



# SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2013

Vol. 25

Issue 1

*The mission of the Santa Rosa High School Foundation is to serve as a charitable organization to unite Santa Rosa High School alumni, parents, faculty, staff and interested community members in order to provide financial support for SRHS programs and students, and to preserve and document the history and traditions of SRHS.*

## SRHS athletic families—part deux

By Mike Daniels '59

Last spring the Foundation Newsletter printed an article about a couple of SRHS families who contributed several generations of Panther athletes. Because it was so much fun compiling the information, the newsletter staff decided to do it again—but this time look at a single generation of athletes, all of whom became respected and honored coaches.

The athletes of the Underhill and Read families, share the DNA of athletic fathers, both of whom passed on interest and skill to their sons. Jim Underhill was an outstanding football player at St. Mary's College and Brick Read played for a number of years on the Los Angeles Angels Pacific Coast League baseball team.

**Jim Underhill, Jr. '52** lettered, played football and ran track throughout his four years at SRHS. He developed life-long friendships there and credits Coach

Lloyd Gromer for developing his interest in track and field. Jim went to SRJC and transferred to San Jose State, where he was coached by Bud Winter, who put together a track team well known as "Speed City." After San Jose, Jim taught and coached in Hayward, then came to Piner High

in its inaugural year, 1966. At Piner, in addition to teaching, he coached track and field for 18 years and cross-country for 23. He coached 25 varsity championship teams but is proudest of the success of his cross country athletes—they were ranked number 2 nationally in 1965 and 1976 by the US Track & Field Federation. At his retirement, the Piner athletic complex was named in his honor. Jim served for 20 years as the meet referee for the North Coast Section Championship track and field meets at UC Berkeley. His coaching philosophy centered on parental involvement, diligent training, discipline, team bonding and personal enjoyment, a philosophy that his athletes carry still. He credits much of his success to the relationship and support he enjoyed with his wife of 30 years, the former Carol Nielsen.

**Dick Underhill '55** was known primarily for his skills on the basketball court, but he also played football and baseball. He lettered in all three and was awarded the coveted blanket award by his basketball teammates. At a game in Ukiah, Dick scored the most points and did so again in the annual faculty-senior basketball contest. At SRHS Dick played on the NBL championship B team and was named to the All Tournament Team at the Drake High School Tournament. In the NBL he was second team All League in basketball and baseball and was an honorable mention in football. He also earned the American Legion All-Around Athlete award. He was captain of the basketball team at SRJC. Bob Mastin, SRJC coach, said one of Dick's assets was "his capabilities as a leader" and that he never stopped hustling on the



Dick Underhill

1955 *Echo*

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## President's Message

So much has happened already in the 2013-14 school year, and it's hard to believe the SRHS Foundation is 25 years old. This is going to be an exciting, activity-filled year.

First, I want to acknowledge and congratulate new directors Steve Olsen '61, Matt Metzger '91 and Phil Hulen (married to Betty Johnson '58). Along with enthusiasm, Steve has legal expertise; Matt, a returning board member, will join the technology/website committee; and Phil, a CPA, will add his knowledge to the finance committee. The dedicated board of directors now numbers 23 members.

Secondly, the Panther Project Fund (PPF) is off to a great start for the year by funding \$30,000 worth of requests for equipment, software, field trips and classroom items, all of which will enhance student learning experiences.

Two dedications took place in September. One was for the electronic sign that is the envy of other schools. The sign was installed and donated by Michael and Susan Burch of Scott A/D, Bill Friedman, the Biagi Brothers, Dick Colombini and Vic and Mark Trione. The Foundation and its eight founders were also recognized.

Then, at Homecoming, the Foundation was again honored, this time for its 25 years of support for SRHS and its part in funding the logo on the new Nevers Field turf. Also recognized at the game was recently retired athletic director, Gary Dellepere for his 30-plus years of dedication.

