



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2014

Vol. 26

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, always in tune

by Mike Daniels '59

Music, an integral part of SRHS curricula from the very beginning, has always been in tune with the times. Instrumental and vocal class offerings have consistently reflected contemporary interests.

At one time an individual musical performance during commencement was required to prove the soon-to-be SRHS graduate was in fact duly educated. But instead of playing or singing, one could choose to otherwise perform, say, a speech or a dance.

Those requirements are long gone, of course, but curricular and extracurricular music and performance remain important to students. Some talented Panthers have gone on to various levels of accomplishment in a post-high school world.

Dan Hicks '59 early on was fascinated by music and rhythm. At 11 years old he was playing the drums and by high school he was the drummer in local dance bands. In high school he and some friends played jazz and in various places around Santa Rosa. At SRJC he took up folk music.



Dan Hicks
1958 Echo

In 1958 he was part of the divided SRHS senior class that made up Montgomery High School's first graduating class. After high school he entered San Francisco State College and earned a degree in broadcasting.

But music called to him. Picking up the guitar, he played both guitar and drums in the 60s with the folk-rock group The

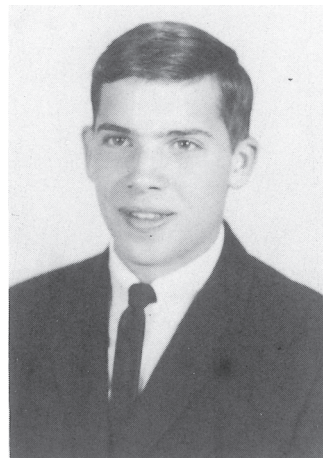
Charlatans.

Later, Dan put together an acoustic combo with two backup singers he dubbed "Lickettes." The combo evolved into the popular "Dan Hicks and his Hot Licks," in which Dan blended swing, jazz, folk and country

western to create a sound he called "folk jazz."

After their breakup in 1973, Dan began a solo acoustic career before forming The Acoustic Warriors in the early 80s. In 2000 the Licks regrouped and became in name more popular than ever.

Through the years, Dan has recorded with artists like Bette



Dave Hamilton
1966 Echo

Midler, Tom Waits, Rickie Lee Jones, Jimmy Buffet and Willie Nelson. But he never abandoned his unique sound.

Today Dan lives in Marin County, tours with his Hot Licks and as a vocalist with Bayside Jazz.

Dave Hamilton '66 did not play an instrument or sing while a Panther. His interest developed after graduation. His influences ranged from the popular

folk music of the 50s and 60s to the British Invasion to Bob Dylan and to such traditional folk artists as

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President's Message

The Foundation made a strong start to the 2014-15 school year. It has existed for 26 years, and each year seems to be filled with exciting activities.



First off, the Panther Project Fund (PPF) so far this year has already funded over \$10,000 in staff requests for equipment, software, field trips and other educational items for the classroom, all of which will provide enhanced educational experiences for SRHS students.

That funding is the direct result of Foundation members and contributors. By continuing memberships, by making annual contributions, by joining One Thousand Panthers (OTP) and by attending fund raising events, you help make those experiences possible.

Participation in the recent Foundation golf tournament is an example. This year's great event, chaired by Doug Pavese and Sue Bolt and assisted by the golf committee, supplied additional funding.

Another example of Foundation support for students is the James and Maria Fleck Scholarships. Fifteen substantial awards were granted last year, and another round this year may exceed that amount in dollars for continued education. Because the Foundation was the recipient of the substantial Fleck bequest, it is required to order a Certified Public Accountant audit of its financial statements each fiscal year in order to comply with the Non-Profit Integrity Act. The audit committee, made up of Phil Hulen and Mary Beseda, is now in the process of selecting an auditor to perform the task. The Foundation is confident the results will reflect the fact the organization is compliant and is financially sound.

I urge you attend the upcoming Foundation Polenta Feed, scheduled for April 24. It's a great opportunity to celebrate the 26 years of the Foundation and to experience one of the grandest all-class reunions.

To help celebrate its 50th anniversary, the 1964 class will tour the campus on September 20 and enjoy one of the many exciting, informative and interactive tours led by Tony Negri, Mike Daniels and Art Horner.

I have been asked to attend the '64 reunion, and I am looking forward to getting caught up with the folks I know and sharing some stories. I plan to provide some history of Foundation accomplishments and to explain how alumni can become active personally and financially.

Finally, I am sad to inform you that Mike Daniels '59 has retired from the Foundation's board of directors. Mike is one of the eight founding members of the organization and has been responsible for producing its outstanding newsletter. He has helped provide strong guidance for the Foundation since its inception. Mike retired from 32 years of teaching English at SRHS, and his expertise with the language is apparent in each issue. He promises to stay involved with the newsletter until other leadership is ready, and he promises to continue helping host campus tours of SRHS and Author's Night also until other leadership is ready.

Jim Ward
President 2014-16



Continued from page 1

Woody Guthrie.

After graduation from University of Pacific with a degree in history and a return to Santa Rosa, Dave discovered the musical scene in Sonoma County, reflected in the song writing and performances of Kate Wolf and The Perfect Crime (one half of which was **John Brandeburg '59**, another SRHS/MHS alumnus).

