



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Fall, 2019

Vol.30

Issue 4

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.

WOODSHOP AND BEYOND

By Don Cambou

If you need someone to put new cabinets in your kitchen, who you gonna call? It might be someone who once attended Santa Rosa High School's Wood Shop.

The SRHS Wood Shop shares a 1930's building with the adjacent Auto Shop. Together with Metal Shop, Computer Aided Drafting, and the venerable Agriculture program, these shops and disciplines form SRHS's excellent Career Technical Education Department. Tom Gutsch Jr., the department's head, calls the Panther C.T.E. department "one of the highest ranking in the state."

The Wood Shop is 2300 square feet of band saws, circular saws, radial arm saws, electric drills, exotic and common lumber, sawdust venting ducts, half-finished projects, and several pieces of equipment waiting to be repaired. At its center, moving easily from one table of students to another, is teacher Kevin Costello. The 24 year Navy vet has taught woodshop for 13 years, the last three of them here at SRHS. He says that the U.S. is severely short

on skilled laborers, and that those who enter a two year technical school after high school can make good money, often more than college grads. Another bonus is that technical schools cost much less than four year colleges. Good bye to crippling student debt. Department head Tom Gutsch echoes his belief. Costello says using the powerful machines gives students a sense of confidence. Completing a project gives them a sense of pride.

Costello can't wait for an 8 foot tall, 4,000 pound Tannewitz band saw to come on-line. The saw, which cost around \$35,000 when new, is a gift from former Panther Mike Urge, who used it throughout his career as a contractor. Your Santa Rosa High



Kevin Costello and students with the Tannewitz band saw.

Continued on page 4

REMEMBER WHEN: 1949

By Rick Blaine

Editor's note: That student who loves SRHS so much that he just won't leave gives us his remembrance of another pivotal year

Looking back over 70 years the world today is sure different than in 1949. Then we had telephone operators ("Number, please?"), and party lines. Radios entertained us as television was in its infancy, houses had single car garages but no automatic dishwashers or microwaves. Had we known how the world would change so, I suspect we would have shaken our heads in disbelief.

But at SRHS in 1949 I suspect we didn't worry about the future. We were too busy with classes, sports, extra activities and, yes, work. Our parents had survived the Great Depression and we remembered it, so work was familiar to us. The minimum wage was raised that year—from 40 cents an hour to a heady 70 cents.

Few of us had cars so 17 cents a gallon for gas was not a concern, nor was bacon at 50

Continued on page 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Normally my President's message would include information about events that have happened since our last newsletter and upcoming events for the Foundation. This time I have decided to share a story about a very special person in my life, my Godmother, and SRHS alumnae from the class of 1941, Norma Rochetti Malone.



Upon graduation from SRHS, class of 1941, Norma Rochetti went on to nursing school, with her first semester at SR Junior College and then in January 1942 on to St Joseph College of Nursing in San Francisco where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. Her classes were in the hospital, SF State, and also at Lone Mountain College in San Francisco. School then was year round! Norma's parents paid for her 1st year of tuition and then in 1943 she learned that she could join the Cadet Corps and they would pay the tuition for her remaining years in school. During this time you worked at the hospital and went to classes. Norma lived on campus in a monastery run by Franciscan German nuns. They also provided the uniforms. At the direction of Sister Agnes, Norma was transferred to classes at a Marine Hospital in Public Health, plus 6 months at San Francisco County Hospital. From 1942 to 1943 Norma worked and trained at St Joseph's which was the County Hospital, in Pediatrics and the Polio Unit. There Norma was trained on the Kinney Treatment, where they went from patient to patient with a ringer washer filled with hot water and wrapped polio patients with hot towels; there were 45 patients at that time. Norma's training was before Penicillin, thus Sulfa was the medication of choice.

In 1944 Norma spent one half her time training in the County Hospital and one half her time at a Marine Hospital. This same year Norma graduated and passed her State Boards, and a week later now the beginning of 1945 she enlisted into the Service, Army, as a 2nd Lieutenant.