By continuing your memberships and annual contributions, by joining One Thousand Panthers (OTP) and by attending the Foundation's three fund raising events, you help the Foundation fund the various requests from SRHS. Attendance at the recent golf tournament, as an example, was the largest to date and resulted in over \$20,000 that will directly benefit SRHS students. Chairpersons Doug Pavese and Sue Bolt organized the tournament with the help of the golf committee and the directors.

I realize that some of you are aware that the Foundation is the recipient of the James and Marie Fleck estate. The estate will be invested, and the earnings from that



investment will be restricted to student scholarships. The Foundation will soon release an explanation of how this fantastic gesture will affect SRHS seniors. Little is known about Fleck, a 1946 SRHS graduate but more information will be uncovered soon and will be shared with membership.

Also, I urge you to attend the Foundation Crab Feed scheduled for January 18 at the Vets'. This year will celebrate the 25 years of the Foundation and will honor the eight alumni who created the organization. And don't forget the Polenta Feed on April 25, the grandest of all reunions!

Jim Ward  
President, 2012-14

### Author's Night coming soon

This year's free admission event, scheduled for November 6 at 7 pm in the SRHS auditorium will feature cartoonist and author Stephan Pastis in conversation with *Press Democrat* columnist Chris Smith, whose services contribute greatly to the success of the event.

While Stephan is not a SRHS alumnus, he is a Panther in his heart as his wife is an alumnae and his son is a SRHS junior this year. Stephan earned a BA in Political Science at UC Berkeley, and his law degree is from UCLA. After practicing law for a number of years, he decided to follow his interest in cartooning.

His comic strip *Pearls Before Swine* is published in over 600 newspapers around the world and has developed a huge following of all ages. His first novel *Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made* was on the *New York Times* best seller list for six weeks. His second book, *Timmy Failure: Now You've Done It* was recently published.



Copperfield's Books will be present to sell copies of Stephan's books, and he will autograph the books at the evening's conclusion.

You won't want to miss this year's event that promises to be well attended. Circle the date on your calendar now!

Continued from page 3 basketball court. He transferred to San Jose State where he majored in physical education and earned his teaching credential. He taught PE for a number of years before going into the business world.

Also noteworthy is the Read family—Dick, Len and Don. All three credit Coach Underhill and their dad “Brick” Read for their athletic and coaching success..

**Dick Read '47**, the eldest, golfed in the low 70s, played third base, pitched and was named to the Northern California All-Star Team. He also boxed, played basketball and football. He served as president of the Block S Society and earned an All-Star sweater. Jimmy Underhill called him a “model player.” After high school, he played football at St. Mary’s College, enlisted in the army, then graduated from Tulsa University

where he also played football. Dick then coached at Pleasant Hill High, St. Mary’s High and San Rafael High. He earned an MA and became head football and tennis coach at College of Marin.



Dick, Don and Len Read playing for the Santa Rosa Rosebuds

Photo courtesy Len Read

Jim Underhill, Sr.—Some notable facts

- attended SRHS freshman year, 1918
- graduated from Napa High School
- graduated St. Mary’s College
- starred in football and basketball
- All-Coast halfback
- Honorable Mention All-American
- member, St. Mary’s Hall of Fame
- member, High School Coaches Hall of Fame
- National Football League referee
- SRHS coach and teacher 30 years
- coached 6 NBL football championship teams

**Don Read'53** also was a multi-sport athlete and earned many honors. He batted .298 on the baseball team and was named to the All-Star team in football. His teammates selected him to receive the Blanket Award, and he earned an All-Star sweater. He earned his BA and MA before he embarked on his career coaching football. He began at Placer High School, then moved to Petaluma High, Humboldt State, Portland State, University of

Oregon, Oregon Tech and University of Montana—where he enjoyed a lengthy and highly successful career. At Montana he won 70% of his team’s games and in 1995 coached the Grizzlies to a Division 1-AA National Championship. He became Athletic Director at Montana and authored *Football Tales*, a collection of 52 stories about his gridiron experiences.

