



# SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2011

Vol. 23

Issue 1

*The primary objectives and purposes of the Santa Rosa High School Foundation are to serve as a charitable organization to unite SRHS graduates, parents of current and past students, faculty, staff and interested community members; to preserve and document the history and traditions of SRHS; to provide financial support to the school; to promote community involvement*

## Trio builds contributions by Mike Daniels '59

Throughout its 22-year history, the SRHS Foundation has benefited from the generous donations of its members. One need only look at the list of donors in each newsletter to see who contributes above their membership dues, those who make up the Lifetime Members and the One Thousand Panthers. Those extra funds find their way to the SRHS campus to pay for a myriad of items and programs that Panther students, teachers and staff would not otherwise enjoy.

Yet there are other members who have made and continue to make contributions in a way other than monetary. They regularly contribute their skills, knowledge and equipment to the campus in a very visible manner, to the physical plant itself.

During the current period of drastic budget cutting that jeopardizes campus repairs and upgrades, Dick Colombini, Dave Hunt and Rich Peters have stepped forward to tackle jobs that would not otherwise get done.

All three say their SRHS years prepared them for college and for their careers in construction. And they feel their contributions are a means of "giving back"

to the school for that preparation.

Dick, a 1949 alumnus, has played a major role in such projects as the bench in front of the North Gym. His class contributed the materials, and Dick saw to the construction. That bench is a

companion to the benches in front of the Auditorium the Class of 1925 and the Class of 1950 built.

Among other projects Dick spearheaded to beautify the campus is the sign on Mendocino Avenue. He also installed the lighting for the Ernie Nevers monument, flagpole, the sign on Nevers Field and a number of other projects.

While a student at SRHS, Dick played football for Jimmy Underhill and in his senior year was voted by his teammates to receive the prestigious Block S Blanket Award. He says that Underhill was a demanding coach but that Underhill prepared him for the rigors of college and life. Dick is proud that his close relationship with the legendary coach lasted the rest of Underhill's life. Dick was co-chair of the coach's retirement dinner and presented him as a member of the national College Hall of Fame. "It was a big deal," Dick said.

He also noted long-time teachers Sy Hawkins, Irene Scott, Florence Tangney, Helen Valentine and Mitch Soso were significant influences.

As a student at USF, he played football for Joe Kuharich, another coach of the Underhill school. Dick was on the 7<sup>th</sup> ranked Dons, who were invited to play in the 1951 Orange Bowl but only if their two African-American players were not on the field. In a bold move for the time, the team boycotted the game and stayed home.

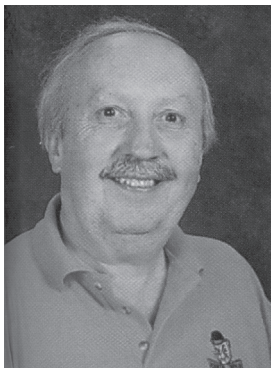
After graduating, Dick spent two years in the US Army in Virginia as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. Returning to Santa Rosa, he went to work for his father at Colombini Construction, the business he continues to operate today. Over the years, Colombini Construction has built a number of Santa Rosa landmarks, including St. Rose Church addition, Cardinal Newman High School, Comstock Middle School, Union Hotel, Waterfall Towers, WestAmerica Bank, additions to Lawrence Cook Middle School and Santa Rosa Middle School and SRJC's Forsyth Hall.

While still loyal to SRHS, *continued on page 3*

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## President's Message



As Foundation president, I would like to express my gratitude to the Foundation board, a remarkable group of volunteers who continue to work for all things that benefit SRHS. It has been an honor to work side by side with them on all of the projects, activities and fundraisers that have become the hallmark of this dedicated group. They've made the job of president

enjoyable and very rewarding.

Although the summer is generally a quiet time for members of the board, this past summer was very unusual in the sense that we had eight reunion groups visit the campus and take part in formal tours of the school. In addition, one of the classes, '56-'57, had a BBQ at the end of the tour. Other classes involved included '86, '61, '91, '76, '81 and '01. If there is interest among your class reunion next summer for a tour, please contact us as early as possible in the process in order to ensure a successful event. Please contact Mike Daniels at 526-6347, [mdaniels@sonic.net](mailto:mdaniels@sonic.net) or Tony Negri at 570-2164, [asnagri72@yahoo.com](mailto:asnagri72@yahoo.com).

In August and early September, our membership committee, led by committee chairperson Nadine Smedshammer, was busy talking to parents at Back-to-School Night and the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation. As a result of their efforts, over 40 parents joined the Foundation as new members, a number far exceeding previous years. The parental support that we are seeing, both in SRHS and for the Foundation, is very gratifying.

The sixteenth Annual Foundation Golf Tournament on September 9 was, as usual, a huge success, with 92 golfers involved in a wonderful round of golf under ideal weather conditions. Committee chairman Doug Pavese and his committee of board members and volunteers netted almost \$19,000.00 for direct support to SRHS. For more details, see Doug Pavese's golf wrapup article in this newsletter.

Our 3rd Annual Crab Feed is being moved to the Santa Rosa Veterans' Building so that we can accommodate the ever-increasing demand for the sweet crustaceans. Given the size of the new location, we will be able to sell 500 tickets. Obviously, this has turned into another special SRHS "must attend" function. The date is Friday, January 6, 2012. Please look for committee chairperson Denise Fossi's ticket information in another section of this newsletter.

I am pleased to announce that new board member,

Ilona Mayer Williams, is a proud graduate from the class of 1966. Ilona has been working in the local banking industry for a number of years, most recently at North Valley Bank. With her rich background in banking and finance, we are thrilled to have such a dynamic and energetic volunteer on the board.