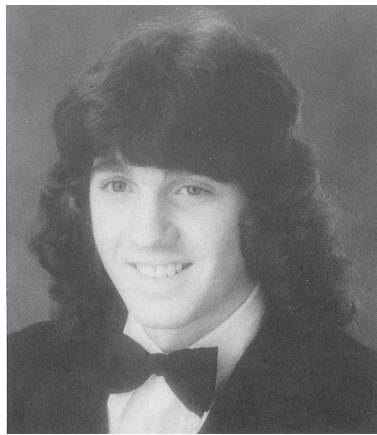
Dave had taken up the guitar in college but now knew he needed to develop his skills. He sought out Brandeburg for lessons and learned fingerstyle guitar. "The guitar is an infinite instrument," he says. "I don't think one could ever really master it. Even the greatest guitarists will tell you that."

Encouraged by Brandeburg, Dave gave live performing a try in 1979. Bouyed by his reception, Dave began performing at various venues in Sonoma County and writing songs. He also joined the bluegrass Sonoma Mountain Band.

Now retired, he performs more than ever in Sonoma County venues as a solo, as a member of a trio or as a backup musician. In addition to guitar, he plays the fiddle and the banjo, and he has won five song writing and performing awards from the West Coast Songwriters Association.

Tommy Rickard '84 formed a metal band called Latem Torment during his senior year that played with some success on the SRHS campus. After high school Tommy spent time as a drummer in

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Tommy Rickard
1984 Echo

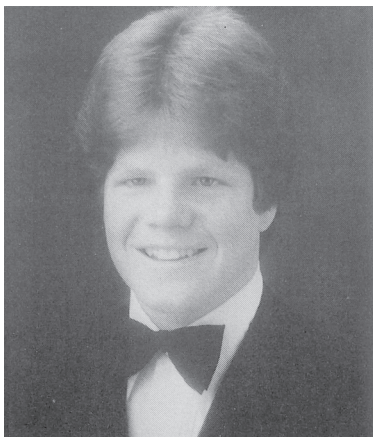
the Bay Area punk scene. He opened for other musical groups such as Black Flag and Agent Orange.

He then recorded and toured with a variety of artists and groups, including Courtney Love. Tommy also worked as a studio drummer on creations for the National Football League, National Basketball Association and a number of television programs.

Recently, he has toured

with heavy metal musician Scott Weiland and Lindsay Bruce from The Voice. In addition to drums, Tommy now plays the guitar and sings and writes songs. He is rooted in both Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Dave Fraser '85 pays tribute to the influence of SRHS vocal instructor Dan Earl on his career choice and direction. Dave played during high school with Mike Sales and the Heartbreakers. The band consisted of classmates Mike Sales, Scott Shinabarger, Chris Dengler and Jeff Tores along with Dave.



Dave Fraser
1985 Echo

The Heartbreakers played at the old Chuck E. Cheese Pizza Time Theater where they were spotted by the owner of one of the popular bars in town. That recognition led to other local gigs.

Dave studied classical piano and found interest in improvisation and composition. His musical interests led him to Boston's Berklee College of Music. He later became a keyboardist with Richrath Band and toured for 18 months.

In 1995 Dave joined Power Station New England/Sonalysts Studios, where he became a resident composer. There he wrote music and songs for a number of television, government and business clients.

In addition to advertising campaigns that included two Superbowl spots, Dave became involved in video sound design for companies like 2K Games, Atari and several others. He also created original music for NBC and Scy

Fy networks.

This busy and accomplished Panther composed music for motion picture and video game advertising trailers. Godzilla and The Lone Ranger are among them. He also developed software tools for the music industry. He lives in New York City and is a founding partner of Heavy Melody Music and Sound Design and Heavyocity Media, Inc.

Doyle Bramhall, like Ernie Nevers and Robert Ripley, didn't graduate from SRHS but did achieve a great measure of fame and success after leaving high school. In fact, he still is.

At 18, after leaving SRHS, he toured with the Fabulous Thunderbirds and then co-founded a rock and blues band. Quickly recognized for his unique ability to play the guitar, he recorded albums and played with famous bluesmen BB King and Eric Clapton and with Susan Tedeschi and Elton John.

Clapton especially understood Doyle's talent and invited him to tour with his group. Doyle's success continued as his skills expanded to include songwriting, singing and producing.

Today he's well established in blues and roots-music, and he produces records for well known talents like Clapton and Sheryl Crow and he records his own solo albums. Popular media links him romantically with movie star Rene Zellweger.

Doyle has come a long way since his days at SRHS in the mid 80s.

He was first instrumental teacher

When the Mendocino Avenue campus of SRHS opened in 1925, it welcomed music instructor Josef Walter, whose baton led the orchestra and band to competitive win after win at both national and state levels, including an appearance at the 1939 World's Fair.

Throughout his 44-year teaching career, Mr. Walter inspired and motivated the skills of his students and developed their love for music.

He also contributed significantly to the development of the Sonoma County Junior Symphony and what became the Santa Rosa Symphony.



