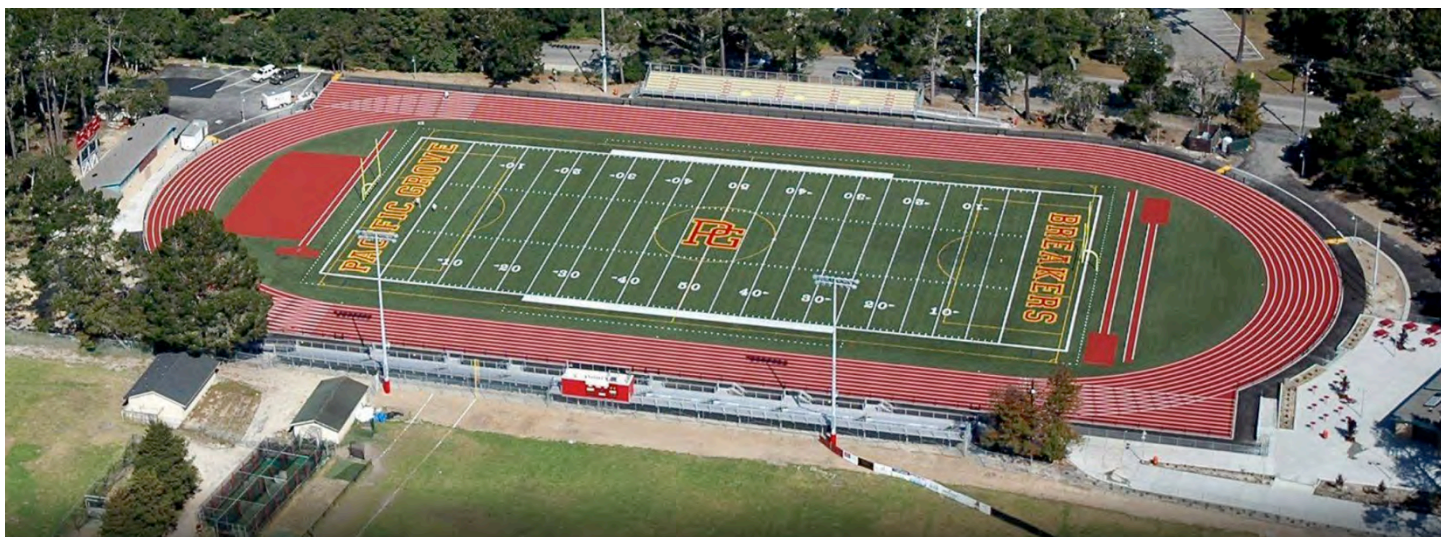
Feast of Lanterns Plans

By Dixie Layne '66

Unlike so many years past, this last Saturday evening in July was not spent at Lovers Point, waiting for royalty to appear at the top of the grand stone staircase and make their way across the pier for their final summer performance. Instead, the stage was Chautauqua Hall, and the backdrop was a display of what the future would hold for the Feast of Lanterns; included were medieval-era inspired costumes, a new story of star-crossed lovers, and proposed new backdrops that put Point Pinos Lighthouse center stage.

These performers had a new mission. Not to entertain, but to introduce a summer festival made anew. The directors, led by acting president Christine Gruber, warmly welcomed their guests as they arrived, engaged in conversation, and answered questions. The public showed appreciation for the directors' work at re-imagining Pacific Grove's summer festival and were pleased to engage with the directors.

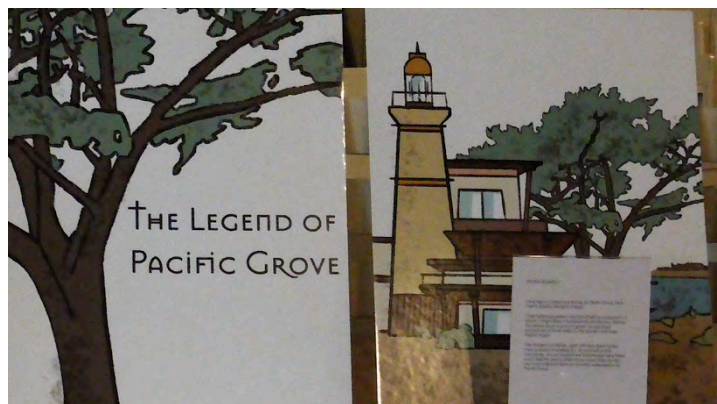
In attendance were some 30 people from the community, including past queens, princesses, and presidents, all wanting to know what is to become of the Feast of Lanterns. This year, the electricity in the air was all about finding the answers to what would become of the festival, and those answers were revealed in a brochure provided to the attendees. The new story will neither be derived from an illustration on a British dinner plate or set in "faraway Cathay,"