Now came 6 weeks of Norma Rochetti Malone basic training which included

jumping into foxholes and having tanks drive over you, to gas mask and barbed wire training, to pitching a tent. After basic training Norma remained at Manning General until her transfer to McCall Hospital in Walla Walla Washington where she worked in an orthopedic ward tending to soldiers with shrapnel wounds, still using sulfa as the only antibiotic. When McCall Hospital closed Norma transferred to the Presidio and then on to Camp Cook, in Santa Maria, now Vandenberg Air Force Base, and was given the nick name of "Nurse Rocky". At Camp Cook soldiers were coming in from overseas in need of treatment for wounds and many times amputation. This is where Norma met a soldier in for an appendectomy by the name of Patrick Malone! Nurse Rocky was then transferred to Camp Roberts in San Miguel, CA where she took care of German War Prisoners. On February 3, 1946 Patrick Malone was discharged from the service and on February 4th Pat Malone and Nurse Rocky were married at the San Miguel Mission, as Nurse Rocky had only one day off from her duties. Where is Norma Rochetti Malone today? Tending her magnificent garden in Santa Rosa, CA across the street from the home where I was raised. Norma Rochetti Malone is the mother of 3, grandmother of 9 and great grandmother to 13! I hope you enjoyed the story as much as I enjoyed writing it!

On to some Foundation business; we are still looking for New Board Members & Volunteers! Interested candidates should contact me direct at info@srhsf.org or call the PANDY line at 707-571-7747 and leave a message.

"Once a Panther, Always a Panther"
Mary Orsborn Beseda '74

SRHS Foundation Directors

Monica Baldenegro '95	Tony Negri, Friend Treasurer
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Rose Machen Moeller '68	Art Horner, School Liaison
Sylvie Moore '65	* Founding Director

THE 24TH ANNUAL SRHS FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT WAS A HOT EVENT!



Seventy male and female golfers joined us at the Oakmont West Golf Course on September 13th for some great competition within our three Open and Coed Flights. It was a very hot 97 degrees and we stressed each golfer to stay hydrated. Our water cart was very busy, and no one reported a dehydration problem. Following the tournament, golfers and guests attended our happy hour and awards dinner at Oakmont's Quail Inn. After dinner, winning golfers were announced and collected their prizes. Concurrently, silent and live auction bidders competed for attractively priced items and packages.

We are pleased to announce that we raised \$19,000 that will go directly to student academic and athletic enhancement programs at SRHS. The Foundation thanks our all our sponsors, committee members, volunteers and golfers for making this such a memorable event. We especially acknowledge our Major sponsors: Todd & Mary Beseda, Rhonda Carano and the Carano Family, Class of 1978, The Codding Foundation, The Dale family, Exchange Bank, Dan Kelly, James Laier, Doug Pavese, Ann Porrino, Russian River Vineyards, Varenna and Chris & Vera Zeek. Additional gratitude goes to the SRHS Cheerleaders and Golf Team members who welcomed our golfers and helped us sing the Panther Fight Song.

If you want further information about serving on our golf committee or becoming a tournament sponsor, please email us at golf@srhsf.org, call our Pandy Line at 707-571-7747 or write us at SRHS Foundation Golf, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.



Good times at the dinner, raffle, and auction



Open Black Flight Winners 2019

Congratulations to our 2019 Winners

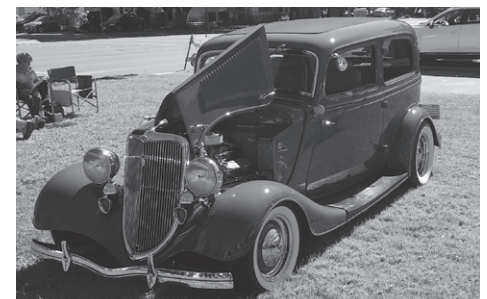
- Open Black Flight 1st** – Mark Walsvick, Mike Testa, Tucker Williams, Pat Fahy
- Open Orange Flight 1st** – Oren Smedshammer, Tom Schieberl, Michael Smedshammer, Dan Schieber
- Coed Flight 1st** – Hugh Cambra Jr., Chelsea Cambra, Tim Cambra, Mike Ward
- Men's Long Drive** – Tucker Williams, **Women's Long Drive** – Annette Musson
- Senior long Drive** – John Theilade **Putting Contest** – Tucker Williams
- Men's Closest to Pin** – Hugh Cambra **Women's Closest to Pin** – Lynn Davis