Letters to the Editor

Ed Note: Main Office Secretary Marlene Callen received the following from the son of a former SRHS teacher. It requests a tour of the school. Because such requests are always honored, the letter is shared.

Dear Ms. Callen,

I lived in Santa Rosa from 1941 until I graduated from SRHS in 1953. I went to SRJC for one semester and joined the United States Marine Corps in 1954. My father was Sylvester Hawkins, who taught in the math department until his retirement in 1973. SRHS was my “life” growing up, and I have always been grateful for all of my experiences in life along the way.

I was in the marines until 1956 when I went back to school and ultimately graduated from UC San Francisco School of Dentistry. I have practiced dentistry in Carmichael CA for nearly 51 years and still do so full time.

I plan to come to Santa Rosa and would like to revisit my high school alma mater—check out the auditorium and a few rooms and maybe the shop buildings. Please let me know if this is possible.

Sincerely,

Victor L. Hawkins, DDS

Editor:

I was awarded the Berta Wiggins Scholarship, and I can't explain well enough how honored and grateful I am to have received it. I think that Berta and her family would be delighted to know that I actually do play golf! I play with my family fairly regularly. She would be happy to know the recipient of this scholarship also takes joy in the sport!

Sincerely,

Marlys Jeane '14

Editor:

I am writing to thank the Foundation for its generous support. I am very happy and appreciate that I was selected as the recipient of a James Fleck Scholarship, the Jerry Poncia Agriculture Scholarship and the Lisa Nilsen Agriculture Scholarship.

I will major in agriculture education at Fresno State University with the intention of becoming an agriculture teacher. The financial assistance you provided will be of great help in paying my educational expenses.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Sincerely,

Christopher Sharp '14

Ed. Note: Joe Turner recently donated a copy of his book to the Author's Corner in the library. He created a company that specializes in excavation engineering services throughout the United States.

Editor:

SRHS is the place where I learned I could do something worthwhile. While a student I did not know what I could do or how the subjects I was learning would apply to my future. Math, history and English were interesting subjects but very challenging to this average student. Getting through them with hard work and the help of dedicated teachers instilled me with the confidence that I could do just about anything to which I set my mind. I discovered math, science and engineering in college and made a career out of them.

It was not until I semi retired that I realized that I could pull it all together and write a book on those topics. The educational foundation I received at SRHS set the stage for the journey that led to writing that book.

It should also be noted that I met the love of my life at SRHS, and we have been happily married since 1969.

Sincerely,

Joe Turner '67

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Have you included the Foundation in your estate plan?

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 Schalich '57, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59

SRHS Foundation Directors

Carol Laabs Patterson '55	Lee Miller '76
JoAnn Hembree MacDonald '56	Mary Schaefer '76
Doug Pavese '58 *	Hillary Wootton '85
Nadine Wiggins	Dan Briebescas '87
Smedshammer '59	Christine Romani Tonelli '88
Steve Olsen, '61	Matt Metzger '91
Ann Hutchinson Porrino '61	Sue Bolt Friend
Sylvia Strong '62	Ben Catching Friend
Jim Ward '62	Phil Hulen Friend
Ilona Mayer Williams '64	Tony Negri Retired Faculty
Donna Dennes Peterson '67 *	Art Horner Faculty Liaison
Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68	*Founding Directors
Jon Stiffler '72	
Mary Orsborn Beseda '74	

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 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.

NEXT DEADLINE:

December, 2014 for the January, 2015 mailing

In Memoriam

Richard Latimer	Instructor
William Henderson	1932
John Abramson	1944
Ralph DeMarco	1944
Joseph Schalich	1945
Nathan Cacianti	1946
Joseph Bonfigli	1947
Henry Metz	1947
Helen Anderson Nunn	1952
Robert Wicklund	1955
Daryl Martin	1956
Linda Adams Skyrme	1957
Robert Stansberly	1957
Michael Crawford	1958
James Gutsch	1965
Richard Ambrose	1978
Holly Alantra LaFrance	1979
Ronald LaFranchi	1979

The good news to share with all of you is that the Foundation continues to grow by welcoming 31 new members and receiving 131 membership renewals since the last newsletter. Contributions and memorial gifts this period total \$13,341.23. 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:

2014 Human Race	Allene Cornolo '55	Mark Noonon '70
Human Race Volunteer Center	Nancy Danskin '65	Steven Orsborn '68
Agilent Technologies Employee Campaign	Jack and Marsha Dupre, parents	Panther Spirit Club
James Cunningham, friend	Carole and Bill Fairbanks '57/'55	Mario Pironcini '57
Joan Gibson, friend	Spirito (Petie) Falco '41	Thelma Ramsey '43
Rodrik Lund '73	Lisa Fitzpatrick '69	Peter & Leslie Richmond '82
Jason Wisler, friend	Donald and Madeline Getts, parents	Candace Rush '65
United Way	Herm and Nancy Griffin '54/'55	Pam Sotak, parent
Diane Allen '64	Jeffrey Hallock, friend	Peter and Jane Schmidt '61
Tina Angel '84	Harold Higgins '52	Sandra Spencer '54
Robert and Janetta Berndt '59/'60	Georgia Hogle '52	Jeffrey and Lisa Sugarman, parents
Joanne Bruggemann '51	Mary Holden '61	Thomas and Anita Tomasi '42/'47
Bill Burke, parent	Gertrude Larsen '46	Janet Tompkins '49
John Burton '67	Jan Lawson '48	Mark Trione '67
Hugh Cambra, Jr. '68	Tim & Janice March, parents	Donna Warren '58
Edwin Ciavarelli '38	Everett Meidell '49	Helen Weingart '52
Paddy Coreris '66	Bill & Tammy Mikan, parents	Eileen Wise '55
	James Miller '40	Diana Wolfe '80
		William and Diana Zollner '64/'62