**Len Read '54** was a three-sport athlete at SRHS—football, basketball and track. He was awarded an All-Star sweater and was a North Bay League School Star selection. He earned a football scholarship to the University of Oregon where he suffered a hip injury that sent him to SRJC. There he enjoyed a spectacular baseball career. A year later he was back at U of O. He was a member of the 1958 Rose Bowl football team and was a two-time All Conference baseball player. Like his brothers, he earned an MA. He taught and coached in South Eugene and San Lorenzo before going to Montgomery High School where he coached football, wrestling and baseball. At SRJC he coached football, baseball and golf. His baseball team won the 1967 conference championship and was co-champion in 1971. His golf teams won four championships.

These are just a few examples of the families that have sent outstanding athletes to SRHS. Do you have a similar story? Send it to us. We’d love to hear it and to share it with our readers.



**One Thousand Panthers  
Thank you to our new donors  
Welcome to the Parade of  
Panthers!**

Richard M. Bastoni 1957

Tom Beckman Parent

Andree & Larry Benson Friends

Class of 1958

Charles P. Faccini 1956

In memory of my Grandmother Ida Casassa 1912

Wes Farniloe 1961 Retired Math Teacher

Donald Frati 1951

Gerald L. Grey 1958 \*

Herman 1954 & Nancy Weeks 1955 Griffin

Richard Heidebrink 1964

James G. Laier Jr. 1958 \*

Santa Rosa High School Administration,  
Faculty & Staff 2013

\*Indicates multiple donations

# Letters to the Editor

Ed Note: Steve Hart '68 wrote a story in the summer issue about two SRHS alumni who rode bicycles to Seattle in 1909. He based his account on a book about the adventure written by the daughter of one of the bicyclists. The author sent the Foundation a donation and a letter to Steve.

Dear Foundation,

I'm forwarding this contribution (check) and the letter that came with it. Evelyn McDaniel Gibb is the daughter of Ray McDaniel, SRHS grad who was profiled in the summer newsletter.

Regards,  
Steve

Steve Hart,

Thank you very much for sending me the summer issue of your SRHS Foundation Newsletter. Your lead article with your nicely done review of Vic and Ray's trip as recounted in *Two Wheels North* is masterful indeed. You and Lee (Torliatt) so adroitly capture the tone and spirit I hoped to convey—of the last century's unfamiliar-to-us today challenges for cyclists. Yet you and Lee, too, took but a fraction of the words I needed to tell their story.

I earlier congratulated Lee on his professional piece (reference: Lee Torliatt, "SR to Seattle on Battered Bikes," *Sonoma Historian*. #3, 2012). Now it's your turn to be applauded by this ninety-year-old admirer. Each of you is a credit to the organization you represent, while at the same time showing your readership how fortunate they are to have a couple of world-class journalists on staff.

Thanks again for the copy of your newsletter.

Best,  
Evelyn Gibb

Editor:

Thank you so much to the SRHS Foundation for awarding me the Jerry Poncia Memorial Scholarship. It means a lot to be picked by such an amazing crowd. Thank you!

Kelly Raney '13

Editor:

On June 26, 2013 the Santa Rosa Board of Education accepted the Foundation's generous donation of \$8,459.50 to SRHS. As per instructions, the donation will be allocated toward the following:

\$1,100 for a CTA Funding Skills USA Competition  
\$1,180 for the purchase of ab Elmo for special education  
\$3,000 for the purchase of tools for the welding class  
\$290 for the purchase of dvd's for social science  
\$938.50 for the purchase of classroom materials for Spanish  
\$1,951 for the purchase of equipment for physics

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.

Bill Carle  
President  
Board of Education

## SRHS Foundation receives generous bequest

James Fleck, who graduated from Santa Rosa High School in 1946, passed away recently and left the Foundation with a very generous gift to SRHS students. The amount of this gift will exceed two million dollars. Fleck's will specified that income generated from this gift be given to graduating seniors in the form of scholarships to assist them with



Jim Fleck  
1946 *Echo*

post-high school education. It also directed the Foundation to invest the gift and to distribute the income.

