

THE KNOCKOUT II

The Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter

"It's the ➡glue↩ that keeps us together"

Fall/Winter 2025-2026 ♡ Page One

President's Message



It's fall again, and that means reunion photos in this issue. We had a successful **2025 reunion at First Awakenings** on the border between Pacific Grove and Monterey. The jury is still out on whether we will return there in 2026; we have both that venue and the Elks Club reserved and will let you know when a decision is made. Thanks to **Events**

Committee Chairs Katie Samora Henden '68 and Victoria Samora Phillips Griffin '64 for all of their planning and hard work to make this dinner a success.

Thanks also to our **outgoing recording secretary, Patty Fifer Kieffer '60**. Patty has done this job faithfully and accurately for many years and deserves the thanks not only of the board, but of the membership in general for her hard work. At our Annual General Meeting in September, **Cate Goblirsch Lee '94** was elected to step in as recording secretary and is working with Patty to make the transition smooth. We are happy that Patty will remain on the Board.

In other PGHSAA governing board news, we recently **awarded \$2,000** to media teacher Katie Kelley Selfridge '92 to allow several P.G.H.S. seniors to attend the Journalism Education Association/National Scholastic Press Association's national convention November 13-16 in Nashville, TN. This award was made from the **Senior Support Fund**, to which many of you have donated. The fund helps seniors to take part in many school-related activities that they might otherwise not be able to afford. Thank you!

Fall also means that membership renewals will be coming due soon. As your membership chair, I have now had a full year of managing the database behind

me, and *in January, we will send renewal notices only to those who are NOT already paid for 2026*. A number of you *are* already paid for 2026, and others are paid several years ahead, so those people will not receive a renewal notice.

If you are a print subscriber and wonder how far ahead you are paid, ***look at the year beside your name on the back of this newsletter. If it says 2025, you will receive a renewal letter in January.*** If it says 2026 or later, you will *not* receive a renewal letter.

Checking due dates for members who receive the newsletter via e-mail is trickier. We're trying to find a way to include the membership expiration date with the e-mailed issues, but so far the only solutions have been prohibitively time-consuming, as our mailing list is not connected to our membership list. Luckily, most of our members who receive the newsletter via e-mail are online members, so they can log in to their account at www.pghsaa.org to see when their membership expires. ***If you have questions, e-mail membership@pghsaa.org, and we can tell you when your membership expires.***

Two notes along these lines: We have several people who are online members but who also send us a check every year; one member is paid until 2036! Check your records to be sure this is what you mean to do. Also, remember that we now publish a membership form in every newsletter. You can use that form to pay early or extend your membership, but it's ***not*** a request for payment. It's there so that our members can easily recruit classmates and relatives. (Hint, hint!)

And my final request to you in this letter: ***We want your high school memories, and photos.*** This is your newsletter, and while I am happy to continue to fill it with reunion photos and current local news, I miss the anecdotes that people used to share. Send submissions to president@pghsaa.org. Thanks in advance!

Beth Penney '73



Obituaries	4
Class of '70 55th reunion	11
PGHSAA reunion photos	12
Class of '73 annual reunion	14
From the PGHSAA files	15
Our Active Alumni	16
Seen Around Town	18
Who Is It?	20

The Knockout II Staff

Editor: Beth Penney '73, president@pghsaa.org

Proofreader: Annette Estes '73

The Knockout II, the Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association Newsletter, is published three times a year, Spring, Summer, and Fall/Winter.

This is Volume 41, Fall/Winter issue.

Submission deadlines are March 15 for the Spring issue, July 15 for the Summer issue, and November 5 for the Fall/Winter issue, but **send us your info as soon as you have it to ensure that there's room**. E-mail submissions to Beth at president@pghsaa.org.

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 93950-6930

E-mail: info@pghsaa.org; Website: www.pghsaa.org

Membership dues \$25/year single or couple. Pay online to activate automatic renewal! For digital delivery (.pdf file via e-mail), e-mail president@pghsaa.org.

PGHSAA Officers

Beth Penney '73, President

Pete Gaudoin '71, Vice-President

Cate Goblirsch Lee '94, Recording Secretary

Donna Murphy '79, Corresponding Secretary

Teri Kier '74, Treasurer

PGHSAA Board of Directors

Serving through December 2026

Lillian Griffiths '70

Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

Erin Langton Field '71

Patty Fifer Kieffer '60

Serving through December 2027

Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Malcolm Colvin '67

Les Field '72

Annette Estes '73

Stacey Souders Golding '68

John Griffin '67

Betsy Urnes Rosenthal '68

Serving through December 2028

Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Marabee Rush Boone '60

Katie Samora Henden '68

Victoria Samora Phillips Griffin '64

Joanie Hyler '68

PGHSAA Committee Chairs

Auditor: Rob Lee '94

Bylaws: Dolores Soares Silveira '59

Disbursements: Donna Murphy '79

Events: Katie Samora Henden '68,

Victoria Samora Phillips Griffin '64

Knockout II Editor: Beth Penney '73

Membership: Beth Penney '73

Nominations: Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Parliamentarian: Faith Van Woerkom Beety '73

Publicity: Alex Hulanicki '71

Scholarships: Lillian Griffiths '70

Senior Class Liaisons: Katie Samora Henden '68,

Cate Goblirsch Lee '94

Sunshine: Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

Website: Beth Penney '73

2026 Board Meetings: Jan. 8, 6:00 p.m.; Mar. 5, 6:00 p.m.; Apr. 2, 6:00 p.m.; May 7, 6:00 p.m.; June 4, 6:00 p.m.; Sept. 12, noon; Oct. 8, 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at 514 Park Street in P.G. Info: president@pghsaa.org.

A Big ~~to~~ THANK YOU to All of Our Donors!