“SHOW AND SHINE” SHINES

The 3rd annual SRHS Foundation Show and Shine was a great success. Over 30 entrants brought out their cars on a warm and sunny Saturday. Foundation directors and previous directors were out in force. Paulette Gomes got them all checked in and Brian Mecchi got them all parked on the front lawn. “It’s like a mini-reunion” Mike Grace correctly stated as he observed the groups of alumni eating lunch and talking together. People ate from the grill manned by Mike Daniels and Mike Grace. Kathy Grace served as organizer and bookkeeper and Mary Beseda and JoAnn MacDonald worked the raffle table.

Teacher Art Horner and his students opened the museum for tours that sparked many memories, as did a visit to the Gym. There, the cheerleaders were setting up for the homecoming dance and graciously invited the crowd of over 100 to look in at the decorations and remember their own homecoming experiences.

Proceeds from the SHOW AND SHINE will go to making our award winning museum even better. Watch the newsletter for next year’s date so you can sign up early.



Woodshop and Beyond...continued from page 1

School Foundation paid for its repair, delivery to the school, and for the electrical connections to make it work. Unfortunately, the huge saw requires 240 V to work properly, and the 80 year old building's panel can only handle 120 V. So for now, after many tripped circuit breakers, the saw sits idle. It waits for an upgraded electrical panel provided by the

school district, or some generous patron. When properly wired, the saw will be able to make logs into lumber. The rough lumber can then pass through the shop's \$8,600 planer to make smooth, finished lumber. The planer's entire cost was funded by another SRHS Foundation grant.

Today, the Wood Shop is basically well funded. That wasn't the case as recently as a decade ago. The Wood Shop was ready to fold. Enter Bill Gallaher '69. The developer/builder, and owner of the Varenna Retirement Community stepped forward with a gift of \$80,000. The Wood Shop got a new lease on life and kept its current teacher. In his letter that accompanied the donation, he said it was Wood Shop that kept him in school while at SRHS.

Though Wood Shop and the other SRHS shops are now financially stable, they still have many needs. Gutsch says the C.T.E. program looks to the Santa Rosa School District, as well as state and federal grants

to keep current. For example, the Auto Shop no longer wants to train auto MECHANICS; it wants to train auto TECHNICIANS. Those jobs require higher math and logic skills than ever before -- and the ability to use sophisticated computerized machinery and software.

Meanwhile, school districts aim to have all students "college ready." That means less student time for electives like shop and ag classes. Gutsch has an answer for that. "The students apply all they learn in academic math, science, and English in shops. They get to use their brains AND hands to solve problems. There's a real sense of satisfaction that comes to shop students." Gutsch also reminds us that the kinds of technical work taught in shop classes happens locally. If your roof is leaking, you'll hire a local workman or woman. You can't ship that problem off to China or Viet Nam to be solved. Gutsch adds, "I see no shame in getting your hands a little dirty for a living."



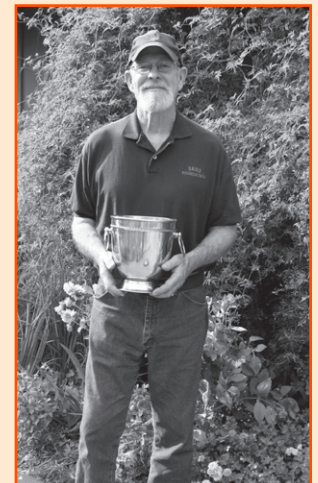
The \$8,600 planer

THE BLOOD FEUD BANKS MORE PINTS

Santa Rosa High alumni, students, and friends beat old rivals at Montgomery High in this October's Blood Feud. So SRHS gets to hold the Bucket of Blood Trophy for the next year. The donor numbers from both schools were smaller this year: twelve pints from SRHS and five pints from Monty. Nevertheless, every pint can save a life. The total donations from both schools since the Blood Feud's inception now stands at 457 pints.