Feast of Lanterns, cont.

nor will the script contain explicit or implicit references to Asian people or their culture. The new story will take place in Pacific Grove, and the Royal Court will act out “The Legend of Pacific Grove” in pantomime.

The new story takes place during a celebration called “Chautauqua Days” in a land “now known as Pacific Grove,” where there is a “lighthouse palace,” occupied by a wealthy royal family whose patriarch wants his eldest daughter to marry a wealthy older man. The monarch’s daughter, however, has fallen in love with a brilliant young student, but with the help of her sibling princesses, a dragon, and a fairy-godmother-like woman called Elmarie, Lady of the Bay, along with swarms of monarchs, there is a happy ending!



Part of the new festival storyboard introduced on July 31. Photo by Robert Pacelli.

Miller Family Legacy in Pacific Grove Ends

By Dixie Layne '66

Pacific Grove had a special connection to Glenn Miller’s music through his brother Herb Miller from 1944 through 1980. Herb brought his own musical talent to the Monterey Peninsula, first to Fort Ord as part of the 59th Army Band, then to Pacific Grove High School as music teacher and band leader. His son John graduated from Pacific Grove High School in 1959 and went on to take over his father’s band, the Herb Miller Orchestra, until his death in January. While Herb was stationed at Fort Ord, John

remembers that the family lived in a house on Second Street because it had a living room large enough for the entire band to rehearse. John remembers when the soldiers came to their home in December 1944 to tell Herb that his brother Glenn, then an Army major, was “missing in action.” Glenn Miller was flying from England to entertain the troops in Paris when his plane went missing over the English Channel. No trace of the aircrew, passengers, or plane has ever been found. Major Glenn Miller’s status remains “missing in action.”

After Herb was discharged from his military service in 1946, he and his family remained in Pacific Grove, where he found employment teaching math and instrumental music in the public schools. Around 1950, he purchased the lot at 25 Asilomar Blvd. and built a home for his family with lumber he reclaimed from a Fort Ord barrack. The home no longer stands, but the structure that is there now is built on the well-constructed Miller basement.

In the early 1960s, Herb took a permanent position at P.G. Junior High. I played clarinet in the school band and orchestra. I remember Herb was nice and soft-spoken—a Nebraska-born and -bred gentleman. He organized his own band to keep Glenn’s music alive, all the while developing his own style. He retired from teaching at PGHS in 1970 and “joined the circus,” a term John said was what musicians call playing in a band, saying, “All my dad ever wanted to do was play music.”

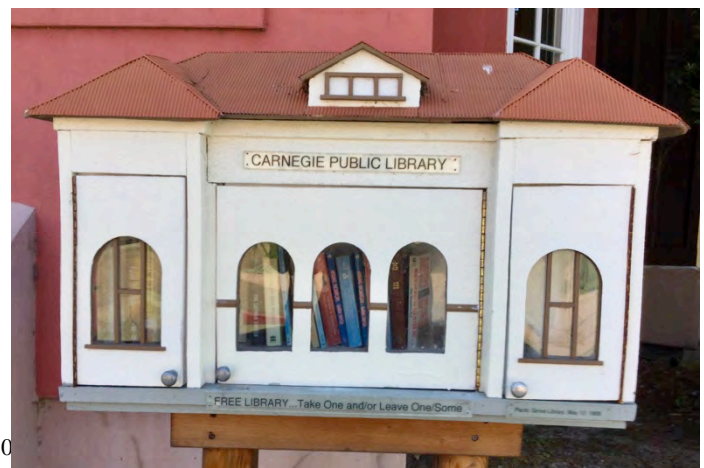
John joined the circus himself in 1974 as the band’s ringmaster. In 1980, Herb was invited to England to guest with a band and asked John to come along as the band’s singer. Herb led the Herb Miller Orchestra and traveled to Europe and Asia until his death in 1987. John remembers, “Herb was cremated and his ashes scattered off the coast of England with 800 people in attendance. He was highly thought of by musicians and much loved by audiences.”