Class of 1960 Scholarship Fund

Barry Baskin '60, Walnut Creek

Class of 1968 Scholarship Fund

Stacey Souders Golding '68, Carmel

Class of 1970 Scholarship Fund

Collected donations from the Class of '70

Kaiija Clark '70, San Francisco

Debbie Nair Williams '70, Seaside

Class of 1971 Scholarship Fund

Jocelyne Lamarque Birren '71, Oakland

Linda Creecy '71, Carmel

Class of 1973 Scholarship Fund

Doug Snider '73, Pacific Grove

Collected donations from the 52nd reunion

IMO Donations

Mary Gaudoin Grove '75, Monterey

IMO Mark Gaudoin '75

IMO Michael Gaudoin '62

IMO Deborah Hawkins '75

IMO Gerald Barber '75

Julie Hingten Campbell '69, Seaside

IMO Gone but not forgotten from Class of '69

Toni Quinones Fletcher '72, Sacramento

IMO Karen Samora Mahaney Low '71

IMO Christopher Henden '93

IMO Donations in the name of Tom Hoy '55

Jim and Beth Bollinger, Turlock

Jacolene Pippet Burns '54, Pacific Grove

Greg and Susan Dudley, Turlock

Kathleen Huff, Pleasanton

Ruth Vacarro, Beaverton, OR

Stan and Martha Van Winkle, Turlock

(music and athletics)

Robert E. and Alicia Wickman, Houston, TX

Letters

Dear Members,

Thank you for the 2025 PGHSAA Class of 1960 Scholarship. I am extremely grateful for this honor. I plan to major in biological sciences at UC Davis, with the goal of pursuing a career in scientific research/teaching. I also plan to be involved in organizations like the school's women's water polo team. Overall, my college experience will be integral to my future, and you are part of the reason I am here. Once again, thank you for the scholarship.

Isabella Jones '25

Dear PGHSAA,

I am writing to formally accept and claim the PGHSAA scholarship award. I am truly honored to be chosen as a recipient and deeply appreciate your support in helping me further my education. As requested, I have included documentation verifying my full-time enrollment at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for the fall, 2025, semester. Thank you once again for this generous award. Your contribution will greatly assist me in pursuing my degree in aerospace engineering, and I am committed to making the most of this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Vedant Patel '25

Hi Beth,

I think I am probably the only person who can identify all six people in the summer mystery photo, including the two who are not from P.G.H.S. The four from P.G., from upper left to right, and then down a level, are junior Jerry McClay '74 (whom I met in first grade at St. Angela's), who lives in Hawaii; senior Richard Barraza '73, a good friend and great runner whom we lost in early 2018 in a car accident on 101 near Aromas; senior David Fitzpatrick '73, who lives in Lincoln, CA; and Freshman Tom Light '76, whom I believe still lives in P.G. All four were great runners at P.G.H.S., and that's why they are in the picture. Next guy down is junior Wes White, Palma High School '74, who was tragically shot and killed in a store in Truckee, where he lived, back in late 2005 (I ran hurdles against Wes and he was a fast sprinter, so he finished well ahead of me), and below Wes is sophomore Brent Barsotti, Palma '75 (I also ran hurdles against



Letters, cont.

Brent, and yes, he was also faster than me, but at least it was close with him--close in the high hurdles, but not close in the lows), whom I believe lives up in Idaho. Since these guys are on an awards stand, I would safely say this picture is from the MTAL track league championship meet which was held on our P.G.H.S. track in May, 1973, and which P.G. won that day, for the first time ever. This picture is the last track event of the day, the mile relay, which I am sure P.G. won, as their position at the top of the stand suggests. That was a big day for a talented team of guys who all seemed to get along very well and who respected and liked each other very much. Everyone on that team was lucky to have the track experience that Coach Richard Chamberlin worked so hard each year to provide for its student athlete members.

Tom Shymanski '74
San Francisco

Editor's note: Bob Crispin '63 also sent us an e-mail to say, "Hello. I have the track boys' names via the alumni track site," and attached the following screenshot, with a reply from David Fitzpatrick '73.



Last issue's photo was not from a yearbook; it was from a Knockout issue, which mentioned the track meet itself, but did not name the people. Thanks to Tom and Bob! See this issue's "Who Is It?" on p. 20.

Obituaries

2024

Mar. 10 Leonard Sellers '62, Tiburon

2025

Jun. 4 Terrell Moss '50, Roseville

Jun. 12 Walt Pattison '50, Turner, OR

Jun. 22 Betty *Bushell* Graham '70, Warrenton, VA

Jun. 28 Michael Anthony Riso '75, Salinas

Jul. 7 Barbara Jean *Tibbetts* Rust '54, Monterey

Jul. 7 Winnie *Eggers* Stith '53, Springdale, AR

Jul. 19 Gene Green '57, Monterey

Aug. 2 Erin *Miller* Cox '78 Lewiston, ID

Aug. 8 Michael Selbicky '73, Pacific Grove

Aug. 11 Tom Hoy '55, Pacific Grove

Oct. 2 Jim Fisher '57, Lafayette

Oct. 8 Gunnar Sande '66, Sebastopol

Oct. 7 Gerald Kenneth Morgan '41, Fair Oaks

Oct. 26 Richard Stillwell '50, Pacific Grove

Non-alumni obit

May 16 Elaine McDermed, Pacific Grove



Leonard Sellers, a San Francisco State University professor who pioneered journalism-school curriculum by offering one of the earliest multimedia-journalism classes in the U.S., passed away in Tiburon on March 10, 2024. Sellers, a classmate of the P.G.H.S. Class of 1962, taught a multimedia-laboratory

class in the 1990s that produced NewsPort, one of the earliest websites to integrate video, audio, photos, and graphics with text to deliver storytelling to a nascent World Wide Web. He was born Sept. 4, 1944, in New Orleans to author and Korean War veteran Connie "Con" Sellers and Mari Raineri-Sellers. He had one younger brother, Shannon. Sellers was raised in a military family that moved frequently and lived on the Monterey Peninsula while his father worked at the DLI. After finishing high school in Oregon, he earned a BA in journalism from S.F. State and then received masters and doctoral degrees in communications from Stanford. He returned to S.F. State in 1975 as a faculty member in the journalism department.