Little is known about Fleck after he graduated from SRHS. While a student, he was a good athlete, playing football and baseball and running track. He was secretary and vice president of the Block S Society. After graduation he attended SRJC, transferred to San Jose State and then enlisted in U.S. Air Force and served a tour in Korea.

The Foundation's scholarship committee is currently working to establish a meaningful process and criteria that will honor Fleck's wishes and will appropriately identify students to receive an award. Tentatively, plans will address a number of scholarship awards for a number of students who demonstrate, in the words of Fleck's will, "need of college tuition and who, in the opinion of the (Foundation) board, demonstrate great future promise."

The legacy of James Fleck will financially benefit SRHS students for generations to come.

## 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 alumni.

*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 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 Schlich '57, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59

## SRHS Foundation Directors

Carol Laabs Patterson '55  
JoAnn Hembree MacDonald '56  
Jacky Cooper Schlich '57  
Doug Pavese '58 \*  
Nadine Wiggins  
Smedshammer '59  
Mike Daniels '59 \*  
Steve Olsen, '61  
Ann Hutchinson Porrino '61  
Sylvia Strong '62  
Jim Ward '62  
Ilona Mayer Williams '64  
Donna Dennes Peterson '67 \*

Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68  
Jon Stiffler '72  
Mary Orsborn Beseda '74  
Lee Miller '76  
Mary Schaefer '76  
Dan Briebescas '87  
Christine Romani Tonelli '88  
Matt Metzger '91  
Sue Bolt Friend  
Phil Hulen Friend  
Tony Negri Retired Faculty  
Art Horner Faculty Liaison  
\*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 the Foundation Board will direct 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

The Santa Rosa High School Foundation is organized as a 501c3 non-profit corporation. For further information, please contact SRHS Foundation, P.O. Box 11006 Santa Rosa, CA 95406, e-mail [donations@srhsf.org](mailto:donations@srhsf.org) or call the Pandy Line 707-571-7747

Please always speak with your tax advisor when considering making a 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 U.S. Postal Service to PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 96406-1006 or through e-mail to [mdaniels@sonic.net](mailto:mdaniels@sonic.net).

### NEXT DEADLINE:

January 1, 2014 for the  
February, 2014 mailing



### In Memoriam

Heidi Zimmer	Instructor
Grace Young Brown	1935
Jeisie Brezzo Noonan	1937
Edward Rousseau	1942
Margaret Byron Madison	1943
Rosemary Pickard Destruel	1946
Myron Lewis	1946
Delores Babbini Waaland	1946
James Lovell	1953
Timothy Hickam	1962
Frank Almeraz	1963
John Bussman	1965
Linda Fess	1965
Frank Wyatt	1972
Jessica Knight	1996

The good news to share with all of you is that the Foundation continues to grow by welcoming 50 new members and receiving 145 membership renewals since the last newsletter. Contributions and memorial gifts this period total \$23,236. Thanks to all of you who include the Foundation in your gift giving.

The following members and friends contributed additional funds over and above their membership fees:

Agilent Technologies Employee Giving Campaign	Jeffery Gleason-Jaynes '72	James Miller '40
Agilent Technologies Foundation	Norma Gleason Friend	William and Linda Pisenti '66
Friedman Family Foundation Fund	Rick and Paulette Gomes '68	Thelma Ramsey '43
Human Race	Jay Gottlieb '92	Carolyn Rhodes '51
Karen Basso '64	Georgia Hogle '52	Freya Richardson '60
David Brown '80	Rick and Benita Jones Friends	Mary Linn Sadler '65
Joanne Bruggemann '51	Debbie Kamber '74	Jean Schulz Friend
Bill and Barbara Burke Friends	Melania Kang Friend	Ralph Silva-Broussard Staff
Ron and Suzanne Calloway Friends	Alana Kelly '78	Edyth Sorensen '56
Hugh Cambra '68	Jeanna King-Ruppel Friend	Mark and Pam Sotak '88 & '86
Dan and Connie Earl Retired Staff	Lou Knecht '44	Sandra Spencer '54
Rhonda Elliott '68	Ron Kristof Retired Staff	Merv Stithem '53
Patricia Engman Retired Staff	Shirley Larson '52	Robert Tuttle '40
Barbara Fisher '48	Jan Lawson '48	A.M. Venturini '58
Susan Gambini '60	Peter and Judy Magrini '59 & '60	Scott and Malia Yang Friends
Gena Gatlin '60	Margaret Mayer Keith '50	Brian and Dana Welsh Friends
David Gervais '59	Jenny Mathews '66	Eileen Wise '55
Evelyn Gibb Friend	Carol Mazzia '68	Linda and Todd Zuker Friends
	Donald McCarty '66	