LIFETIME MEMBERS: We welcome new Lifetime Members: **Thomas Moore '54, Kay Clegg '64, Steve Olson '60, Peggy Centanni '39**

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 to make their contributions and join. Any concerns or questions about membership or contributions, should be directed to Ilona Mayer Williams '64 at 707-568-4157 or lwillie888@sbcglobal.net

Memorial & Special Contributions

The Andy Alkire Memorial

Mike Daniels '59 and Penny Hastings '59

The Wes Altes Memorial

Kathy Sorensen '59

The Phil Box Memorial

Ward and Pat Thompson '58/'59

Art Valencia '59

The Dominic G. Casassa Memorial

Don & Peggie Laabs '53

The Nate Cacianti Memorial

Don Arrabit '44

Richard Azevedo '44

Rick and Paulette Gomes '68

Donna Peterson '67

Joe Schalich '46

Al Soiland '46

Mary Testorelli '47

Art Valencia '59

The Jeffrey Cohen Memorial

Jeryl Abelmann '57

The Lucille Ketterlin Cook Memorial

Ed Hausmann '61

The Eugene Cowell Memorial

Rodney and June Barnett '44

The Ralph De Marco Memorial

Don Arrabit '44

Richard Azevedo '44

Jim and Jean Beardsley, friends

Dick and Angie Colombini '49

Chester and Noelle Dagremond, friends

Linda Levar, friend

Mike McCoy, friend

Mori and Theresa Nelson '45/'49

Bob and Alix Shor, friends

Rich and Linda Stevick, friends

Mary Testorelli '47

Elaine Thompson '58

The Don Farley Memorial

Deanne Farley, friend

The Louise M. Fertitta Memorial

Jim Slaten '52

continued on next page

Memorial & Special Contributions (continued)

The Gloria Galeazzi Memorial

Alana Kelly '78

The Julie Huntington Gleason Memorial

Gordon and Terri Martin '69

The Ting Guggiana Memorial

Richard McDrew '58
Rena Sieboldt, friend
Lorne and Janice Swanets '49/'52

The Mary Hallock Memorial

Alana Kelly '78

The Betty Adams Keefauver Memorial

Patricia Pickering '49

The Shirley Saame Larson Memorial

Steve and Leslie Lazzini, friends

The Laurie Maguire Memorial

Jim Maguire '63

The Henry and Doris Matteri Memorial

Carl Jacobson '51

The Henry Metz Memorial

Dick and Angie Colombini '49
Richard & Marlene Stevenson '50

The Bill Pisenti, Sr. Memorial

William and Linda Pisenti '66
Don and Judy Mills '59

The Barry Toepp Memorial

Art Valencia '59

The Jimmie Yarnell Memorial

Mike Daniels '59 and Penny Hastings '59

The Vernon Weerts Memorial

Joe Schalich '46

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



Author's Night coming soon

This annual event will this year feature 1992 SRHS graduate Angie Chau in conversation with *Press Democrat* columnist Chris Smith. The evening is scheduled for Wednesday, October 29 in the SRHS auditorium. Admission for the Foundation sponsored event is free, though donations will be gladly accepted.

Angie earned her BA in Southeast Asian Culture and Political Economy at UC Berkeley and her MA in English from UC Davis. She has been granted a number of fellowships and residencies, and her works have appeared in a variety of publications.

Her debut work, *Quiet As They Come*, is a collection of short stories set in San Francisco that explores the lives of Vietnamese immigrants as they cope with life in their new country. The collection has been adopted for instructional use at Brown and Loyola Universities, UCLA and a variety of high school English programs.

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

Additions to Authors' Shelf

The shelf of books written by SRHS alumni continues to grow. Following are recent additions.

Read, Don ('53). *Complete Quarterbacking*. Human Kinetics, Champaign, IL: 2002.

-- *The Complete Passing Game*. Parker Publishing Company, Inc., West Nyack, N.Y.: 1970.

Truex, Leslie Golis ('84). *The Work at Home Success Bible*. Adams Business, Avon, MA: 2009.

Turner, Joe ('67). *Evacuation Systems: Planning, Design and Safety*. McGraw-Hill, New York, 2009.

Toyos, Rolando, M.D. ('84) *The Insider's Guide to Medical School Admissions*. Delmar Learning, Clifton Park, N.Y.: 1997.