Obituaries, cont.



Terrell Moss of the P.G.H.S. Class of 1950 passed away on June 4, 2025, in Roseville, CA, June 12, 2025, at the age of 93. Terry was born May 14, 1932, in San Francisco, and he found passion in sports as an athlete at P.G.H.S. and the University of San Francisco. He then worked as a coach in Würzburg, Germany; at

Terranova High School in Pacifica; and lastly as the track and field coach at Placer High School in Auburn, where he was recently named to the school's Hall of Fame. An avid traveler, Terry visited 78 countries and enjoyed writing travel stories for the Knockout II, including the story of a fascinating vacation with his friend Denny to the land of Mongolia. Art, fishing, and photography were Terry's lifelong hobbies. He was predeceased by his brother Michael '55 and his sister Carol '64. He will be missed.



Walter Pattison of the Class of 1950 passed away on June 12, 2025, in Turner, OR. He was born in San Jose, the son of John W. Pattison and Ada R. Pattison and the youngest of nine siblings, two of whom, his sisters Louise *Pattison* Kirkish '42 and twin Wilma *Pattison* Knowles '50,

also graduated from P.G.H.S. After moving to Port Orford, OR, when he was an infant, his family settled in P.G., where he graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1950. He was an accomplished student, sports enthusiast and trombone musician. He then received his MA in music from San Jose State, playing with the college symphonic band, local symphony orchestras, and wind ensembles. He toured with the Royal Bards of San Jose as a trombone soloist and played with the Salem Concert Band. He was also active in his church and led music programs there. He married his wife Kay in 1952 and taught music in California before moving to Sixes, OR, in 1970 to be a dairy farmer and continue to teach school. In 1975, Walt and Kay served as mis-

sionaries to Zambia and Kenya, living in Africa for 12 years. Walt then pastored small churches in Waldport, OR, and Wallins Creek, KY, and was a chaplain with the Marion County Fire District and Nursing Home Ministries. He had begun to lose his sight, but he continued to play his horn from memory at First Church of the Nazarene in Salem. Kay passed away in 2013, and Walt married Gerda Schifferer in 2017. In addition to Gerda, Walt is survived by his children Mike, Deborah, Stephen, John, James, Lynn and Bunny; stepchildren Mary, Doris, and James; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His older sister Louise passed away in 2017 and his twin sister Wilma passed away in 2023.



Betty Jean Bushell Graham passed away on June 22, 2025, after a long stay in the Fauquier Hospital Intensive Care Unit in Warrenton, VA, being treated for multiple complications of severe viral pneumonia. She was born in Salinas April 15, 1951, and graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1970. She married Kenneth Graham in

1971. Per her wishes, she is to be cremated, and her ashes ultimately returned to California to be interred near her mother and father.



Michael Anthony Riso, a devoted husband, loving father, and cherished son, passed away peacefully in Salinas on June 28, 2025, at the age of 68. Born on June 14, 1957, at Fort Ord, Michael spent his life surrounded by family, friends, and the Monterey Bay Area community he loved.

He graduated from P.G.H.S in 1975. A longtime resident of Corral de Tierra, he enjoyed the peace and beauty of the area he called home. With a career in car sales that spanned over 40 years, including many dedicated years at The Val Strough Cypress Coast Automotive Group, he built not only a professional legacy but also lasting relationships based

Obituaries, cont.

on trust, humor, and kindness. He had a deep passion for cooking and was always happiest in the kitchen surrounded by loved ones. A true car enthusiast and loyal fan of Bay Area sports, he never missed a chance to cheer on the San Francisco Giants, 49ers, and Golden State Warriors. He is survived by his beloved wife of 30 years Marie; his children Jonathon, Christopher, and Michaela; his parents Genaro and JoAnn; and his sisters Jenny '78 and Paula '81.



Barbara Jean Tibbetts Rust, 88, departed this life peacefully on July 7, 2025, after a short battle with kidney disease. Born in Monterey on Feb. 6, 1937, to Mark and Alma Tibbetts, Barbara was a lifelong resident of the Monterey Peninsula. She attended primary school at Bay School and graduated from P.G.H.S.

in 1954. She moved to Carmel with her first husband Dennis, where she raised two daughters and volunteered for many years at Carmel River School, where she was honored as Volunteer of the Year in 1982. She worked for local State Farm agent Barney Belleci for more than 40 years. She remained in Carmel alongside her second husband, Roger, until his passing in 2013. Barbara and Roger had a great sense of humor, often orchestrating playful pranks on friends and family. They also hosted game nights at their home. Yahtzee, Uno, and poker were regular features at holiday and family gatherings. Barbara will be forever remembered for her cheerful spirit, fun attitude, and bright smile. She is survived by her two daughters, Deborah and Brenda; her stepdaughter Debbie; sister Jacqueline *Tibbetts* Torres '55; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Roger.

Winnie Eggers Stith, 90, passed away July 7, 2025 in Springdale, AR. Winnie was born on June 4, 1935, in Two Rivers, WI, to Frederick and Molly Cobb Eggers. She lived all over the world in her youth, including Trieste, Italy; and Shanghai, China. She graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1953. She then earned



an associate's degree from Stephens College in 1955 and worked as a stewardess for TWA in the 1950s. After 20-plus years of raising her children, volunteering with the Red Cross, and working tirelessly with the Marine Corps League at various bases across the United States, Winnie was

chosen as the National Marine Corps Wife of the Year in 1974. Later, she worked at Springdale Memorial Hospital and Physicians Specialty Hospital. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Springdale for 49 years, where she sang in the choir and worked behind the scenes doing everything from polishing brass to cleaning and ironing robes. In 1956, Winnie married Edward E. Stith, USMC, and had five children who survive her: Ed, Bette, Terri, Pattie, and Jean. She is also survived by eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Winnie is also survived by one sister, Rhea Bohannon, and one brother, Fritz Eggers '54.