LIFETIME MEMBERS: Allen Bealer '63, Sam McMillan '63, Jan Lawson '48, Michael Nelligan '57

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.srhsf.org](http://www.srhsf.org) to make their contributions and join. Any concerns or questions you have about your membership or contributions, should be directed to ILONA MAYER WILLIAMS '64 at 707 568-4157, or [LWILLIE888@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:LWILLIE888@SBCGLOBAL.NET)

### Panther gear on sale

If you've ever been on the SRHS campus on a Friday, you've been impressed by the visual pride the student body and staff demonstrate by their clothes—it's a sea of orange black!

Alumni can also demonstrate their Panther pride by purchasing t-shirts, sweatshirts and other items at Pandy's Marketplace on campus. One big seller to students is the delicious smoothies whipped up by staffers.

The market is a highly successful enterprise operated by award-winning instructor Ron Reichmuth and his students. Begun by Reichmuth to provide student work skills important to future success, it is a highly visible and valuable operation on campus.

Interested in learning more or purchasing items? Contact the main office secretary, Marlene Callen, at 528-5292. She'll help you make arrangements.

## Memorial & Special Contributions

### *The Warren Ahr Memorial*

Lee Ward '53

Jean Ahr '53

### *The Clifford Bath Memorial*

Bob Feist '58

### *The Robert C. Bush Memorial*

Doralyn Wicklund '52

### *The John Bussman Memorial*

Chris Zeek '68

Rick and Paulette Gomes '68

Mike and Kathy Grace '65

### *The Ida Casassa Memorial*

Charles Faccini '56

### *The Louise M. Fertitta Memorial*

Ron Fertitta '52

### *The Nancy Barnard Hall Memorial*

Tody Burton '55

Merlynn Carr '55

Allene Cornol '55

Shirley Cutting '55

Nancy Griffin '55

Bev Keefe '55

Barbara Lampe '55

Carol Lorenzo '55

Jeanette Pierre '55

Rochelle Powell '55

Norma Rittenhouse '55

Al and Yvonne Garayalde '55

### *The Shirley Hutchinson Memorial*

Ruth VanBemmel Friend

Ann Porrino '61

### *The Sandra Loughan Memorial*

Jerry Grey '58

### *The June Fox Marsh Memorial*

William and Gloria Wymore '47

### *The Henry & Doris Matteri Memorial*

Carl Jacobson '51

### *The Pam Griffin McMahon Memorial*

Jim and Diane Keegan '66/'67

### *The Joanne Murphy Memorial*

Carol Carr-Colglazier '58

Herman and Ruth Hauschildt '58

James and Shirley Hurley '58

### *The Margaret New Memorial*

John and Gaye LeBaron Friends

### *The Lora Reilly Memorial*

Marlene Stevenson '50

### *The Edith and Joseph Rocco Memorial*

Rocco Painting Co., Inc. Friend

### *The Joseph Rocco Memorial*

Dick & Angie Colombini '49

John and Rochelle Berizzi Friends

Henry and Barbara Bisordi Friends

Fulton 500

Bob and Julie Ratto '48

### *The Larry Sani Memorial*

Rae Gambini '37

### *The Daniel C. Turner Memorial*

Bob and Dolores Zeni Friends

### *The Ted Ulberg Memorial*

Lynn Nelsen '64

### *The Del Waldow Memorial*

Donald Labbs '53

### *The Ed & Dorothy Wright Memorial*

Gordon and Terri Martin '69

### *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.



## Crab Feed set for January

by Donna Dennes Peterson '67 and Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68

The SRHS Foundation cordially invites you to its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Crab Feed on Saturday, January 18 at the Vets' Memorial Building in Santa Rosa. The menu will include fresh Dungeness crab, ceviche, clam chowder and all the fixings prepared by renowned chef Randy Apel.