'59 grad looks at 55 years

by Kent Benedict '59

I have to admit I'm not much of a reunion guy. The 55th this year will be the first for me, even though I did go to one at UC (undergraduate) and one at USC (med school). I've been closer to friends at Stanford where I did residency and held an Associate Professorship.

I totally credit my old friend Dan Hicks (of Hot Licks musical fame) for convincing me it would be cool to go to at least one high school reunion. So, I'm looking forward to my first SRHS reunion in September. I'll be there!

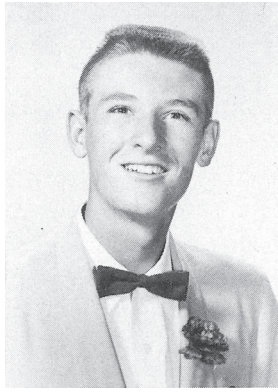
Some highlights of the past 55 years: Married three times—in some areas I'm a slow learner. It took a while to get it right. I did get it right with Paula 28 years ago. We're still happily together. Seven kids, some biological, some adopted, some who figured I was around so much that they might as well consider me a dad. Four of them are college grads (one for his PhD), and three who decided they didn't need to bother with degrees. All are launched, employed and well into creating their own families. I have eight grandkids, ages five months to sixteen years.

I've been an ER doc in Santa Cruz since the mid 70s, and the Medical Director of the Emergency Medical Services for both Santa Cruz and San Benito counties since the 80s. For years I've done hospital patient care, and now I train and supervise paramedics, nurses, EMTs and firefighters. I love the work.

After my residency at Stanford, I spent a couple of years providing health care in the mountains of the Mexican Sierra Madre, now the turf of the infamous Sinaloa drug cartel. That experience allowed me to collaborate in the writing of a book for people in areas that lack health care—*Where There Is No Doctor*.

Sailing has been my passion for years, an addiction I picked up in college, where I learned to race high performance boats. At 25, in Hawaii, I put together a crew of sailing nuts like me to deliver a Transpac Yacht Race boat to Los Angeles. I had never sailed out of the sight of land before, but we did it. The trip also almost got me kicked out of medical school for being weeks late for fourth year classes, but I threw myself on the mercy of the dean and was forgiven.

For a number of years my family and I lived on our



Kent Benedict
1959 Echo

55 foot sailboat in Santa Cruz. We sailed to the Channel Islands, Baja and further south. In the 80s I landed a gig as ship's surgeon for the California Maritime Academy merchant marine training ship. It allowed Paula (as ship's nurse) and me each year to visit the Caribbean, South America, the South Pacific and the Far East. Through US Coast Guard Exams I qualified as a licensed captain. Even today, Paula and I continue to sail to the Caribbean, working as charter captain and mate, sailing catamarans.

In early 2012, unexpectedly, Dan Hicks called to say he wanted to put together a "Santa Rosa Homeboy" jazz band for his 70th birthday bash concert at San Francisco's Davies Hall. The band was to consist of guys Dan played with in Herbert Slater Junior High, SRHS, Montgomery High and SRJC. At the bash the class of '59 was well represented—Wayne Whitaker, Dick Ziegler, Dennis Williams, John Brandeberg (of Perfect Crime musical fame) and me. We were ragged, but the cheering 2,800 Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks fans didn't care. We were so high just being there. It was a beautifully unforgettable evening.

Ed Note: Dan Kelly read the following at the 55th reunion of the combined SRHS and MHS 1959 graduation classes. Split by the Board of Education, they insist still they are one class.

Ode to the Class of 1959 By Daniel Kelly

The Santa Rosa School Board did something that never had been done:

It decided at a meeting to make two senior classes out of one.

If you were a senior, believe me, that decision wasn't cool, Even worse—half of us would be going off to a brand new school.

So half were to stay at SRHS

And half would go to a new wilderness.

The seniors' reaction to the plan was "Oh, phooey,"

Until we realized it meant goodbye to Fred Duey

The cheers of leaving reached quite a din,

Until we realized it meant hell to Wilfred Rankin.

They called the new school Montgomery High,

Its architecture produced only a melancholy sigh.

The school board's plan was far from brilliant.

Fortunately for us, we were young and resilient.

As expected, a rivalry of the two schools ensued,

Santa Rosa versus Montgomery now resembles a family feud.

But tonight we band together and everything is fine,

For there truly is only one class of 1959.

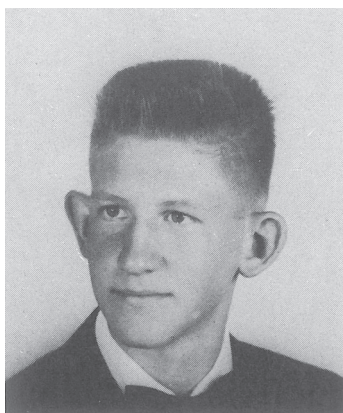
So, stand and raise your glass and say a cheer,

For 1959 was a truly strange but wonderful year!

Tribute to 1964

by Randy Klein '64

Going to SRHS in the 60s and graduating in 1964 was one of the most formative periods in my life. As I look forward to the '64 50th reunion in September, I shake my head in amazement. First, the idea of even making it to that reunion--while living through the Cold War—never occurred to me. How is that, you might ask? Well, remember the Cuban Missile Crisis?