Gene Green passed away in Monterey on July 19, 2025, at the age of 86. He was born in Great Falls, MT, on December 18, 1938. Gene moved to P.G. with his mother and sister Lana *Green* Schneider '59 in 1950. He graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1957 and was a lifelong resident of the Monterey Peninsula.

Gene served in the Army from 1956 to 1964. He always worked hard, starting by bagging groceries at the Ft. Ord commissary, then working at the Grove Theater as a young teenager. In later years he managed a gas station, then he was the manager of the Monterey Sports Shop. In 1990, he was hired as the weighmaster at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District. He worked there until his retirement in 2021. He always arrived with a smile on his face, a joke, and a pat on the back for others. He never knew a stranger, and he was well known around the Peninsula. Gene's first marriage ended in divorce. He had four children:

Obituaries, cont.

Kathleen, Kenneth, Kerry, and Kimberly. He married Patricia Moody in 1973, and they eventually moved to Marina. Patti died in 2021. Gene had a passion for Montana history and his own family history. He also collected badges and police memorabilia. His huge collections were meticulously catalogued and displayed. Lana writes, "The statements I keep hearing about my brother include, 'He was a GOOD man, he was a dedicated role model, he was a kind and thoughtful person, and he loved people.' I want to add he was also the best brother."



Erin Adele Miller Cox passed away Saturday, Aug. 2, 2025, in Lewiston, ID. Erin was born in Carmel on Oct. 13, 1960, to Richard "Dick" Rene Miller Sr. and Mildred "Mickey" Rae Jones Miller '47. She grew up on the Monterey Peninsula with her three older brothers Rick '69, Scott '71 and Dan '73.

Graduating from P.G.H.S. in 1978, she enrolled at MPC while working at various civic offices, including P.G.U.S.D. (with her mother), the City of Monterey, and Cal-Am. She met a wonderful soldier taking Russian classes at the DLI with whom she kept up a long-distance correspondence for several years while he was deployed in Europe. After his service concluded in 1987, she married Rusty Cox and started married life in her late grandmother's home in P.G. After a while, Rusty's work took them from P.G. to Moscow, ID. There they raised two sons, Ethan and Garrett. Erin started her own child care service out of their home and was a second mother to numerous children while their parents worked. She later worked for the Edward R. Murrow College of Communications at Washington State University. While there, she completed her associates degree in business administration through the Brigham Young University Pathway.

Michael John Selbicky passed away at CHOMP on August 8, 2025, after a brave battle with cancer. He was born to Vince and Frances Selbicky in Monterey on July 19, 1955, joining older siblings Vince,



Neil, Margaret, and Sandy. A younger brother, Jon, soon joined the family. Mike graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1973, playing football and participating in track and field. To this day, he still holds the record for the longest throw in the 12-lb. shotput, a record that had stood for 20 years until Mike broke it. Mike's record is now 52 years old. On the MPC Track and Field team, he won the Coast Conference Championship in the shotput event. Also at MPC, he met his wife Patricia on the track team; they were married in 1979. Mike worked at Hayward Lumber and Patty was a registered nurse at CHOMP. Mike made sure that his children received an upbringing similar to his in Pacific Grove, introducing them to the myriad activities provided by the ocean and by participation in sports. Later in their marriage, Mike and Patty traveled to France and Israel. They were also devout church-goers, attending Calvary Chapel in Monterey. Mike is survived by his wife of 46 years, Patricia, and their three children; Jess Michael Selbicky '98, Julie Anne (Dan) Mendes, and Michael Vincent Selbicky. He also leaves behind four grandchildren, Zoie, Mollie, Annaleigh, and Daniel; and four siblings: Neil '52 (Joan Bommarito '52) Selbicky, Margaret Selbicky Stewart '54, Sandy Selbicky '55, and Jon (Dawn) Selbicky '76; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, classmates, and friends. Mike was preceded in death by his parents Vincent and Frances; his infant son Matthew James Selbicky; and his brother Vincent Selbicky '50.



Hugh "Tom" Thomas Hoy passed away peacefully in P.G. on August 11, 2025, at the age of 87. Tom was born on August 30, 1937, in Carmel to Boyd Wallace Hoy and Anne Margaret Hitchcock. He grew up on 13th Street in P.G. and attended Robert Down from 1942 to 1952, graduating from P.G.H.S. in 1955. He excelled in athletics, earning letters in football, bas-

Obituaries, cont.

ketball, and baseball, was named All-Central Coast in football in 1954, and All-Conference 2 in baseball in 1954–1955. He also worked as a lifeguard and wrote sports articles for the *Monterey Herald*. At MPC, he was Athlete of the Year in 1956. He then played football and baseball at the University of Redlands, earning a B.A. in Social Studies with a minor in Kinesiology. He then earned his High School Special Education Certificate at UC Riverside and an M.A. in P.E. from San Jose State. He pursued additional graduate studies at Point Loma and Pepperdine. Tom served in the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1954 to 1963 and taught and served as a teacher and an administrator in both California public schools and the CSU system for 56 years. When he returned to P.G. in 2018, he supported the reading and mentoring programs at Robert Down and Forest Grove and volunteered as an Assistant JV Baseball Coach at P.G.H.S., and at MPC as a line coach and with the Study Hall Program. He is survived by his wife, Nancy *Williams* Burton Hoy '55. Tom and Nancy met in the first grade, were high school sweethearts, and were reunited later in life, marrying in 2016. He is also survived by his children Thomas and Peggy; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his brother-in-law David and niece Julia; Nancy's children John, Jeff, Jim, and Ruth; ten grandchildren; and twenty-three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by the mother of his children, Anna Melvin; his son David; his third wife of 38 years Virginia; and his brother, John (Jack) Melvin Hoy '61.