Listed below are the SRHS alumni, students, and friends who donated this year. The SRHS Foundation, co-sponsor of this year's Feud, greatly thanks all of you.

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Don Cambou | Liz Lockett | Tracy Simmons |
| Mike Grace | Dorothy Mercer | Charlotte Stafford |
| Diane Keegan | James Neuroth | Paul Troppy |
| Terry Lee | Bryan Price | Bryan Varner |



Mike Grace '65 displays the Bucket of Blood Trophy. Yes, it's a wine bucket; and it belongs to Santa Rosa High for a year

HAVE YOU INCLUDED THE FOUNDATION IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN?

Remember When: 1949...continued from page 1

cents a pound. Bread was 13 cents a loaf, milk was 89 cents a gallon, a can of soup cost 10 cents and a Coke went for 5 cents plus deposit. Our moms generally were stay-at-home housewives and if your dad made more than \$3,000 a year he had done well.

At SRHS our sports teams also did well. The Panther football squad was 7-1-1, tying Analy and losing only to the dreaded Vallejo Apaches, the basketball team was 17-3, and the track team won all its meets but one. Block S totaled 47 letter-earning athletes. The legendary Ernie Nevers of SRHS, Stanford, Bonecrusher and NFL football fame paid a campus visit in the fall.

Male athletes improved or perfected their skills under the outstanding coaching of Jimmy Underhill, Lloyd Gromer, George Weekes and Orb Fortier. We were competitive in every sport! The boys received most of the athletic money back then.

Block S held its fall initiation at a dinner in Occidental and the spring initiation at the river. While I wasn't there, I understand that procedure was pretty horrific. One club member recently told me, "You couldn't get away with that stuff today." The initiates came to school with their shaved and lipsticked heads and their girls' dresses.

Block SR wore men's clothes the day of their initiation but didn't suffer like the boys. The aggies also humiliated their initiates but no girls took ag classes then. The ag picnic in the spring was at Boyes Hot Springs.

Girls' sports were very different from today's. Title IX to equalize funding for both sexes was some years in the future, but girls in 1949 actively played in volleyball, basketball, speedball and softball—but very seldom with other schools. Some 40 girls took to the diamond under the coaching of Kate Jurjervich. Long time p.e. teacher Francis Ballou sponsored Block SR for girls and the Girls Athletic Association.

And drama! Surely you remember how "Life with Father" captivated the whole town. Held over for weeks, the applause at each SRHS performance resulted in many

curtain calls. The cast wore the very costumes used in the MGM film version. Congratulatory telegrams (remember those?) came from comedian Red Skelton and actor Peter Lawford.

Drama teacher Mr. Guymon worked his magic for us to use those costumes, and his magic also gave us the sweepstakes trophy in the Northern California speech contest and in the California State tournament for 11 years in a row!

We were blessed with excellent instructors. Mr. Soso returned to SRHS from his service in the US Army to teach American government. He wore his uniform khakis. Years later, once he became district superintendent, we kidded him that the Class of '49 was responsible for his promotion.

Irene Scott, Al Biella, Andy Wallstrum, Lloyd Wasmuth, Clair Elmore, Lucy Spaulding, Bill Larkin, Wes Jamison and so many others were all truly dedicated and inspiring instructors.

Under Mr. Jamison's guidance, the dairy judging team took first place at state and third in the national contest. The department also earned three first place contests at the annual UC Davis Picnic Days.

And don't forget chemistry teacher Mr. Elmore's annual explosions and goofy test tube experiments.