The Foundation will celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and will honor Founding board members. The SRHS cheerleading squad will lead cheers to fire up school spirit. They will also lead a silent auction, the proceeds to support their program.

Tickets are \$50 per person, on sale beginning November 1. No-host cocktails begin at 5:30 pm and dinner served at 7 pm. Seating is for tables of 8 to 10 people.

To order tickets, please call the Pandey Line at 571-7747 and leave your name and phone number. Your call will be returned as soon as possible.

The Crab Feed is a great way to support students and programs at SRHS. Remember...  
Once a Panther, Always a Panther!



# SRHS honors Foundation

The SRHS Foundation and its board of directors was recognized twice recently for contributions to Santa Rosa High School and will enjoy a third celebration in March. It's becoming a heady experience for this dedicated group of alumni and friends.

On September 24, at the afternoon dedication ceremony for the new electronic sign on Mendocino Avenue, the Foundation and its board of directors were congratulated for its \$20,000 donation toward the sign's construction. The eight graduates who created the Foundation in 1988 were also recognized. The eight include Mike and Kathy Daniels Grace (both 1965), Mike Daniels (1959), Doug Pavese (1958), Rick Call (1967), Donna Peterson (1967), Doug Bower (1967) and Bev Swan (1941). Also honored

Operations. Bower graduated from SRHS in 1967 and Brunneman in 1996.

Messages on the new sign broadcast upcoming events at SRHS, student accomplishments, meetings and other campus matters. The messages are updated regularly by principal's secretary Marlene Callen, who needn't leave her desk to do so.

The handsome new sign was funded primarily by the Foundation and its members, Michael and Sue Burch of Scott A/G, Bill Friedman, the Biagi brothers, Dick Colombini and the Trione brothers, Vic and Mark.

Then, on September 27 as a part of the grand re-opening of Nevers Field to celebrate the installation of new turf and Panther logo, the Foundation board and the district administrators were again recognized in front of spectators as a part of Homecoming pre-game ceremonies.

The Foundation contributed \$5,000 toward the logo's installation. Also honored for his contributions was long-time SRHS physical education instructor, football coach and athletic director Gary Dellepere, who recently retired. As to the new logo, Principal Coscarelli says, "It's big and gaudy and beautiful!"

Finally, sometime in March, SRHS will



Six of the eight founders sit on the SRHS front steps

L to R: Mike Grace '65, Rick Call '67, Donne Dennes Peterson '67, Doug Bower '67, Mike Daniels '59 and Doug Pavese '58

Photo courtesy Marlene Callen

for their contributions were Socorro Shiels, Superintendent of Santa Rosa City Schools, Doug Bower, Associate Superintendent for Business Services and Jennifer Brunneman, Director of Maintenance and

once again recognize Foundation contributions and the eight founders at a yet to be decided 140<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of SRHS. The Student-Teacher-Parent organization and its president, Sue Burch, are in charge of this big event, tentative plans for which include dinner, live and silent auction and a presentation of the history of SRHS.





# 18<sup>th</sup> Foundation golf tournament tops previous

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Foundation Golf Tournament held on September 13 raised \$22,000 that will go directly to student academic and athletic enhancement programs at SRHS. The Foundation thanks all golfers, tee and cart bag sponsors, raffle, mulligan and silent and live auction prize contributors. The Foundation especially acknowledges major sponsors: The Coddling Foundation, the Dale Family, Exchange Bank, James Laier Jr., North Valley Bank, Doug Pavese, Ann Porrino and Varenna. Recognition goes to all hardworking board and volunteer committee members for their tireless efforts. Additional gratitude goes to the SRHS Cheerleaders, Pandy, the SRHS Women's and Men's Golf Team and their faculty supervisor, Art Horner, who welcomed and assisted golfers.