James (Jim) Fisher

passed away peacefully on October 2, 2025. He was born on April 5, 1939, in Modesto to Paul and Louise Fisher. Jim spent his childhood in Escalon before moving to P.G. at the start of his junior year of high school. He graduated from

P.G.H.S. in 1957, where he was a standout three-sport athlete in football, basketball, and baseball. In 1957, he enlisted in the Army, serving six months of active duty and eight years in the Army Reserve, including

many summers at Hunter Liggett. He was honorably discharged in 1965. During these years, Jim attended Sacramento State and San Francisco State, earning his degree in 1965. He went on to own and operate Pleasant Hill News Service, a distribution partner of the San Francisco Chronicle throughout Contra Costa County, which he managed until his retirement in 2004. He was active in the independent newspaper dealers association, serving both in state and national leadership positions. In 1965, Jim married Nora Rodriguez in Monterey and they moved to Lafayette, where they built a home and a life together for the next 60 years. Their son, Michael Peter, was born in 1970. Jim was a founding member of the Lafayette Community Center Foundation, served as President of Lafayette Little League for two years, and later became the first man elected President of the Campolindo Parents Club, where he helped establish the now long-standing Grad Night tradition. He also chaired multiple local election campaigns. Jim had many passions throughout his life, including photography, racquetball, traveling the world, and lively conversation. His photographs, which reflected his keen eye and creative spirit, grace many homes and offices to this day. Jim was preceded in death by his brother Peter '50. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Nora; his son Michael; his four adored grandchildren; his sister-in-law Linda, brother-in-law Gary, and nephew Louis.



Gunnar Roy Sande, Jr.,

a devoted husband, father, grandfather, educator, and union leader whose life was defined by service to others, passed away on October 8, 2025. Born in Santa Cruz on January 12, 1948, he moved at a young age to P.G., where he attended elementary and high school, graduating from

P.G.H.S. in 1966, and later put down deep roots in Sonoma County, where he spent his adult life. Gunnar earned his bachelor's degree from Sonoma State and went on to teach for 36 years at Laguna High School in Sebastopol. His lessons and his character live on in the accomplishments of his former students. In addition to his influence in the classroom, Gunnar was a

Obituaries, cont.

longtime advocate for educators across West Sonoma County. Over several decades he served as a union negotiator, chief negotiator, and ultimately union president, working tirelessly to improve conditions for teachers and staff with fairness and a deep sense of responsibility. Gunnar embraced life fully. He enjoyed gardening, traveling, photography, fine wine and good conversation. Nothing meant more to him than time with his family. He especially cherished attending his grandchildren's concerts and school events. He is survived by his wife Susan; daughter Morgan; son and daughter-in-law Blair and Marybeth; and grandchildren Taylor and Dillon.



Richard Thomas Stillwell passed away October 26, 2025, at Community Hospital. Born March 17, 1930 in Modesto to Esther Elizabeth Nickerson and Frank Stillwell, he moved with his family to P.G. as a teenager and graduated from P.G.H.S. in 1950. He married his high school

sweetheart Beverly *Wilson* '49 in 1951, and they had three children. Richard spent his life in P.G. supporting the community, its schools, and its fire department. In 1961, he opened M&S (McCann & Stillwell) Building Supply on Del Monte Avenue in Monterey and switched from full-time to volunteer status at the P.G.F.D., eventually being appointed Chief Volunteer Firefighter. He then earned his general contractor's license and built and remodeled homes, opening P.G. Hardware in 1978. He built the Tommy Stillwell Basketball Court in Caledonia Park and spearheaded the building of the Stillwell Children's Pool at Lovers Point. Richard also created and funded P.G.'s Stillwell's Snow in the Park event and volunteered for many Chamber of Commerce and other events. His work for P.G. schools included many years of service on the PGHSAA Board of Directors; he also co-founded PG PRIDE (Public Response in Dollars for Education). In 1995, Richard was awarded the James R. Hughes Citizen of the Year Award by the

P.G. Chamber (see p. 10). He was also a traveler and enjoyed cruises to Alaska and family trips to Bass Lake. Richard is survived by his daughter Suzy *Stillwell* Derowski '70 and her husband Bill Derowski '75; his daughter Sheri *Stillwell* Hauswirth '71 and her husband Bob Hauswirth '69; his second wife Sue; four grandchildren, Lauren, Chris, Aaron, and Willie; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife Beverly and their son Tommy Stillwell '74. Donations can be made to the PGHSAA, PG PRIDE, Box 419 in P.G., or to the P.G. Chamber of Commerce, designated for Stillwell's Fun in the Park, Box 167 in P.G.



Elaine McDermed passed away on May 16, 2025. Born in 1930 and raised on a farm in Kalispell, MT, she attended the U of M in Missoula, earning a BPharm degree. On that journey, she met and married her adoring husband, Don McDermed '42. After marrying in Montana in 1953, he brought her back to his hometown, P.G.

Elaine was a talented, hard-working, proper lady, who kindly offered a smile to everyone. She and Don worked side by side as pharmacists for more than 30 years, managing and running McDermed Pharmacy. They settled in Carmel after selling their business in 1983 and continued as relief pharmacists throughout the peninsula. Elaine filled her last prescription, 60 years in, at the age of 83. As an avid and accomplished golfer, she enjoyed playing in the local salt air at MPCC and around the globe from 1961 to 2021. Elaine is survived by her daughter Linda *McDermed* Forsythe '80 and five grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Don McDermed '42; their daughter Diana *McDermed* Kissinger '75; and their son Mike McDermed '77.

IMO (In Memory Of) donations are a wonderful way to remember classmates and friends. Donate online at www.pghsaa.org using your credit card, or send a check made payable to PGHSAA to the address on p. 2, indicating who your IMO donation honors. Donations are tax-deductible.

A Tribute to My Father

by Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71

This was a speech I gave 30 years ago, on June 3, 1995, when the P.G. Chamber of Commerce presented Dad with the James R. Hughes Community Service Award at Forest Hill Manor. I framed the dinner program and my speech and gave it to him on Father's Day a few weeks later.

This is who our Dad has always been, and my sister Suzy and I are heartbroken. Our entire family was proud to have graduated from P.G.H.S.: Richard '50, Beverly '49, Suzy '70, Sheri '71, Tommy '74, and Bobby '69 and Bill '75. My siblings and I are grateful to have grown up here. From left in photo: Bob Hauswirth, Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth, Richard Stillwell, Beverly Wilson Stillwell, Suzy Stillwell Derowski, and Bill Derowski.