John continued in his father’s footsteps and played throughout Europe and Asia with the John Miller Orchestra, performing at the old high school auditorium in Pacific Grove, now the Pacific Grove Performing Arts Center, in 2012 and again in 2014, which was when this story appeared in the local *Cedar Street Times*. John Miller died in January; see his obituary on p. 5. Thanks to Dixie for her story and her memories.

Seen Around Town



At left, work is ongoing on the Point Pinos Trail Project that is adding walkable paths from Perkins Park to Asilomar. Top, a wide decomposed granite walking path replaces a narrow, overgrown footpath leading away from the parking lot at the foot of Asilomar Blvd. Center and below left, the start of a boardwalk, looking toward Asilomar and looking toward the Point across from Crespi Pond, with the golf course at right in the middle photo. For those of us who walk regularly around the Point, this welcome construction fixes all the remaining places that forced pedestrians into the street, with little loss of native vegetation. Below, members of the Class of '68, from left, David Bell, Sue Taylor, Rhonda Thornburg, Joanie Hyler, and faculty Don Reed at their 2003 reunion. And at bottom below, the Little Free Library outside the Nodilo Building at the new Rec Center, made to look like the original P.G. Carnegie Library. See more photos of the new library on the next page. Class of '68 photo from Joanie Hyler; others by Beth Penney.



Seen Around Town



More pictures from the renovation of the P.G. Library: At top left, a new "Reading Room" looking out on Fountain Ave. At top right, the "South Sea Library Collection" was donated by traveler Ethel Prouty Seale's family in the 1920s. The collection has since been donated elsewhere, but the brass plaque is now on display. At bottom, the mural in the children's room. Photos by Beth Penney.

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.

"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.

Flatley Family Sells Seven Gables for \$14.5 Million

By James Herrera

The Seven Gables Inn, the iconic yellow three-story Victorian mansion at 555 Ocean View Boulevard in Pacific Grove, pictured below in a shot from the new owners' website, has been sold by Susan Flatley Wheelwright '73 and her brother Fred Flatley '75 to Alex Kirkwood of the Kirkwood Collection for \$14,545,000. "We intend to remain loyal to the historic nature of the property," Kirkwood said. "Our goal is to continue the legacy the Flatleys established."

The Flatley family put the property, made up of four parcels and seven structures, on the market in the spring of 2020 for \$17.25 million. They have owned and operated the inn, the main house of which was originally built in 1886, for 39 years. The new owner said the Flatleys had expressed an interest in finding a buyer who would be respectful of the property's history.

Kirkwood will be the fourth owner after the first owner, Jane Page, sold the original mansion to Lucy and Henry Chase in the early 1900s. The Chases converted the home into rental apartments and sold it about 70 years later to the Flatleys, who added the houses on either side and turned them into one of the most revered bed-and-breakfast properties in the United States. It has consistently won accolades as one of the top 10 most romantic inns in America.

The four parcels that now make up the nearly half-acre lot allow flexibility for potential use. "We're exploring the feasibility of a restaurant concept," said Kirkwood, who added that the inn can accommodate 60 additional guests who could support a restaurant and bar.

Kirkwood has a design team that works out of the company's Beverly Hills office. He said that over time the inn will undergo a freshening up,

concentrating on areas not renovated in some time, "But always remaining loyal to the design intent and the historic fabric of the property," he said.

The inn currently operates as a boutique hotel with 25 rooms each with ocean views, an oceanfront dining room that seats 40, a full commercial-style kitchen, two full laundry facilities, conference facilities for large groups, and on- and off-site parking, among other amenities.

The 21,000-square-foot property is bordered by Ocean View to the north, Grand Avenue to the west, and Fountain to the east. The house at 557 Ocean View, at right, originally built in 1910, was owned by the first female mayor of the city, neurobiologist Julia Platt, who planted much of the flora along the coastline of Pacific Grove. "It's a game-changer, a hallmark historic acquisition that changes our footprint," said Kirkwood of the purchase.