*Randy Klein
1964 Echo*

We seniors were all in class that October day when it all came to a head. As the child of a United States Air Force sergeant who had worked in the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) before coming to Santa Rosa, I was familiar with the daily risk we lived under. So I envisioned that day in October to be our last. Thankfully the end didn't come that day, but I still expected some kind of atomic war would happen before I made it through college.

When the Berlin Wall came down in 1989, I felt an incomprehensible relief. A father then I told my children I was happy that they wouldn't have to live every day concerned about it being their last. Great message to give your children, huh? I suppose I had a kind of PTSD that resulted from my experiences as an air force brat.

Santa Rosa was the first place I lived long enough to put down some roots. So, I want to acknowledge my parents, classmates, friends, swim team members, teachers and administrators with whom I shared those formative SRHS years. They are all often in my thoughts when I reflect on those times. They were difficult times, but they were very special. Next, I want to acknowledge the Santa Rosa community that mentored me through SRJC and Cal State Long Beach where I completed my electronic engineering degree.

I became a photonic engineer in Silicon Valley from the 60 through the 90s, working on night vision devices, x-ray imaging tubes, fiber optic communication, astronomical sensors and lasers. My four children are married and have made me a delighted grandfather six times. With the love of my life, Patricia, I moved to the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Ten years ago, we started the Tutoring Club of Scotts Valley, and I began teaching physics and chemistry at the local high school—something I intend to do as long as I can contribute. My students commented that I don't look old enough to have a 50 year high school reunion; so I look forward to feeling younger than I look for some more years!

The 61ers do it again!

by Jim Nelson '61

The SRHS Class of 1961 held its third annual picnic at the Sonoma County Regional River Park in Windsor on August 2. Located along the Russian River, the park is set in a redwood grove, surrounded by vineyards. The weather was ideal for relaxing and reconnecting with classmates and old friends. Participants found the atmosphere just right for reminiscing about SRHS in the 1960s and for sharing the desire to reunite. Roughly 50 folks turned out for the nostalgic and fun event.

As usual, the 61ers provided a variety of food and drink to share. There were salads, home-made special recipes and desserts—all of them deliciously enjoyable. Once again Richard Pitkin applied his barbeque skills to hamburgers and hotdogs.

Special thanks and appreciation go to the planning group for making the picnic another huge success. The group includes Debbie Jalli Martini, Pam Esposti Alberigi, Ann Hutchinson Porrino, Carole Jamison Fitzgerald, Lynn Geisenhofer Leopold and Richard Pitkin. Thanks are also due the classmates who participated in the wonderful event.

Plans are being made for future activities, including a celebration of the 61ers' 55th reunion in 2016. The planning committee is already looking for suggestions and ideas to make the events the best they can be.



The graduation class of 1961 poses during its annual get-together.

Editor:

On May 14 and again on June 11, the Board of Education formally accepted your generous donations of \$12,278 and \$11,113. As per your instructions, your donations will be allocated toward the following:

- \$3,452 for routers
- \$2,000 for planners
- \$600 for art
- \$226 for binders for French songs
- \$4,000 for a plasma machine for welding
- \$2,000 for Skills USA Competition

On behalf of the Board of Education, I write once again to thank you for your continuing support of Santa Rosa High School. Please know that we all understand and deeply appreciate the extraordinary commitment and effort it takes for the Foundation to provide contributions like this on a regular basis.

Sincerely,

Bill Carle
President
Board of Education

Ed. Note Enclosed with the following was an impressive donation to the Foundation from the class.

Editor:

Thank you to Mr. Daniels, Mr. Horner and Mr. Negri for the tour of the campus for the Class of '94. Everyone was very impressed, and I'm sure you have some new Foundation members.

Go, Panthers!

Lily Smedshammer '94



Editor:

I am writing to thank Mrs. Nadine Smedshammer, chair of the scholarship committee, and the SRHS Foundation for the generous 2014 James Fleck Scholarship. I am very happy and honored to know that I am one of the first recipients of this new award.

In August I will move to Hawaii and attend the University of Hawaii at Manoa. As you may or may not know, Oahu is a very expensive place to live. This scholarship will be of great help in paying for food, housing and educational fees.



By awarding me the 2014 James Fleck Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden, which will allow me to focus more on the important aspect of learning. I promise I will work very hard and help others by giving back to my community. Hopefully, one day I can help students achieve their goals as you have done for me. I am deeply appreciative of your support and generosity. Thanks you so much.

Sincerely,

Hope Steib '14

*The only people with whom
you should try to get even are
those who have helped you.
~John E. Southard*

Save the date!

The Foundation's annual Polenta Feed is scheduled for Friday, April 24 at the Veterans' Memorial. No host cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 7. Tickets are \$35 each. Mark you calendar now as you won't want to miss this stellar party!



Santa Rosa High School Foundation

ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS

Santa Rosa High School Foundation
A Development Committee Campaign
An Unrestricted Endowment Fund

Why Endowment? The fund provides a permanent source of income for student scholarships, programs and departments at SRHS. Endowment funds are invested and the income directly supports programs as designated by the donor.