Installation Dinner & James R. Hughes Award Forest Hill Manor June 3, 1995, 6:00-9:00 PM

Introductions

Michael Huse Master of Ceremony

Award Presentations

Outgoing Board Officers, Committee Chairs, Volunteers

Certificate of Recognition

Outgoing Board Directors & Ambassador of the Year

Introduction & Installation

Board Directors & Board Officers

Passing the Gavel

Outgoing President & Incoming President

Award Presentation

Richard Stillwell

James R. Hughes Community Service Award



My Dad...

My Dad likes to talk alot; he's very opinionated; he hates to wear ties; he loves crunchy homemade cookies and he likes to help people. It's as simple as that!

My Dad has lived in Pacific Grove for almost 50 years. The City, the people, the Fire Department and the schools are very important to him.

My sister, my brother and I were born on the Monterey Peninsula and raised in Pacific Grove. My Dad taught us to respect the community, work hard and help others.

We are all very proud of him and we love him very much!

Happy Father's Day
Daddy!
June 18, 1995
↪

Thank You

Thanks to those alumni who have reviewed their obituary lists at www.pghsaa.org (click on "About Us" at the top and then on "Deceased Alumni" and find your year) and have called the following recent deaths to our attention. Unfortunately, we do not yet have enough information to run an obituary; can you help?

Jim Ijams '62 Fallon, NV, March 14, 2024

Dan Gerganoff '62, P.G., Jan.-Mar. 2025

Akos St. Clair '60, Florence, OR

David Johansen '71, South Lake Tahoe

Dan Johnson '63, Oct.-Nov. 2025

Class of 1970 55th Reunion



The Class of 1970 celebrated its 55th reunion at this year's alumni dinner. The weekend started off with a get-together Friday night at Sly McFly's on Cannery Row and then continued at Saturday's Butterfly Parade. Saturday evening, we had a great time at First Awakenings, and then ended our celebration with a picnic at Lovers Point on Saturday. It was a great weekend, and everyone had fun catching up on our lives and sharing past memories.

--Lillian Griffiths '70



Clockwise from top left: Cathy Estrella, Lillian Griffiths, Shirley Takasaki Jensen, Cathy Lee and Lillian. Susan McKinney, Brian Woodward, Denise Lynn Granberg. Group Shot at Lovers Point; Group Shot at First Awakenings; Group Shot at Lovers Point. Photos by Lillian Griffiths and Shirley Takasaki Jensen, who is kneeling before the banner above.

PGHSAA 62nd Reunion



Several classes marched in the Butterfly Parade on Saturday morning, Oct. 4. Nancy *Williams* Burton Hoy '55 was our PGHSAA banner carrier, along with Jonas Jackson '70. Here, she poses with a Breaker Band member.



The 62nd annual PGHSAA reunion was held Saturday, October 4, at First Awakenings on the border between Pacific Grove and Monterey. Clockwise from top right: Katie Samora Henden '68 and Betsy Urnes Rosenthal '68 sort name tags. Cathy Estrella '70, Mikeal Culala '70, Alan Ross '70, Jennifer Kren Ross '64. Karen Rodriguez with Alex Rodriguez, Beth Penney, and Joe Favaloro, all '73. Teresa Hodson with Teri Kier, Lori McKinney Pappageorgas, Irene Takasaki Oshiro, Doree Hyland, all '74, and Sheri Stillwell Hauswirth '71. Our oldest attendee, and guest of honor, Charlie Higuera '53, Katie Taylor '78, Margaret Selbicky Stewart '54. Photos these pages by Elena Castro Walker '64 and Shirley Takasaki Jensen '70.

PGHSAA 62nd Reunion, cont.



Clockwise from top left: the "60s" group on the patio. Jane Coleman Abbate '61, Linda Castro Fernandez '61, David Nightingale '59. Janice Frerkson Perry Robinson '72, Charlynn Perry Herman '70, Patti Perry Willey, Suzanne Perry Lorente '68. Frank Grillo '73, Faith VanWoerkom Beety '73, Malcolm Beety. Jan Ruble Heacox '68, Marabee Rush Boone '60. Betsy Urnes Rosenthal '68, Pete Gaudoin '71, Stacey Nightingale '75, Susan McKinney '70, Pat Urnes Robinette '67, Lori McKinney Pappageorgas '74. Many thanks to Elena Castro Walker '64 and Shirley Takasaki Jensen '70 for taking more than 100 photos on Saturday night. We're sorry we couldn't include them all!

Class of '73 52nd Reunion

The Class of 1973 held its 52nd-year reunion Friday, October 4, at Beth's freshly painted home (Thanks, Joe!) in P.G. As always, we were happy to be joined by people from other classes. Clockwise from right: Marty Bell, Velma Peña Cummins, Joe Favaloro, Stacey Nightingale '75, John Craft, Margie Hazdovac '74, Doree Hyland '74. Frank Grillo and Stacey. Les Field '72, Erin Langton Field '71, Pete Hartstra '72, and Mark Putnam '72. Ken Hodson and Jeff Hartley. Marty, Chris Pappageorgas, Lori McKinney Pappageorgas '74, Bill Russo, Stacey. Photos by Beth Penney. We'd love to see you on Friday evening next year!