Clubs kept us actively involved on the campus. We could belong to drama, French, Spanish, CSF, Boys and Girls League, Engineers, folk dancing, FFA, Ra Ravas, chess, Philomel Choir—even Lauren for writers and poets. That club had been active since 1929. Lots of us belonged to more than one club.

We had the Junior-Senior Brawl, the Competition Assembly and Senior Vocation Day. We had dances. The year started with a welcome frosh affair

in the gym, called the Trainee's Sock Hop. The Spook Shindig was around Halloween. The Block S held its annual dance to raise funds and showed a noon movie

TOP SONGS OF 1949

Riders in the Sky	Vaughn Monroe
That Lucky Old Sun	Frankie Laine
You're Breaking My Heart	Vic Damone
Some Enchanted Evening	Perry Como
Slipping Around	Jimmy Wakley
I Can Dream, Can't I	Andrews Sisters
Cruising Down the River	Russ Morgan
A Little Bird Told Me	Evelyn Knight
Buttons and Bows	Dinah Shore
Mule Train	Frankie Laine



Remember When: 1949...continued from page 5

in the auditorium. It was about football—what would you expect? We had two proms—one for the fall graduation class and one for the spring. (43 of us graduated in February and 251 in May.) The frosh and the sophs weren't allowed to attend. The juniors hosted us seniors.

There were lots of off-campus activities too. The Hi Teen Club on Third Street, the Roller Rink on Santa Rosa Avenue, the bowling alley on Mendocino and three movie theaters, the Roxy, California and

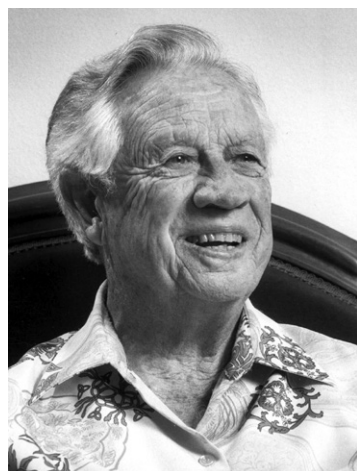
Tower. We went dancing at the Melody Bowl. House parties were popular and no doubt we had our share of extracurricular activities. It's said that sudsy refreshments could be available at an adult establishment north of town. It's also said police chief Dutch Flohr put a stop to that. We were compassionate too. We raised money and gathered clothing and other materials to send to a school in Holland to help students and their families recover from the ravages of the world war.

Did you take the family relations course? It was supposed to impress on us that we had "a duty to society" and that our future life "cannot be as carefree as our years in high school." Many of us thought it odd that the class wasn't co-ed. It was taught separately to the sexes. That didn't sound like preparation for the future.

We left SRHS in 1949 as prepared as could be for the next phase of our lives, and looking back over 70 years we remain proud as can be that we were Panthers in that earlier phase.

THE LEGACY OF J. WESLEY JAMISON LIVES ON

By Steve Olsen, Chair of the Jamison Endowment Fund Committee



Ag Legend Wes Jamison

Santa Rosa High School has had many outstanding teachers over its 145 year history but from an agricultural perspective, none were more important to their students than J. Wesley Jamison. Mr. Jamison spent his entire teaching career at Santa Rosa High (1930 – 1968) and produced more award winning FFA members and judging teams than any other Ag teacher of his time. Thousands of students entered his classroom with little or no knowledge of agriculture but left well prepared to go on to college or directly into the workforce. Mr. Jamison left his mark on his students and his students in turn have left their mark on local, state and national agriculture. Many of Mr. Jamison's students followed in his footsteps as agriculture teachers. Don Bath, Rich Thomas, Bruce Lane, Bill Jacobs, Lex McCorvey, Bill Gass, Rod Wallstum, Dan Kemp, Roy Beck and Bill Papola are just a few of Mr. Jamison's former students who shared his passion for Ag Teaching and the FFA (Future Farmers of America). Mr. Jamison continued to support Santa Rosa FFA long after he retired. He offered kids advice, purchased animals at the fair and helped them get jobs. Students like Annette Lawson O'Kelly remember Mr. Jamison stopping by her

family's farm in 1973 to check on her beef project. Mrs. O'Kelley later taught Ag at Santa Rosa High and founded the Ag Department at Elsie Allen High School.