Why Unrestricted? Unrestricted fund income may be used for broader needs of SRHS as determined by the SRHS Foundation Board. It benefits all students.

Why Now? Endowment funds answer the growing need to have long term financial stability in order to deliver a consistent cash flow despite changes in the economy and State funding.

How Can You Join and Be One In A Thousand? You can fill out the form contained in this newsletter and send to SRHSF P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406; donate via www.srhsf.org; or call the Pandy Line 707-571-7747.

May I Donate More than \$1,000? Absolutely! In addition, you can make a pledge (see card), use a credit card and/or stocks. Call us for details 707-571-7747.

What is a 'Pooled' Fund? Multiple donors may join together and create a donation of \$1,000 or more. Example: Class of 1961, Ag Alums, Memorial Fund, etc.

Is There A Fund I can Join as an Individual? Yes! Designate that you want your donation to join the ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS Pandy Fund.

Thank you to our recent donors!

Gary Rasche 1961 * * * * *

The Class of 1949

Finding the Heart of the Panther -- continues!

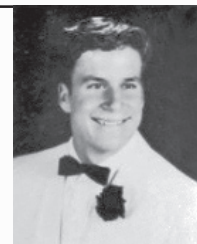
by Ann Hutchinson Porrino '61

In the search for the Heart of the Panther (Vol. 25. Issue 5), the question arises: Could it be a person, a program, an idea, an organization? Could a 1961 classmate be part of the answer?

Gary Rasche keeps a smile on my face with his continual support of ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS. He has donated six times, always cheerfully, loving to see 'stars' attached to his name. His recollection of SRHS is of a very positive experience, "had a really good time" and "I have great memories." I'm sure lots of classmates have shared in these good memories. I can see Gary driving his new baby blue Chevy convertible down Mendocino -- very fun !!

When asked why he donates to OTP, Gary states he believes in the importance of continuing 'the great traditions' built by his generation of classmates. He feels SRHSF as an organization is able to continue the traditions of high standards in education and student activities. By supporting an unrestricted endowment program, student needs will always be met.

Come join the Parade of Panthers and feel the BEAT!



Contributing to a charity is a great way to save on next year's taxes.

ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS offers a perfect opportunity.

Plan ahead for 2015! Call the Pandy Line 707-571-7747 and we will walk you through the process.

Reunions: Details, Dates and Announcements

Visit the Foundation website for more information: www.srhsf.org and click on “Reunion Details”

1969 Reunion – 45th

Scheduled for October 4

Charlie’s at Windsor Golf Club

Information:

Marilyn Dolce Davis 707-823-5472 evenings

707-479-5472 cell phone

dolcedavis@gmail.com

When you’re done celebrating with your classmates, be sure to send in a recap of the festivities. Pictures are welcome too! It’s always fun to read about other classes activities and find out who was there and what was missed! All submissions should be sent to mdaniels@sonic.net or by post SRHSF Editor, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406

More reunion recaps

The Class of 1959 recently celebrated its 55th reunion at the Flamingo Hotel. The celebration, as it always has, combined the classes of SRHS and Montgomery High. Over 130 celebrants attended the event, all them mobile and partying until the late hours.

They enjoyed good food and drink, good friends and good memories. They found some treasures in a silent auction and some more in a live auction.

The Class of 1958 and some invited guests gathered under the redwoods at the Sonoma County Regional River Park on Eastside Road for its annual get-together. They consumed an “authentic Texas BBQ,” catered by Black Bean BBQ Catering of Santa Rosa. Tentative plans are to expand next year—and in future years—by holding the event at the park with the classes of 1957 and 1959 to make it truly a “nifty fifty” reunion.



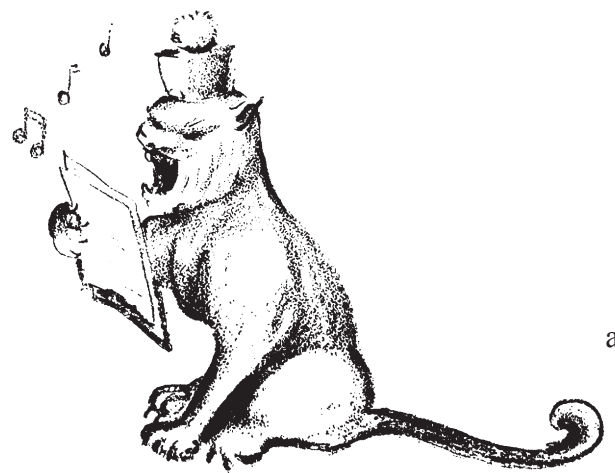
Time to Celebrate the Class of 1974

The Santa Rosa High School Class of 1974 will be celebrating its 40th reunion this fall. The festivities will be held at Charlie’s Restaurant at the Windsor Golf Club on Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm.

The event will have a buffet dinner and no-host cocktails. In addition to food and drink, there will be music to entertain the guests and a photo booth to help record the party.

All grads of the class of ’74 should keep a look out for mailer with more information and a website, coming soon.

For more information, please contact Mary Orsborn Beseda at mary.beseda@exchangebank.com.