Speaking of volunteers, we are always looking for new board and committee members who are looking for an opportunity to serve. Presently, our 25-member board has twelve very active committees. Our current committees include Membership, Newsletter, Scholarship, Student-of-the-Month, Technology/Website, Finance, Development, Golf Tournament, Crab Feed, Polenta Feed, Panther Project Fund and Auditorium Plaques. If you have an interest in considering a board position or would to learn more about assisting one of the committees, please call me at (707) 570-2164, or e-mail me at [asnagri72@yahoo.com](mailto:asnagri72@yahoo.com).

Tony Negri  
President  
2010-2012

Editor:

Last week our class enjoyed our 35th class reunion, the second of which included the school tour, which adds such an important nostalgic element to the weekend. Not to mention, of course, the Foundation's ability to recruit more memberships.

As the guy who has been responsible for putting together all of our reunions thus far, we are already looking forward to five years from now and have some ideas for a possible collaborative effort with the Foundation that would also result in raising funds. (You may have received/seen an email from Doug Stephan.) More to come/discuss.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Foundation but especially to Mike and Tony for all they do for our alma mater. Also, I know Chris Zeek has been a huge contributor for a long time also.

If the attached is suitable for publication in the newsletter, please feel free to use it. We will be sending it to our class list of contacts.

Lee W Miller  
Class of 1976

Dick has made many contributions to his community. He was recently recognized by the Gray Family Foundation, which honored him as having “Made a Difference” to Santa Rosa.

Dave Hunt, who graduated in 1966, has donated his skills to SRHS and the Foundation from almost the organization’s beginning. He’s done so in a number of ways.

His efforts during the 1992 repainting of the shabby interior walls of the main building, a task headed by former Foundation board member Ernie Thompson ’49, contributed largely to the administration and faculty’s realization that the Foundation would not disappear as other proposed similar organizations had.

Dave also helped build the Ag Department’s sheds behind Burke Hall, helped erect the steel beams for the ag barn and saw that the barn and the hog pens were completed on time. Currently, he’s involved with the upgrades to the baseball field and with the expansion of the SRHS Museum. He’s also helped build the sets for Project Grad nine times. All of his kids have graduated from SRHS.

A middle distance



Rich Peters  
1968 *Echo*



Rich Peters, Dick Colombini and Dave Hunt with his granddaughter

runner on the track team, Dave lettered and was initiated into Block S. He knew he was college-bound, and he credits teachers Hugh Smyth and Robert Newton for his math skills and Claire

Elmore for his college success in chemistry. “I had great teachers,” he said.

Dave lived just a block from the SRHS campus but seldom arrived to first period chemistry on time. He remembered that Elmore assigned him a seat by the door so his tardy arrival wouldn’t interrupt.

Working part-time after school and in the summers installing sheetrock, Dave remembered earning \$5 a house to haul the scrap away. He also worked at Friedman Bros.

He earned his degree at Pepperdine University where he studied math that he today “uses all the time in construction,” like “the Pythagorean Theory to figure angles.”

Dave says he’s “proud to be asked to work on Foun-

dation projects,” and is pleased to witness the “amazing campus changes over the years.” And he loves coming to the Foundation Polenta Feed where he always passes the baskets for donations to the gratuity fund that benefits the student servers.

Rich Peters, a 1968 Panther, is responsible for the quality masonry work of the monument to Ernie Nevers on Nevers Field, the SRHS sign on Mendocino Avenue, and the baseball field drinking fountain. He also worked on the renovation of the Nevers Field bleachers, one of the early Foundation projects. It’s work he says he’s “willing and glad” to do. Certainly, the Foundation and SRHS are proud of Rich and the results of his efforts.

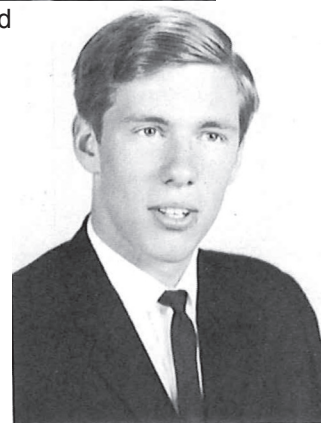
Dick Colombini  
1949 *Echo*



Rich’s daughter is a Panther alum and is the third generation of the family to have matriculated from SRHS. All told, seven members of the Peters family have SRHS roots.

Rich played Panther football when Larry Anderson was head coach, and he remains proud to have beaten the Vikings his senior year. He also served as Block S president his senior year.

Rich honors the influence of English teacher Eugene DeSoto, science teacher Peter Menth, chemistry teacher Claire Elmore and government teacher Lee Torliatt who, Rich says, “ran a fun class and got off many one-liners.”



Dave Hunt  
1966 *Echo*

Early on, Rich understood the need to work in order to achieve what he wanted. After SRHS, he enrolled at Portland State, a “football school,” but realized he was not a good fit, so he transferred to Sonoma State and finished his formal

education there.

Somehow, Rich says, he “ended up in masonry.” During his working career, he built a number of custom homes and remodeled some with Dave Hunt. Like Dave, Rich has worked on several Project Grad projects and chaperoned many of those graduation nights. He likes giving back to the school for which he has “such good memories.”

This trio makes up a source of construction skills both SRHS and the Foundation are very fortunate to rely upon.

# Letters to the Editor

Editor:

Thank you so much for approving the SRHS administration's requests for funding this year. We are very excited to share the new Distinguished School banner at our graduation ceremony. Also, the funding for senior awards and orientation will provide flowers and food for participants. We are thankful for the Foundation's support of SRHS!

Sincerely,

Brad Coscarelli, Principal  
Monica Balenegro, Vice-Principal

Editor:

Thank you for the Foundation's purchase of an advertisement in our school yearbook. We really appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again next year.

Sincerely,

SRHS Yearbook Crew

Editor:

Thank you so much for approving my request for a document camera, projector and cart. I am actually looking forward to starting back up in the fall so I can explore all the possibilities this gadget has to offer! I can already envision a number of uses in the teaching of composition and plan to spend a great deal of my summer reading all of the on-line testimonials for more ideas.