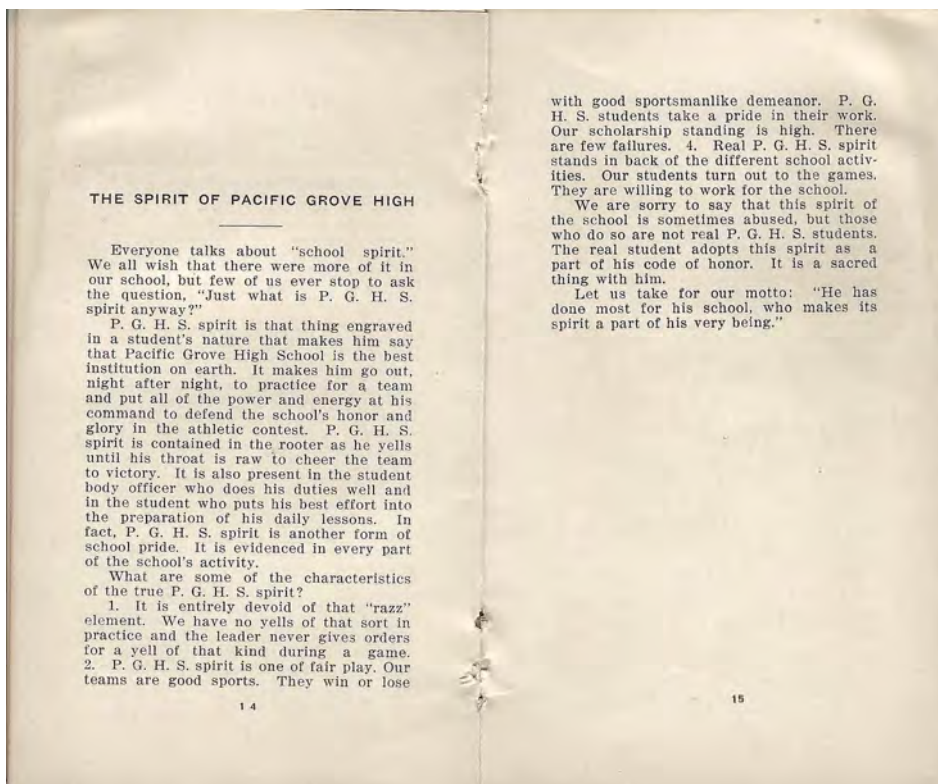


From the PGHSAA Files

One of the projects the PGHSAA Board of Directors has undertaken recently is the organization of the small storage unit we rent at P.G. Self-Storage on Sunset. Thanks to our volunteers for this project, board members Les Field '72, John Griffin '67, and Pete Gaudoin '71; and Joe Favaloro '73. Cate Goblirsch Lee '94 and Malcolm Colvin '67 are on another committee that will confirm with the State of California what records we need to keep and for how long.

Meanwhile, an initial visit to the storage unit turned up some noteworthy items. One is a 1922 student body booklet that contains a piece called "The Spirit of Pacific Grove High." It's interesting to wonder what happened for the writer to say that "This spirit of the school is sometimes abused," and to contemplate what "that 'razz' element" must have been that the P.G.H.S. spirit was "entirely devoid" of.

Also in storage: many old newspapers from the time that keeping track of publicity was all on paper. The ads (at right, from 1946) are wonderful. The sideways matchbook at bottom is from your editor's collection.




**Elbow Grease
and
Quality Materials**

We do such good car washing because our men put everything they've got into the job, and we use the finest materials to work with.

**PICK UP and DELIVERY
SERVICE**

RAY LUGO
Shell Station

Lighthouse at Fountain
Pacific Grove Phone 3293



PHONE 375-3293

**LUGO'S
SHELL SERVICE**

SHELL

Across From Post Office
687 LIGHTHOUSE AVE.
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIF.

FLORIAN COVER FOR SAFETY

Our Active Alumni

The *Monterey Herald* recently featured three P.G.H.S. students, two of whom are alumni and one of whom will graduate in 2026. We expand on those stories here.

Xiao Xiao '99 was featured in an Aug. 31 *Herald* story titled "P.G. Taught Tech Entrepreneur Well." Xiao is the co-founder and CEO of Friendly Robots, which produces industrial hands-free robotic vacuums.

Xiao's flagship product is the FRO6, otherwise known as the Friendly Frog. He says in a YouTube video filmed at the International Sanitary Supply Association conference last year that robots are "the perfect tools" for cleaning floors in the hospitality industry.



Xiao, pictured at left in a screen grab from the video, was born in China, where his parents both taught at universities. He came to the U.S. at age 10, and the family originally settled in San Francisco before relocating to Pacific Grove. He told the

Herald that he was fascinated with the ability to buy model airplane kits in the U.S.; prices in China were out of the family's reach. He credits that interest in putting things together with his development of Friendly Robots and FRO6, pictured at right in an image from the company's website.

Xiao attended U.C. Berkeley after he graduated from P.G.H.S., and he worked as an engineer at Apple before starting his company. His website, <https://www.friendlyrobotscompany.com>, says that his mission is "To leverage autonomous technology for the benefit of human health, safety, and sustainability."



Guitarist **Mike Lent** '77, pictured below in a photo from his website, still lives on the Monterey Peninsula, but he spends most of his time on the road, so in August, when he put together a group of local musicians and scheduled a show at Wave Street Studios in Monterey called "Mike Lent: On the Edge of Jazz at Wave Street," the *Herald* took note and featured him in



Beth Peerless's "Where It's At" column. Local musicians featured in the show included Dave Marotta, Mike Shannon, Gary Meek, and Ron Pedley, a keyboardist who is Lent's bandmate in Barry Manilow's band. According to the *Herald*, both were on a break from that job.

According to Lent's website, <https://mikelent.com>, he started playing guitar when he was 10 and has been working as a professional guitarist since he was a 15-year-old student at P.G.H.S., when he performed in clubs and concerts. He attended the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston, and since then has toured and recorded with musicians such as Barry Manilow, Jeffrey Osborne, James Ingram, Marie Osmond, Ricky Martin, Ronnie Laws, Patti Austin, Al Jardine, Steve Miller, Babyface, Donna Summer, David Foster, Usher, Carnie and Wendy Wilson, and Grover Washington, Jr.