Have you included the Foundation in your estate plan?



by Pandy

In athletic news **Claudia Rohrs '14** was selected as All-Empire Player of the Year for her accomplishments on the Panther badminton team. Claudia won 112 matches in her four years at SRHS . . . Also of note in badminton, **Liam Galbraith '16** was undefeated in league play and helped his team win the North Bay League championship. Liam was named the top prep badminton player in the Redwood Empire . . . Four members of the 2014 Panther softball team were named to the All-Empire team:

Taylor Matthews

'14, catcher; **Johanna**

Peelen '14, pitcher/
designated hitter;

Briana Doane '14,

shortstop; and **Denia**

Vera '14, pitcher/
first base . . . and in

track and field news,

Morgan Bertsch '14,

Jordan Coddling '14,

Annette Sutton '14

and **Delany White '16**

made the All-Empire

Girls' Track Team . . .

Anne-Marie O'Brien

'85 was recently awarded her PhD

from Arizona State University. She's

also Assistant Professor of Nursing

at Marymount University, and she

is married to **Rob Kane '85**, whose

PhD is in criminal justice and who

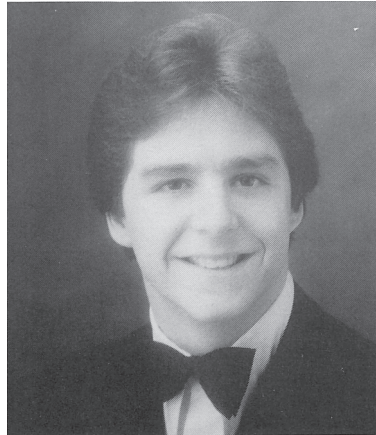
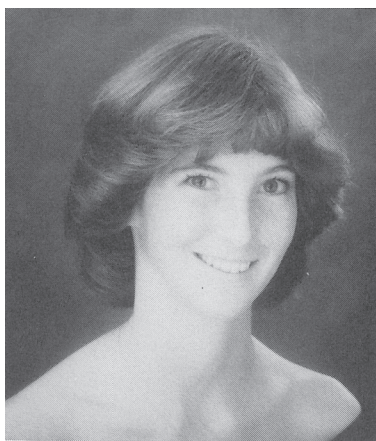
teaches at American University . . . In other doctor news, **Rolando Toyos '84** is an M.D. who lives and works in Tennessee. He's developed a treatment to correct dry eye syndrome, a common affliction. He's also written a college text and produced some reinforcement DVDs, the title of an especially compelling one is "Baseball and Vision." (Required viewing for umpires?) Rolando also is a recipient of a grant from the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery . . . **William Wong '84** earned his PhD and is the executive director of Cancer Commons in Palo Alto . . . **George Vaccaro '58** donated a unique bit of memorabilia to the museum. It's a schedule of the '56 football season and '56-'57 basketball. It has a slot

with a clear plastic face in which to insert a student body card—talk about a blast from the past! . . . While the museum has a number of belt buckles on display, none have the intrigue of the one **Fred Acquistapace '51** donated. It reads "Santa Rosa Hi . . . Panthers" with a panther leaping across the face of the buckle between the two rows

of words . . . **Wes Strech '52**, **Rich Barsuglia '54**, **Ernie Guenza '55** and **Jerry Johnson '59** (first year of Monty High) play senior softball in the Placerville and Sacramento areas and all four are on the roster

Anne O'Brien

1985 Echo



Robbie Kane

1985 Echo

of the Placerville 70+ travel team. They'll play in the Huntsman Senior Olympics in St. George, Utah in October . . . **Tom Pastis '15** last summer dreamed up the idea of a scavenger/treasure hunt to encourage interest in local history by making it fun. He pitched the idea to the new Historical Society of Santa Rosa, whose members jumped all over the idea. Scheduled for September 20, entrants were to meet at the Sonoma County museum where they received 12

clues. By deciphering the cleverly written clues, the hunters had to visit the 12 landmarks in the clues where they received a "Historic Site Card." The first to collect all 12 and get back to the museum won a \$50 prize. Very clever! Tom, by the way, is a fourth-generation SRHS student, and plans to major in history at, hopefully, UC Berkeley. He credits social science teacher **Art Horner** for developing his interest in things historic . . . In another by the way, Horner was selected as Teacher of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce and feted at a meeting just before the beginning of classes in August. Not a small honor! The Foundation extends its congratulations.

...Panther Patter is possible because people like you send in bits about their classmates and themselves! Share your news, tell us what you've been up to for these past years... all submissions should be sent to Panther Patter PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406 or email mdaniels@sonic.net





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\$1,000 or more \$500 ~ 2 years \$250 ~ 4 years \$200 ~ 5 years

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Please return this form to: Santa Rosa High School Foundation, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. If you prefer, you may complete your transaction online through our website: www.srhsf.org. For more information, please call the Pandey Line at (707) 571-SRHS (7747) OR email us at: info@srhsf.org. Tax ID #68-0195375 (for a gift of Marketable Securities, please contact us for more information.) Remember... **Once a Panther, Always a Panther**