In a shotgun start, 116 golfers in Open, Women and Coed divisions played at the Oakmont West course in a scramble format. This was our largest attended tournament and certainly a spirited one. The weather could not have been better. Following the tournament, golfers and guests attended a fantastic 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 winners: Open Flight: Ted Hollen, Kevin Anderson, Tyson Saraceni, Garrett Waldren; Women's Flight: Cathy Romero, Kaleiya Romero, Gail Holmes, Nancy Kennedy; Coed Division: Jim Laier, Mark DeMeo, Jay Deike, Cindy Zinnamon; Men's Long Drive: Tyson Saraceni; Women's Long Drive: Kaleiya Romero; Senior Long Drive: Jason West; Men's Closest to the Hole #16: Wally Lowry; Women's Closest to the Hole #16: Lynn Davis; Putting contest: Ed Pisenti.

The date of the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual tournament is Friday, September 12, 2014. Mark your calendar today. The tournament is open to all men and women golfing supporters of SRHS. For information about next year's tournament, to serve on the committee or become a tournament sponsor, please email [golf@srhsf.org](mailto:golf@srhsf.org) or write SRHS Foundation Golf, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406 or call the Pandy Line at 707-571-7747.



Open Winners: Garrett Waldren, Ted Hollen, Kevin Anderson, Tyson Saraceni



Coed Winners: Accepting for the team, Jim Laier



Women's Winners: Gail Holmes, Kaleiya Romero, Cathy Romero, Nancy Kennedy



Pandy and Cheerleader Friends at the Oakmont GC

## Class of '61 turns 70

by Jim Nelson and Ann Hutchinson Porrino

For the last three years the Class of 1961 has found a way to stay connected. In the summers of 2012 and 13, the class gathered for a picnic at the River Front Park, near Windsor. It's a bucolic setting with ample shade and amenities and close to lakes and the Russian River. This year was special because most of the classmates reached the 70 year mark. Happy birthday, 61ers! The turn out this year out totaled more than 60, easily doubling the previous year's attendance. The annual event seems to be hitting the right cord with classmates.

The picnic this year on August 17 was also Kathy Quinn Jackson's birthday and everyone joined in singing Happy Birthday to her, not exactly in harmony ..., but very nice! Kathy traveled from her mountain home outside Kalispell, Montana. In addition to Kathy, other classmates traveled from out of state to join the festivities. Peter and Jane Hamilton Schmidt came from Gainesville, Florida--after they returned from Tanzania and Sri Lanka. Nick and Michele Sokol returned from a vacation in Wyoming, and Gary Stevens came from Oregon to mix with classmates.

River Front Park provided a relaxed atmosphere for everyone to just be themselves and reminisce with old friends. For the second year, Richard Pitkin did an excellent job of barbequing and his wife brought her signature berry cobbler. Everyone brought a favorite dish to share and, needless to say, there was lots of great food and wonderful friendships all around.

Committee members Debbie Jalli Martini, Carole Jamison Fitzgerald, Pam Esposti Alberigi, Jolene Asti Carrillo and Ann Hutchinson Porrino made the entire event a huge success. Special thanks to the committee members for planning

and ensuring that everything would be on target to provide an enjoyable experience. It is hoped that additional classmates can join the festivities next year. The committee worked like a well oiled machine but new ideas are always welcome.



Many photos were taken and distributed to classmates by email.

Bobby Yates, who lives in Novato, said he "liked the picnic more than the reunion." He "had a great time." Bobby played basketball at U. of Oregon and in the military. He worked over 30 years in the Tamalpais Union School District as Director of Adult and Community Education Programs.