The Kirkwood Collection is a family-owned company that was started about 10 years ago around a dinner table. "Today, there are about \$40 million in assets under management," said Kirkwood. The Kirkwood Collection is a luxury hotel brand with a portfolio of six intimate boutique hotels in California. This acquisition continues the company's expansion into premier vacation destinations, along with properties in Santa Barbara, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, and San Luis Obispo.

This story originally appeared in the Monterey Herald June 26, 2021. 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 the Monterey Herald. Reprinted with permission.

Friends, if you don't have Alexa, or some form of "virtual voice assistant," you don't know what you're missing. Well, maybe you do. This is not a hype for social media, but a recollection of some of the old songs we listened to in the good old days.

Just ask Alexa who or what you want to hear. The speaker is about the size of a can of tuna, and while the sound isn't Bose, it's damned good. Just for fun, Google "Your Hit Parade of 1940." Some of those good old numbers still around, others lost, but there is good chance Alexa can find them.

For those of you over 70 ... yes you are, too! ... try Jeanette MacDonald belting out "San Francisco! Open your Golden Gate!" Or Dean Martin singing "Standing on the Corner." When I was a little third grader in the little school house in Kernville, Miss Katy Beck banged out on the piano "Spanish Cavalier" and we sang it loud and out of tune.

On a hot summer night in Bakersfield a couple of years later on the jukebox across the street I heard the best song ever written and "Stardust" is still at the top, followed closely by "Deep Purple" and "As Time Goes By" ... (try Perry, Bing, and old Blue Eyes)

And now it's hard not to sing along with "Sunny Side of the Street," or Doris Day suggesting you "Cuddle Up a Little Closer," or that other one that became "our song" when you thought you were in love.

And if you're stuck, try Mitch Miller — at least you can hum along — or maybe "Music Man." Seems to me we sang a lot together in the good old days. And not just the bouncing ball at the movies. And lip sync! The best in the world was Donna Hastie. Pacific Grove High ... and then that pure silver voice of Barbara Williams from the balcony at Christmas (Going through an old Sea Urchin to jog memory and check spelling—where have they all gone?)

Back to songs. An informal poll suggested the Beatles shouting "I want to hold your hand" might have referred to more than just holding hands. How about "The Nearness of You?" Or humming along as Ella Fitzgerald sings "Dream When You're Feeling

Blue"? I write this not to list all the sings we knew, but to remind us of those we forgot and the guys and gals who gave them to us. Which reminds me. A friend checked into the Fairmont in San Francisco recently, opened the dresser drawer, and found Tony Bennett's heart.

The Goal: Mongolia

By Terrell Moss '50

The night of my 89th birthday, in 2020, my wife Joann and I were recounting how lucky we've been concerning travel and health. We've been to almost 80 countries, including 10 new countries, since we turned 80. Healthwise, I can't remember my wife ever having a cold. A minor stroke in 2019 has been my other major health setback, and it won't keep me from trekking.

Then it happened. That very night of our celebration, Joann had a severe stroke that paralyzed her left side. She is confined to a wheelchair and lives in a 24-hour care facility. She'll never travel again. Our travels may be over, but we can always relive our experiences from the past. A country I have not yet reported on in *The Knockout II*, and a favorite of ours, is Mongolia.

When I was in first grade, I saw illustrations in a *National Geographic* of dinosaurs laying their eggs in what is now the Gobi Desert. Later, I learned some of Mongolia's unique history and was sold on the idea of a future trip.

In the 12th century, Genghis Khan united the country and developed a superior that exhibited unique tactics. They welcomed those who joined them in their conquests and annihilated those who opposed them. From the 12th through 15th centuries, Genghis Khan and later Khans conquered China and the Middle East and moved all the way to Eastern Europe. This was the greatest military feat the world has ever seen, all accomplished with a small population and a lack of technology. The Mongols were eventually dominated by the Manchus from China. In 1921, Mongolia was influenced by the Soviet Union, and they, too, embraced communism. The Buddhist religion was eliminated by the new regime, and their priests became a special target.