I so appreciate being able to start my 26<sup>th</sup> year at SRHS with a new burst of energy.

Sincerely,

Annie Samuels '74  
English instructor

Editor:

On May 25, 2011, the Board of Education formally accepted your generous donation of \$13,131.78 to Santa Rosa High School. As per your request, the funds will be allocated toward the purchase of the following:

- . Memory cards
- . Elmo projectors
- . Digital projector
- . Supplies for orientation
- . Flowers
- . California Distinguished School plaque
- . Yearbook computers
- . Science supplies

- . French class supplies
- . Barriers for a tree located near the Ag Department
- . SRHS banner
- . New York Times magazine subscription
- . Chemistry supplies
- . Girls' soccer uniforms
- . Algebra kits
- . Agriculture supplies

Your donation will also be allocated toward the funding of the following:

- . Science field trip
- . Cisco conference
- . Lighting and maintenance of the auditorium

On behalf of the Board of Education and the students of SRHS, I am writing to thank you for your support of SRHS. It is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Pugh  
President  
Board of Education

Editor:

I would like to thank you for selecting me to receive the Dr. Mitchell Soso Social Science Scholarship. This scholarship will without a doubt help me further my education at Cal Poly.

I am looking forward to learning and studying history. I am hoping my higher education will allow me to inspire and teach history in high school.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Aaron Ziskin '11

Editor:

I would like to thank the Foundation for the continued support of teachers and students at SRHS even when some of the requests might be a little out of the ordinary. It is only with your support that I can now claim to have the most complete set of busts in the Social Studies Department. I know they are the envy of the other members, and I will have to be on guard to keep the other members from handling them. Hopefully, the students will appreciate them and see that history can be more than a boring set of facts and that teachers are people with real personalities.

Thank you once again for helping build a mini Mt. Rushmore in room 225.

Sincerely,

John Cortopossi  
Social Studies Instructor

## About the Foundation

The Santa Rosa High School Foundation, a chartered non-profit organization with the State of California, was established in 1988 to provide financial support for and community involvement in the school's activities and to preserve its rich traditions and heritage.

The Foundation also functions as an alumni association, sponsoring activities for graduates, but membership and activity participation is not limited to SRHS graduates.

*Santa Rosa High School Foundation News* is published quarterly by the Santa Rosa High School Foundation, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Subscription rate is \$25.00 per year, which includes membership in the Foundation. You may also sponsor an edition of the newsletter. Please contact us if you would like more information, 707-571-SRHS.

*Historian/Editor:* Mike Daniels '59

*Newsletter Publisher:* Alicia Hodenfield '85

*Newsletter Team:* Mike Daniels '59, Mike Grace '65, Penny Hastings '59, Alicia Hodenfield '85, Carol Laabs Patterson '55, Jacky Cooper Schalich '57, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59

## SRHS Foundation Directors

Carol Laabs Patterson '55	Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68
JoAnn Hembree MacDonald '56	Karen Skelgaard Petersen '72
Jacky Cooper Schalich '57	Denise Dwyer Fossi '72
Doug Pavese '58 *	Jon Stiffler '72
Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59	Mary Schaefer '76
Mike Daniels '59 *	Justin Walling '89
Ann Hutchinson Porrino '61	Christine Romani Tonelli '88
Jim Ward '62	Matthew Metzger '91
Mike Grace '65 *	Sue Bolt Friend
Rosie Clarke London '65	Tony Negri Retired Faculty
Ivona Mayer Williams '66	Art Horner Faculty Liaison
Donna Dennes Peterson '67 *	* Founding Directors

### Giving Through the SRHS Foundation

- 1.) Establish an Unrestricted Fund (in your name or anonymously) with a gift of \$10,000 or more
- 2.) Establish a Restricted Scholarship Fund with a gift of \$10,000 or more
- 3.) Include a bequest or Planned Gift in your estate plan
- 4.) An Unrestricted cash gift of any amount that will be directed by the Board to a current-need program

A wide variety of gifts are accepted including:

- Cash
- Publicly traded securities
- IRAs or life insurance policies with the Foundation as beneficiary
- Remainder of a Charitable Trust

For further information, please contact Doug Pavese, SRHS Foundation, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406, or call Doug at 707-538-3167.

Please speak with your tax advisor regarding your charitable contribution.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Article submissions are invited. Limit to 850 words and letters no more than 150 words. All submissions are subject to editing and become the property of the Foundation.

Please submit articles and letters without anchors and in unformatted text. Submissions are also invited to Panther Patter.

Please submit photos and graphics separately from text but do provide identity of subjects and other relevant information.

Submissions can be made through US Postal Service to PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 96406-1006 or through email to [mdaniels@sonic.net](mailto:mdaniels@sonic.net).

### NEXT DEADLINE:

January 1, 2012 for the  
February, 2012 mailing

### In Memoriam

Adah Mae Rogers Trigeiro	1937
Omer Otte	1942
Silvio Guisti	1944
Armand Schmitt	1944
Frank DeMaria	1941
Herbert Rockefeller	1941
William Geary	1946
Leroy Irwin	1947
Ewell Baker	1952
Leonard Waers	1956
Linda Fischer Conant	1958
Don R. Maxwell	1958
Penny Agular Roberts	1961
Nydia Coppidge Bogue	1963
Barton Morrison	1965
Peter Wolfe	1970
Ed Miranda	1971
Jeffrey Young	2000
Dan Bamford	Instructor
Lloyd Wasmuth	Instructor

# An Alum's eye view of Hollywood

by Don Cambou, Class of '64

"All Rights in Perpetuity throughout the Universe." That's the title of an autobiography I'll probably never write about my years in "The Biz." It's also a line found in almost every standard release form used in non-fiction television. If you want to be on our show, you've got to sign it. What do you get in return? Fifteen minutes, or maybe 30 seconds, of fame. Your face and your wisdom will enter millions of homes. So what if you won't get paid for your appearance on Mars 100 years from now? It's a deal most people would happily make.