Also according to his website, "As a session musician, [Lent's] credits include [TV shows] *Grace Under Fire*, *WKRP in Cincinnati*, *Ally McBeal*, and *Walker, Texas Ranger*. He has composed music for shows such as ABC's *General Hospital* and *Port Charles*, NBC's *California Dreams*, and *Sweating Bullets* for CBS. In addition, Michael has played guitar for the national tours of the Broadway shows *Mamma Mia*, *Rent*, *Aida*, *Chicago*, *42nd Street*, and *The Lion King*. Michael has been performing with Barry Manilow since 1997. He also has extensive experience as a record producer and is currently working on several projects."

Our Active Alumni (cont.)

Not an alumnus yet but in the news, **Brody Edmonds '26**, plays baseball, basketball, and football at P.G.H.S. Or he did, before he broke his right arm in July while on a summer baseball team in Arizona. He had just been accepted to Santa Clara on a baseball scholarship, according to the *Herald*, but he had to have surgery, which left him unable to participate in fall sports. Last year, according to an earlier *Herald* story, Edmonds was the first Breaker quarterback to throw for over 1,000 yards in seven years, finishing with over 1,300 yards. He threw for 13 touchdowns, with just two interceptions in 140 attempts.

This year, P.G.H.S. is 1-4-0 in its league and 4-6-0 overall. (Note: The Breakers lost The Shoe game to Carmel for the 11th year in a row on November 8. The Padres now hold a 78-year 43-33-2 record for The Shoe, with the 11th straight year of a Carmel win setting a record.)



The baseball coach at Santa Clara has been a big help to Edmonds, the *Herald* reported. The university will honor the scholarship award, and the coach contacts Edmonds at least once a week since the injury. "He just checks in to see how I'm holding up," Edmonds was quoted as saying in the August 22 *Herald*. "Having those positive vibes really makes a difference. There

were some challenging days after the surgery. It was disbelief." Edmonds, who is hoping to be able to play basketball, is pictured above in a *Herald* photo.

Pepperdine and Fullerton State were also interested in recruiting Edmonds, and UCSB had also made an offer. But, Edmonds said, he was captivated by the Santa Clara campus and committed early. He plans to major in business and sports management.

Excerpts from Monterey Herald articles used with permission. Special thanks to Herald sports editor John Devine for his dedication to covering local high school sports and athletes.

Remembering P.G.



Seen Around Town

The new Kimpton Mirador Pacific Grove hotel across Central from the P.G. Public Library is really taking shape (first picture below). Grand Avenue is on the right; Fountain on the left. The hotel is scheduled to open in February, 2026. See more at <https://www.ihg.com/kimptonhotels/hotels/us/en/pacific-grove/mrypg/hotel-detail>. Another downtown change, although not as visible, is the reopening of Lighthouse Cinemas on the corner of Grand, bottom photo below. A Seaside dentist bought it from the Enea sisters, who bought it after the COVID pandemic decimated theater attendance, but they couldn't make a go of it. Dr. Ayman Adeeb plans for it to be not only a theater, but a community gathering place, as noted on the marquee.

A group called "Pacific Grove Cares" is making an effort to landscape a number of areas in the city. At top right, the Tommy Stillwell Basketball Court in Caledonia Park. Middle right, new banners at P.G.H.S. Bottom right, the butterflies do come back to P.G. each October in the form of schoolchildren (photo by Shirley Takasaki Jensen '70). The actual monarch butterfly count, however, continues to drop to historic lows and is now 99% below the 1980 count. Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-CA) is one of three people spearheading adoption of the MONARCH Act to try to counteract the drop. His bill, if passed, would provide \$125 million over five years to support the restoration and protection of western monarch butterfly habitat and to implement the Western Monarch Butterfly Conservation Plan. Photos: Beth Penney '73.



This form is included in each issue of the newsletter to help us attract new members. Please pass it along if you know someone who is interested in joining. ***See the "President's Message" on p. 1 for information about renewing your own membership for 2026!***

We strongly encourage members to join online at www.pghsaa.org to receive automatic reminders of when your dues are due. Questions: E-mail membership@pghsaa.org.



Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 51396

Pacific Grove, CA 93950-6396

Membership@pghsaa.org

Yes! Renew or start my membership in the Pacific Grove High School Alumni Association, Inc. Dues are \$25 per year per address, and are payable in January of each year. Membership includes a subscription to *The Knockout II*, published three times a year. Dues payments are **not** tax-deductible; any donations (see below) **are** tax-deductible. If you include a donation with your dues, you will receive a thank-you letter with our Tax ID number. Thank you!

Name _____ Grad. Year _____

(put surname at graduation in parentheses if different from current last name: Jane (Smith) Jones)

Spouse _____ Grad Year if P.G.H.S. _____

(put surname at graduation in parentheses if different from current last name)

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ 8-digit ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

____ Check here if this information has changed recently.

____ Check here if you would like to have the newsletter e-mailed to you in .pdf format.

____ Check here if you would like to be included in upcoming rosters of members.

I enclose a check, made payable to PGHSAA, for the following amount:

Dues for the following year(s): _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

Donation to _____ = \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Send your check to **PGHSAA, P.O. Box 51396, Pacific Grove, CA 93950-6396. Thank you.**

Please consider joining the PGHSAA online at www.pghsaa.org. You can pay securely with your credit card, and you can set up automatic payments so that your dues will renew each year. You can also see all of the donation categories we offer on our website. Questions? Membership@pghsaa.org.

PACIFIC GROVE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INC.

A Not-for-Profit Organization

P.O. Box 51396

Pacific Grove, CA 93950-6396

Return Service Requested

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 164
Salinas, CA

THE KNOCKOUT II: THE PGHSAA NEWSLETTER

Who Is It?

See "Letters," p.3, for the identification of the track team members pictured in the Spring issue; thanks to Bob Crispin '63 and Tom Shymanski '74.

Here's another group that needs identifying. The young folks may be easy for some of you, but who is the lady in the black coat, and why is she in the picture? Send your answers to president@pghsaa.org.

If you have a photo for this page, send it to us as a .jpg, .jpeg, or .png at the same e-mail address. Or, mail your original photo to us at the address on p. 2. We will scan it and return it immediately, unharmed!