¹³ When the Soviet Union unraveled in 1990, Mongolia

Mongolia, cont.

became a democracy and Buddhism returned. When I travelled there in 2000, they were also starting to attract tourists.

Mongolia is located between China and Siberia and is the size of Alaska. It has a small population of 3 million people. Their literacy rate is high (98%) and the Mongols appear to have adapted to democracy very well.

I was fortunate to have my tour partner, Denny, who had been a fellow teacher and coach. Our first objective was to attend the Naadam Festival, held in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar, on July 11 and 12.



The festivities were introduced by a parade into the stadium of Buddhist monks, athletes, and the president of Mongolia—very exciting! The first day, we witnessed wrestling, left, and archery. We learned that Mongol wrestlers perform extremely well in the Olympic games and have won many

medals. The following day we viewed horse racing outside the city. Because the races were 15 and 30 miles long, we saw only the start and the end. It was interesting that all three of these events go back 2000 years and are related to warfare. We enjoyed the food and camaraderie. I found that the kids liked having their pictures taken with us, right.

After the festival, we traveled to the Gobi Desert, which is not the wasteland of uninhabited sand dunes that many imagine. The Gobi is fairly bleak but



enormously diverse, with a sprinkling of ice-filled canyons, rock formations, and even patches of green grass. . We encountered our first sighting of a two-humped camel, at right (most camels in the world have only one). Two humps result in a perfect saddle for the riders.



Traveling the Gobi was no cake-walk, as there were no paved roads. Our Jeep driver was a nice guy but a bad driver and made us slightly carsick. This was one of the few negatives of our tour. The motels where we stayed overnight were unusual but adequate. The *bers* (Russian), or *yurts* (Mongol) are portable, circular felt tents, below. They are easy for nomadic herdsmen to transport when they need to



move their herds. The very first night I spent in a *yurt* I had an interesting morning when I awoke to hundreds of black beetles covering my bed. Fortunately, they didn't bite, and it didn't occur again.

Our next stop was to inspect a mini-glacier, which was barely surviving the upcoming summer heat. Glaciers are created in winter in the Gobi, generally between rock crevasses.

The Flaming Cliffs, at the top of the next page, were also on our schedule. We found them to be special. It was here that American scientist Roy Andrews first discovered petrified dinosaur eggs in

Mongolia, cont.



the late 1920s. This inspired other scientists to follow up on his discoveries, and a number of fine, full dinosaur skeletons are on display in the natural history museum in Ulaanbaatar, including a *Tyrannosaurus Rex*.

Another day overland, and we came upon a man and his wife milking their horses, below (yes, you



can milk horses!). We intermingled and they let us do some milking, which was a unique experience. We later got to try fermented mare's milk, right. It was tangy but good.

On our last stop in the Gobi Desert, we watched an exciting demonstration of expert birdsmen training their eagles to hunt prey



using time-honored techniques similar to the way we train our hunting dogs. The teamwork between man and bird was unbelievable.

As we were approaching Ulaanbaatar to end our tour, a paved road appeared and our driver began maneuvering normally. My tour partner and I celebrated the end of a unique and satisfying adventure by visiting a Mongolian version of an Irish pub, below. We had to try a beer or two. After one swig, I was back in Germany, where I'd spent



time in the Army, and where I'd met my wife coaching and teaching "Army Brats." The beer had a touch of sweetness and tasted like German beer, which is the best in the world.

In evaluating our swing through Mongolia, Denny and I gave their citizens an A+. Democracy appears to be working, our female guide was wonderful, the food proved healthy, and we didn't get sick. Although it lacked some of the experience of an African safari with its tribes and animals, it did provide unique and amazing experiences. (Below, one last photo: sheepherders in the Gobi Desert.)



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The Knockout II: The PGHSAA Newsletter

Who Is It?

Nobody hazarded a guess about last issue's "Who Is It?" That was your editor, Beth Penney, and Velma Peña Cummins, both '73, on graduation day at Pacific Grove Middle School in 1969. At right was Velma's little brother Jamie, who attended Robert Louis Stevenson School.

At right is a rare sunny day at P.G. High School; who are these smiling young people? See how many of them you recognize. 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!