Television is one of the most powerful forces for good and ill the world has ever seen. I've had the rare fortune to be right in the guts of it for over 30 years. I've worked for most of the major networks, and for many cable networks. For a few of those years, TV took me to the movies, too. I did "Behind the Scenes" features on "Spaceballs," "Willow," "Parenthood," "King Ralph" and many other films.

They say your first day on a movie set is the most exciting day of your life, and that your second day is the most boring. So, a little insider info about some big names. Jane Fonda: serious, total pro. Steve Martin: ditto. Denzel Washington: should have been nicer. George Lucas: shy, good hearted genius. Peter O'Toole: Lawrence of Arabia loves cricket. Mel Brooks: got his way by shouting, but good to his friends. Ron Howard: gets his way by not shouting, nicest guy around

My years doing documentaries were the most rewarding. A highlight was the six-hour documentary miniseries, "The American Revolution." I wrote and produced it for A&E. How many folks get a chance to explore their nation's creation myths and have millions watch the conclusions?

I guess the Big Kahuna was "Modern Marvels," the History Channel's long running tent pole series. As Executive Producer and Show Runner, I creatively guided 450 hour episodes of the technologically heavy anthology show. We explored everything from the "World Trade Center" to "Renewable Energy," from "Milk" to "Wine." Billions of eyeballs have seen this series. I had a staff of about 50, plus freelance writers, producers and editors. I didn't have to worry much about administration, I just had to keep the creative train rolling.

How did I get to that position? I made a couple of short independent films that got some attention. Then I went into the belly of the beast that is L.A. I made cold calls and followed every lead until I found a sympathetic ear at KABC, the largest TV station in the country. Before I knew it, I was doing short stories there. That led to hour

programs as writer, producer, and director. I traveled all over the United States and to many parts of the world, working on fascinating topics.

Sound like fun? Consider this: I'd often land in a new city at midnight, far from my home time zone, get a few hours sleep, then start the new day with a crew I'd never met, in a situation I'd never been in, and interview people (sometimes fussy and famous) I'd never had contact with. That was exciting and often gut wrenching, but the real fun involved writing the program and putting it together. I became good enough to graduate to Supervision and Executive Producer jobs. Did I get rich? Not really.

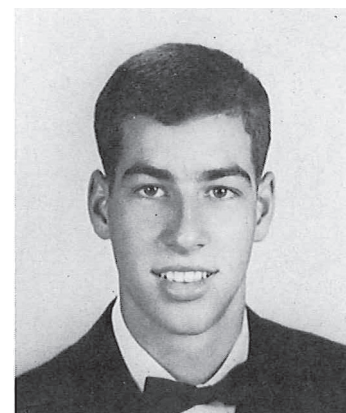
Because of my modest success, many parents have approached me to ask what courses their kids should take in preparation for film school. I always answer, "Business, with a little law thrown in."

They laugh and say, "No. Really."

"Really," I respond. "And even better, don't send your kid to film school. Give him or her a semester's tuition and go out and make a film or video. Much cheaper. Learn by doing. Cream rises. The work will test the kid's talent and consuming desire to make it in 'The Biz.' He or she will need both."

My business has changed. The pendulum has shifted far from documentaries to dumbed down so-called "reality." So, in writing this article, I did a mental exercise. I asked myself who of my SRHS teachers would have made a good reality

star. There were many possibilities, but I came upon the answer: chemistry teacher Clair Elmore. I'm sure if you took his class you remember him. He'd regularly create window shattering explosions and other delights. He had once been an industrial chemist. When we messed around with strong acids, he'd tell us the tale of the guy who fell into a vat of acid. After a pause, he'd deliver the punch line, "All they found were his brass buttons." Wow. Now there's a reality TV star!



Don Cambou  
1964 Echo



## A Bit of History Captured

by Mike Daniels '59

Even the amateur historian sometimes deserves the fluke of good fortune. When Gail Hildebrand Dunning of Trona, a town about 100 miles from Death Valley, e-mailed us to ask if we had interest in a “nice copy” of a June 1901 *Porcupine* and some other SRHS memorabilia, we jumped at the chance to preserve a little more of the heritage of SRHS.

Copies of the *Porcupine*, a monthly magazine written and student published off-campus and sold to the student body for 10 cents a copy, are few and hard to find. When the SRHS administration created the also monthly *Echo* in 1909, it effectively put its popular competitor out of business. When the *Echo* became a yearbook in 1917, the *Porcupine* was long gone. So, Gail’s offer intrigued us.

When the package from Trona arrived, it contained the preserved *Porcupine* and a lengthy newspaper article about the '01 graduation ceremony, diploma, photos and other memorabilia of Gail’s grandmother, Josephine Conne, a member of the '01 class.

The *Porcupine* contains the schedule of events for the '01 graduation and indicates Gail’s grandmother graduated with honors and read the class poem. It also lists the plans of the 27 graduates “after commencement.”

1901  
CLASS YELL\*  
Yippy Yaw! Yippy Yaw! Yap! Yap! Yap!  
Santa Rosa High School  
She’s the Cap!  
Smartest, Brightest, Under the Sun  
Santa Rosa June Class Nineteen One

\* *Porcupine*, Vol. 6, No. 4, June 1901, p. 6

and two other girls said they were “going to learn the culinary art and all those other requisites of the ideal housewife.” How the times have changed!

We were curious about Josephine’s post-SRHS life. Did she become the “ideal housewife” or did she have other opportunities?

Granddaughter Gail said that her grandmother was born in Canada in 1880 and lived in various place until she came to Santa Rosa about 1899. She was 20 years old when she graduated from SRHS.

Gail also said, “Josephine and Calvin (Hildebrand) married in Santa Rosa in 1903. My father, Keith Hildebrand, was born in Oakland in 1908 . . . They lived in Oakland and Berkeley for many years . . . At the end of her life,



Josephine Conne  
1901

Josephine returned to Sonoma County . . . where she died in 1978. She was widowed in 1951.