Dave Spahn, who lives in San Francisco, enjoyed a long career as a professional advertising photographer in New York and San Francisco. He still sings with various groups and had this to say: "Picnic lots of fun, informal, enjoyed just sitting down for a bite with classmates, loved the outdoor setting."

Bobby Muelrath lives in the Santa Rosa area where he makes his living in the dairy industry and holds annual Pumpkin Patch festivities at his ranch every fall. He de-



*Left side of table: Gary Leopold, Carole Jamison Fitzgerald, Sara Stratten Boulware, Dave Spahn, Nick Sokol*

*Right side: Lynn Geisenhofer Leopold, Debbie Jalli Martini, Rick Wallstrum, Dave Sloat*

clared the picnic was "better than the 50th Reunion," and he is willing to host future class activities at his ranch,"

The 61ers are already looking forward to the next class event .... The friendships just get better!



by **Pandy**

**Dana Adams Williamson, '90**, was recently appointed by Governor Jerry Brown as his cabinet secretary. When Press Democrat columnist Chris Smith printed the news, he wrote, "should you email her with sug-

gestions for vitalizing California, jot in the subject line, 'Bleeding Orange and Black.' " . . . Chris Smith also noted that **Brian Frye '92** put together home movies of Richard Nixon filmed by his aides H.R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and Dwight Chapin. Titled "Our Nixon," the film also makes use of about 4,000 audio tapes . . . Ever wonder about the definition of "irony?" Well, one way of looking at it is when things turn out differently than expected. Consider this: Andrew "Billy" Montgomery, who graduated from SRHS in 1939, was the first Santa Rosan to lose his life in World War II. Billy was at Pearl Harbor on the battleship *USS California*. Developer **Hugh Coddling '36** honored his memory by naming the Montgomery Village shopping center after him. Then, when the second high school in town opened in 1958, the name was also applied to that institution. So, Montgomery High School is named for a Santa Rosa High School graduate. That's irony . . .



Ron Desideri

2013 *Echo*

What's not ironic is the credit that finally came to SRHS wood shop instructor **Ron Desideri**. He was recognized by the Sonoma County Office of Education as the Career Technology Education teacher for 2013. Ron has the special ability to engage his students in learning

construction skills and to connect them with the industry. Way to go, Ron! . . . **John McFarlin '10** is enjoying a stellar career academically and athletically at Loyola Marymount College in Los Angeles. On track to graduate in three years with a degree in business finance, John is captain of the Lions' men's

Barbara Bassett  
Duncan1941 *Echo*

soccer team. His coach says of the former Empire Player of the Year at SRHS, "John is the hardest worker on the team, fights to win every game . . . and is a very smart player." . . . **Barbara Bassett Duncan '41** celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday last summer with huge turnout of family and friends in El Dorado Hills. Four special attendees were Barbara's SRHS classmates, **Jean McCrae Cox, Eliane Bossa Bacigalupi, Fran Burke and George Alves**. Those friendships are special—and lasting! . . . **David Vann '85**, who appeared at the first Foundation sponsored Author's Night two years ago, was awarded the St. Francis College Literary Prize for his novel *Dirt*. He also was awarded an Honorary Professorship (Professeur Honoraire de L'Universite deFranche-Comte), and he said, "It was a beautiful ceremony, and I'm grateful to all who helped make this happen." David recently published his latest novel *Goat Mountain* . . . Another winner is **Cynthia Faust '85**

whose *Breathless Wines Sonoma County Blanc de Noirs Sparkling Wine* earned the sweepstakes award for specialty wine at this year's Sonoma County Harvest Fair . . . **Maryann Byrne Mariani '58** donated a pile of memorabilia to the museum. Items included *Santa Rosans*, one of which included an article about the 1955 SRHS performance of Sammy Davis, Jr., arranged by drama teacher Glen Guymon. Throughout his tenure at SRHS, Guymon brought many Hollywood celebrities to campus to entertain students. . . Please share your news or news about your classmates with Pandy. Send Panther Patter to mdaniels@sonic.net or to Pandy c/o SRHSF PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1006.



Cynthia Faust

1985 *Echo*

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