My grandmother always had an adventuresome spirit and a thirst for knowledge. In 1956, she traveled to Europe with a couple of friends. She was 76 years old at the time. She was a wonderful seamstress and a good cook. During one period of her life, she had quite a collection of African violets, and learned how to propagate them.”

And so, another small piece of the SRHS story and its many, many graduates is uncovered and captured.

## Foundation goes literary

Scott Gummer graduated from SRHS in 1982, David Vann in 1985 and both became successful writers and authors. On Monday, November 14, they will participate in conversation with Press Democrat columnist Chris Smith in the refurbished SRHS auditorium at 7 pm.

Scott recently published the novel *Parents Behaving Badly*. His non-fiction works include *The Seventh at St. Andrews* and *Homer Kelly’s Golfing Machine*. He’s edited numerous sports commemorative books, including *Worth the Wait*, the San Francisco Giants official World Series book and has contributed to over 40 magazines.

David is an international bestseller published in 16 languages, the recipient of a dozen prizes, including the Prix Medicis in France and the Premi Llibreter in Spain; author of *Legend of a Suicide*; *Caribou Island*; *A Mile Down: the True Story of a Disastrous Career at Sea*; *Last Day on Earth: A Portrait of the NIU School Shooter* and contributor to numerous magazines.

In this first such event the Foundation has sponsored, conversation with the author-alums will cover a variety of topics about their craft and their lives. One focus of the evening will provide an opportunity for teachers to enrich their curricula at no cost to them, their students or to their districts. Another aim will encourage the larger SRHS community to visit the campus and participate in a special evening. Foundation members are especially encouraged to attend. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided.

Severe budget cuts and mandated testing have limited opportunities for instructors to provide enrichment for their students. By sponsoring this activity, the Foundation will expand its support of education at SRHS.

Seating is limited, so mark your calendar and come early. Free parking is available in the campus lot on Ridgway Avenue on the south end of the campus. For more information, telephone 571-SRHS. Copies of the authors’ latest works will be available for purchase in the auditorium lobby.

Several Foundation board members were recently able to participate in orientation for incoming SRHS freshmen. It's a wonderful time to meet new families and share in their excitement as they become part of the SRHS family. They will soon learn what it means when we say, "Once a Panther, Always a Panther." Many parents joined the Foundation that evening and expressed their thanks for the work the Foundation does. The board passes that thanks on to you for all your contributions and support.

Here's more good news... the Foundation welcomed 68 new members and received 150 membership renewals since the last newsletter. The contributions and memorial gifts this period total \$6,365. The following members and friends contributed additional funds over and above their membership fees:

Karen Basso '64	Jim and Shirley Hurley '58	Thelma Ramsey '43
Hugh Cambra '68	Amelia Hutto '42	Mary Rigney '61
Anthony Camozzi '52	Greg and Ann Jahn Friends	Ernestina Rodriguez '77
Class of '76 Friends	Charles Johnson '61	Tom Schmidt '64
Jim and Patti Crandall Friends	Lou Knecht '44	Henry Schukler '46
Barbara Davis '48	James Kowalczyk Staff	Armeda Soldati '50
Barbara Doyle '54	Ron Kristof Staff	Sandra Spencer '54
Timothy Evans '63	Surani Kwan Friend	Patricia Stage Staff
Judy Gantz Friend	Lorene Lake '61	James Streeter '76
Brian and Kim Glynn Friends	Shirley Larson '52	Lorne and Janice Swanets '49/'52
KC Greaney Friend	Janice Lawson '48	Bill Tait '42
Bob Hastings '49	Jim Maguire '63	Ed Thronson '56
Ed Hausmann '61	Jenny Mathews '66	Alice Valena '38
Richard Heidebrink '64	Lynn Nelsen '64	Wells Fargo Bank, Social Responsibility Group, Friends
Nancy Hodapp '52	Steve Olson '60	Eileen Wise '55
Human Race Friends	Staci Pastis '85	
Brigitta Hunter Friend	Linda Perez '91	
Kim Hunter Friend	Ralph Peters Staff	

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS: Chuck Garvey, '64 and Ryan Lantta, '04

If you have friends who are interested in joining the Foundation, encourage them to do so by using the form available in this newsletter or by going on-line at [www.srhfsf.org](http://www.srhfsf.org) to make their contributions and join.

Concerns or questions about membership or contributions should be directed to Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer at 707 544-3158 or [nadine@coreutilities.com](mailto:nadine@coreutilities.com).

Editor:

Enclosed is an invitation to the 1958 graduation that was kept by an old girl friend all these years. She returned it to me for inclusion in the school museum, and it should be a good companion piece to the graduation program for 1958 that I previously donated at the time of our 50-year reunion.

If credits for donations are given, she is Patti Jeanne Talbot from the Class of 1962.

Sincerely,  
Dennis Brand '58



## ***Memorial & Special Contributions***

### *The Ewell Baker Memorial*

Peggy Call '41  
Gene and Carm Canevari '51/'52  
Connie Coddling '52  
Dick and Angie Colombini '49  
Hubert and Barbara Donaldson '57  
Peggy Leiser '40  
Lou and Mary Ann Peoples Friends  
Ward and Pat Thompson '58/'59  
Evelyn Townsend '41  
Doralyn Wicklund '55

### *The Bruce Barclay Memorial*

Howard and Gwen Hunt '69/'71

### *The Bill Crossland Memorial*

Jack and Marilyn Swire '53

### *The Annie Galeazzi Memorial*

Lenora Falco '39

### *The William Geary Memorial*

Robert Bailey '45  
Martha Keegan '47  
Marie Laskelle '47  
Perry, Johnson, Anderson,  
Miller and Moskowitz Friends  
Virginia Pyke '49  
Clarence Tauzer '44  
Mary Testorelli '47

### *The Silvio Giusti Memorial*

Jean Destruel '45  
Armeda Soldati '50  
Clarence Tauzer '44

### *The Myron Guzman Memorial*

Judy Fox Friend

### *The Bart Morrison Memorial*

Mike and Kathy Grace '65/'65

### *The Allene Read Memorial*

Glenn and Barbara Becker '54/'55

### *The Larry Sani Memorial*

Rae Gambini '37

### *The A. J. Schmitt Memorial*

Brian and Bobbi Adams Friends  
Dick and Angie Colombini '49  
Al and Harriet Draper Friends  
Bill Fisher '49  
Ting Guggiana '49  
Catherine Hardy Friend  
Gordon and Anna Harlander Friends  
Owen Lee Friend  
Bill and Joan Mills '49  
Connie Pearson Friend  
Virginia Pyke '49  
Bob and Gale Pedersen '50/'54

Lorne and Janice Swanets '49  
Richard and Jerrine Thayer Friends  
Ward and Pat Thompson '58/'59

### *The Bill Simpson Memorial*

Simpson Sheet Metal, Inc. Friends

### *The Gwin Stumbaugh Memorial*

Beverly Stumbaugh '48

### *The Robert Watson Memorial*

Beverly O'Brien '45

### *The Candy Call Venge Memorial*

Judy Fox Friend  
Jim and Diane Keegan '66/'67  
Ward and Pat Thompson '58/'59

### *The Berta Wiggins Scholarship Fund*

Oren and Nadine Smedshammer '59

(Note): If you wish to have your donation acknowledged to the family of the memorial honoree, please include an address for that purpose.

## **'67 alums gather annually**

by Donna Dennes Peterson '67

For the last eight years, a group of life-long friends in the Class of 1967 began gathering for dinner once a year. In 2009 the dinner turned into a weekend gathering. First was a house in Bodega Bay's South Harbor area. In 2010 it was at Donner Lake and 2011 saw the group at Capitola, the beach town next to Santa Cruz. While plans are not yet set for 2012, the group of special friends is certain to continue their reunion.

In the front row of the photo are (using maiden names), left to right, Marci Tarleton, Betsy Arack, Paula Francescutti, Marla Gutzman. In the back row, left to right, are Debby Allred ('68), Diane Diekmann, Janice Burnette, Karen Fawcett, Katie Peletz, Marie Converse, Linda Kennedy and Sue Garvey. Not pictured: Eloise Jamison, Joan Webb, Joanne Kellar, Lorna Romano, Rebecca Ratliff, Shirley Sugawara, Sue Desilet and Sue Graves.



# Sixteenth Annual SRHS Foundation Golf Tournament Scores for Students

The Sixteenth Annual Foundation Golf Tournament was held on September 9 and raised nearly \$19,000 that will go directly to student academic and athletic enhancement programs at SRHS. The Foundation thanks all of the golfers, tee sponsors, and raffle, mulligan and silent and live auction prize contributors, and especially acknowledges the major sponsors: The Coddling Foundation, Chet & Gloria Galeazzi, the Dale Family, Exchange Bank, First Community Bank, James Laier, Jr., Doug Pavese and Jacky Schalich. Recognition also is extended to all the hardworking volunteer committee members for their tireless efforts. Additional gratitude goes to the SRHS Cheerleaders and the Men's Golf Team, who



welcomed and assisted golfers.

Ninety-two golfers in Open, Women's and Coed divisions arrived at the

Oakmont West course and a shotgun start for the tournament's

scramble format. The weather could not have been better, and many golfers reported this might have been the best tournament ever. Following the tournament, golfers and guests attended the awards



dinner at Oakmont's Quail Inn. At the conclusion of dinner, winning golfers were announced while the silent and live auction bidders competed for attractively priced items and packages.

This year's tournament winners were as follows: Open Division – Brad Van Dyke, Josh Johnson, Fred Biagi, Brian Ling; Women's Division – Norma Cooper, Lynn Davis, Darlene Bath, Florine Ellingson; Coed Division – Dick Cambra, Chelsea Cambra, Hugh Cambra, Tim Cambra; Men's Long Drive – Brian Ling; Women's Long Drive – Lynn Davis; Senior Long Drive – Ed Pisenti; Men's Closest to the Hole #16 – Brian Wright; Women's Closest to the Hole #16 – Sharon Barnes; Putting contest – Ed Pisenti. Congratulations to everyone!

The date of the Seventeenth Annual Tournament is already set for Friday, September 14, 2012. Mark your calendar. The tournament is open to all men and women golfing supporters of SRHS. If you want further information about next year's tournament, to serve on the golf committee or become a tournament sponsor, please contact Doug Pavese, SRHS Foundation, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406 or call (707) 538-3167.

## Santa Rosa High School Foundation Annual Crab Feed Fundraiser

We invite everyone to enjoy the  
Santa Rosa High School Foundation  
Third Annual Crab Feed!

January 6, 2012  
Sonoma County Veterans Memorial Building  
1351 Maple Avenue  
Santa Rosa CA

The evening will feature  
Door Prize, Raffles, Entertainment

Fabulous cuisine by Chef Randy Apel

5:30 pm Doors open  
No host bar/cocktails  
7 pm Dinner served

Tickets go on sale November 1 and are \$50 per person through January 2. Tickets purchased January 3 through January 6 will be \$55 per person. Call the Pandly line @ 571-7747 to make your table reservations early.

## ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS seeking donors

The ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS campaign creates a permanent fund to ensure an essential financial resource for student programs at SRHS. The goal is for one thousand donors to give or pledge one thousand dollars or more to create a one million dollar endowment.

Payments may be made by check or credit card. Marketable securities are accepted and the Foundation will contact you and walk you through the process. Pledges are honored as well: two-year \$500, four-year \$250, five-year \$200. For special requests, pooled donations and other questions, please call the Foundation's Pandy Line at (707) 571-7747 or e-mail: [donations@SRHSF.org](mailto:donations@SRHSF.org).

The Foundation hopes you will join the Parade of Panthers by responding to this request. Please send your check today to the SRHS Foundation using the enclosed donation card.

## Ag program grows again

Along with the October release of the 2010 Vintage Panther Chardonnay, the SRHS Agriculture Department can point with pride to its remarkable rebirth. Under the leadership of department chair Lisa Piehl and with the support of the SRHS Ag Boosters, led by its president Bettye Lund '74, the department has overcome the dormant state it was in for a number of years.

Adapting to the changing times, the department offers a number of classes that ag students from the past would not recognize. Earth Science, Ag Biology, Horticulture, Floriculture, Veterinary Science and Viticulture are a few of the new offerings. The Future Farmers of America remains a vital part of the SRHS ag program.

Now staffed with three instructors, the department also has a number of new facilities for its new programs. Built primarily with donated labor and materials and partly funded by the SRHS Foundation, these facilities include a campus green house, the vet-tech laboratory, campus livestock barn and poultry area. Sheep and goats are on the 40-acre SRHS farm, north of Santa Rosa on Alba Lane. The farm also has 30 acres of wetlands, 3 acres of pumpkins and vegetables and 6 acres of chardonnay grapes.

This year's annual open house will occur on October 15 and 16 from 10 am to 4 pm. Pumpkins will be available for purchase and pre-ordered Vintage Panther Chardonnay can be picked up. There'll be lots of games and activities for the kids.

On October 29 at SaraLee Vineyards on Slusser Road, the Ag Boosters, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, will host a Harvest Moon BBQ that will include a casino, wine tasting, no-host bar, tri tip or chicken dinner, live auction, music and dancing. To order wine or tickets, please visit [www.srhsagboosters.com](http://www.srhsagboosters.com).

The SRHS Foundation is proud to acknowledge and say thank you to the first 34 Founding Members of the ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS fund raising campaign.



Anonymous  
Richard L. Arrowood '63  
Jay Berger '62  
The Bolt Family, Friend  
Virginia Denner Cambou '65 and Don Cambou '64  
*In loving memory of John Cambou '61*  
Veronica Popovich Charvat '61  
Connie Williams Codding '52  
Rosemary and Dusty Destruel '45  
Judy Kellar Fox '65  
Bill and Suzie Friedman '66  
Cathy Krause Gobbi '55  
Donald Gray '36  
Dave Johnson '47  
Alana Kelly '78  
Dan Kelly '59  
Chuck and Linda Lamb '61  
*In loving memory of Clyde and Donna Arrowood*  
JoAnn MacDonald '56  
Debra Jalli Martini '61  
Tony Negri, Retired Principal  
Douglas Pavese '58  
William Pedersen '45 in loving memory of  
Patricia Pedersen '49  
Gail Rocco Dutton Peterson '62  
Ann H. Porrino '61  
Gary Rasche '61  
Bob Reinking '46  
Linda Kiester Schirano '61  
Peter and Jane Hamilton Schmidt '61  
Jon Stiffler '72  
Ward '58 and Pat Townsend Thompson '59  
Tom Unthank '78  
Larry Weese '64  
Bob Wicklund '55  
Bobby Yates '61

Gifts to the Fund are tax deductible as the Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The tax ID # is 68-0195375. Checks can be made out to SRHS Foundation and mailed to PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa CA 95406. If you have any questions, please email [donations@srhsf.org](mailto:donations@srhsf.org) or call the Pandy Line at 707-571-7747.

## Recap of the 1961 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion by Jim Nelson and Ann Hutchinson Porrino '61

The class of 1961 held its 50th reunion celebration in June and returned 65 class members and spouses from various parts of the country--even Peter Schmidt and Jane Hamilton Schmidt from Africa!

Ann Hutchinson Porrino, Debbie Jalli Martini, Pam Esposti Alberigi, Carol Jamison Fitzgerald and Janice Horn Myers created the two-day event. Other grads contributed by donating wine, mailing information, coordinating people and events and other tasks.

The reunion kicked off Friday evening at the Flamingo Hotel. A selection of grilled food and an open bar were around the swimming pool, where classmates relaxed and shared tales of life's many changes. After a few words, many classmates were back in the groove, almost as if the past 50 years had been erased.

A common thread was that '61 is a special class that really cares about each other. Everyone is important. Photos and '61 year books recalled what life was like a half century ago. A photographer took pictures for the 1961 Memories Book.

Class memorabilia was displayed and a list of lost classmates. When people saw the SRHS banner, they realized they were back in Panther Country. Authors Charles Johnson and Nancy Rolph Johnson displayed their books and talked about their motivations and their lives. Copies of the books were available at a discount with special personal endorsements.

The relaxed atmosphere set the stage for Saturday's activities, including an outstanding tour of SRHS led by SRHS Foundation's Mike Daniels and Tony Negri. Many changes have occurred since 1961, most notably DeSoto Hall, the new math and English building named after Eugene DeSoto, a longtime, honored teacher. We were re-educated about SRHS pride and history, but the smell from the hog pens in the ag area could have been eliminated!

The tour provided an excellent way to move to the dinner program later that night at the Flamingo. A photographer

and a videographer roamed about, interviewing and capturing activities. Bob Beretta, Pam Esposti Alberigi, Henry Bisordi and Gary Rasche provided selected wines.

After dinner, Jim Nelson (class president) introduced Pandy, who let loose with some funky music and really had the moves! Pandy led the inspired audience in singing the SRHS fight song, which got the juices flowing and made a good back drop for Nelson to address the group in an interactive and light hearted way.

Ann Hutchinson Porrino recognized the committee members for their hard work. Jim Nelson introduced other class officers, who also spoke. They included Phil Caneveri (VP), Janice Horn Myers, (secretary) and Ann Hutchison Porrino (treasurer).

Jim Nelson recognized the class as distinguished and full of accomplishment and pride. Then, he re-

visited the past, recalling what happened in 1961. Class members spoke about some specific SRHS memories. Bobby Muelrath discussed agriculture; Dave Spahn spoke about the music department and referred to the William J. Barclay Endowment Fund; Bobby Yates addressed the sports program; Eddie Haskins, Richard Pitkin, and Jim Grace added highlights and lowlights.

After Nelson's closing remarks, the DJ played 1960s music and a few

songs by Santa Rosa's own group, the Castells. The upbeat atmosphere brought out the best in the '61 Panthers, who could really shake a leg! The fun continued until midnight when classmates reluctantly said their goodbyes. A fantastic 50TH celebration, for sure!

What else could we expect from the Class of 1961? The story is to be continued.



Back Row: Lavon Allen, Mary Mailer, Lynn Geisenhofer, Carole Jamison, Jim Nelson, Debbie Jalli, Janice Horn  
Front Row: Bobby Yates, Ann Hutchinson, Pam Esposti, Maty Jo Nattkemper, Mike Bogue





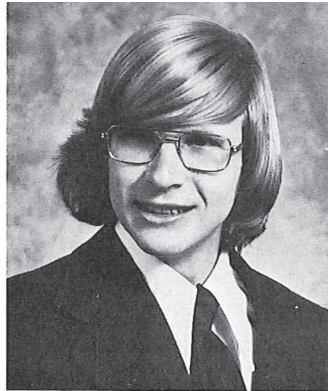
During its tour of the SRHS campus as a part of their reunion back in June, the Class of '91 made a very generous cash donation to the SRHS Foundation. It is much appreciated and underscores "Once a Panther, Always a Panther" . . . after

**Gavin Chilcott '81** left his career in professional bike racing, he founded BMC Racing in SR in 2006, the organization that, with Australia's Cadel Evens on its team, won this year's prestigious Tour de France. No small accomplishment, that! . . . in

another big accomplishment **Julia Stamps Mallon '97** not only was the first-place finisher in the Santa Rosa Marathon in late August, but she also qualified for the Boston Marathon and to run in Houston in the Olympic marathon trials. Julia began her running career at SRHS and continued at Stanford where she was an All-American. You go, girl!

. . . The wonders of technology! **Daria (Wendy) Bishop '85**, now living in Vermont where she makes her living as a photographer, was scheduled for a wedding that was in doubt because of the damage to the bride-to-be's house and possessions by Hurricane Irene. Daria donated her services and helped harness the social media Facebook and secured

donations of flowers, cake, makeup, hairstyling, music and other items so the wedding could take place as scheduled. Check out her website: [www.dariabishop.com](http://www.dariabishop.com) . . . **Jenny Allen '85** has lived in Port Townsend, WA for 18 years. She recently opened Jenny Jo Clothing, where she sells "refashioned" and eco-friendly clothing with water-based prints by local women artists. She, her husband and her kids live in a log cabin. Jenny's website says it all [www.jennyjoclothing.com](http://www.jennyjoclothing.com) . . . The recipient of the Golden Quill Award granted by the American Authors Association for his children's books, author **Thomas T.E. Watson '74** recently

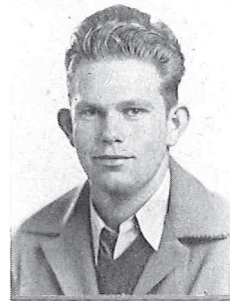


Thomas T.E. Watson  
1974 Echo

returned to his elementary school stomping grounds at Burbank Elementary for a day's visit to urge students to develop their writing skills . . . **Donna Dennes Peterson '67**, a founding director of the Foundation, was rummaging in her garage and stumbled upon a box of *Echoes* gathering dust. The '26, '27, and '28 editions

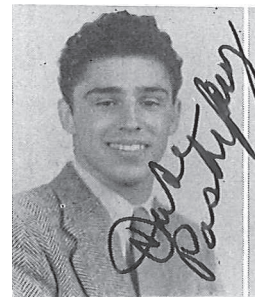
and a '28 commencement program are now in the museum . . . The **Class of 1966** recently celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> reunion and made a very generous donation to the Foundation general fund. Much appreciated! . . . former SRHS social science teacher **Lee Torliatt** called with significant news about **Frank Romano '69**, who earned a slew of post-graduate degrees after leaving SRHS and today is considered an authority on the ongoing Mid-East conflicts. His latest book *Love and Terror in the Middle East*

focuses on his efforts to help bring solutions to the current Israeli-Palestinian crisis. Frank has published articles, spoken at American and European conferences, led peace marches and interfaith events in Israel and the West Bank . . . Yet another Panther who's realized some heady accomplishments is **Caitlin Campbell Woodbury '72**, daughter of **Doug Campbell**, former SRHS and MHS English instructor and longtime Director of Secondary Curriculum for the SR district. Caitlin worked at the Press Democrat and in the wine industry before she headed to France, where she and



Merle Webb  
1942 Echo

her husband operate a B&B. She also moonlights for the noted TV travel expert Rick Steeves . . . Panther accomplishments are everywhere: **Merle Webb '42** sent an August 2000 Sacramento Bee article about



John Poshepny  
1943 Echo

**John Poshepny '43**, who was made a member of the royal court by the king of Thailand for his secret CIA work training and leading members of the Hmong during the Vietnam War. Poshepny and his small army successfully contributed to the Allied war effort for a number of years.

## Reunions: Details, Dates and Announcements

Go to the Foundation website for more information: [www.srhsf.org](http://www.srhsf.org) and click on "Reunion Details."

### 2001 CLASS REUNION - 10<sup>TH</sup>

October 29 11 am Tour SRHS  
October 29 6 pm Flamingo Hotel  
Other Activities TBA

Information: [www.srhs2001.com](http://www.srhs2001.com)  
[santa.rosa.high.2001@gmail.com](mailto:santa.rosa.high.2001@gmail.com)



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