A large fund exists through the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa. When Mr. Jamison passed away in 1989, the Rotary Club established its memorial fund to carry on his legacy. The fund balance recently exceeded the \$150,000 mark and continues to grow thanks to the generosity of his former students, friends, family and others who want to support agricultural education on the local level. The largest donor this year was the Sonoma County Fair Foundation and the total contributions for the annual campaign reached the \$25,000 level for the first time. The "Jamison Fund" is managed without cost by the Rotary Club Foundation. Three years ago the Foundation created the Jamison Merit Award (JMA) to provide merit based grants to help FFA members purchase market animals to show and sell at the Sonoma County Fair. This year the JMA awarded grants to 20 students to cover 50% of the purchase price for their lambs, pigs, goats, and next year steers. Last year Karen Lopez, a Santa Rosa High FFA senior was awarded a Jamison Merit Award grant and went on to exhibit the Grand Champion market lamb. When you visit the fair this summer look for the livestock pens with the Jamison Merit Award banners proudly on display. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Jamison Fund may do so by sending a check payable to the RCSRF Jamison Fund to PO Box 1513, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95402.

CONTRIBUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Rose Machen Moeller '68

The Foundation welcomes 6 new members, 3 new Lifetime members, 67 Renewals, current membership 929. We gratefully thank our members and *non members* for donations totaling \$6,212.26

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

Jay Berger '62
Jolene Carrillo '61
Veronica Charvat '61
Sylvia Cullivan '54
R Daniel Earl 'Staff
Guy French '59
Veronica Haas '69

Bonnie Hindley '60
Louette/Allen Imrie '61/63
Martha Maxwell '57
Roberta Murai '66
Jack Orme '66
Arlene/Dennis Peterson '57/60
Tom Schmidt '64

Sandra Spencer '54
Scott Sullivan '87
Robert Tuttle '40
Lee Ward '53
Eileen Wise '55

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UNITED ANCIENT ORDER OF DRUIDS SANTA ROSA GROVE #121

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Robert Borges '78

Isolde Geis

Roberta Murai '66

NEW MEMBERS

Jacqueline Barnard '89
Jo Ann "Jodi" Formway '69

Veronica Haas '69
Marcia Hudson '67

Patrick Stillman-Kelley '68
Andy Wilson Parent

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

You may send the SRHSF a contribution in the name of a deceased Panther, or in the name of a specific living person, department, group need, or scholarship fund.

DON ARRABIT '44

Alana Kelly '78

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JoAnn MacDonald '56

James Osborn 'Friend
Steve/Nancy Stedman 'Friends
Brenda Switzer 'Friend
Sam/Millie Teixeira 'Friends
Dennis Tesconi '66
Paul Waggoner 'Friend

JOSEPHINE "JOEY"

CERINI FALCO '43

DIRECTED BRUCE MECCHI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Rick/Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68
Brian Mecchi '77
Rena Mecchi 'Friend

JOSEPHINE "JOEY"

CERINI FALCO '43

Mike/Kathy Grace '65
Beverly Stumbaugh Friend

CHARLIE DUNNET '48

Carole Dunn '48
Beverly Stumbaugh 'Friend

MARILU FRANCIS

Marcia Hudson '67

JANE KEISER GORRELL '44

Margaret Bock '44

MEMORY OF PHOEBE

GREGORY '52:

DIRECTED TO DRAMA DEPT

Dorothy Curry '52

TING GUGGIANA '49

William/Joan Mills '49

RAY LAZZINI '48 (1 YR ANNIVERSARY MARCH 19, 2018)

Katherine Lazzini 'Friend
Ken/Charlene Lazzini 'Friend
Steve/Leslie Lazzini 'Friend
Mark Lazzini/ Kay Zastrow 'Friend
Steve/ Kathy Hansen 'Friend

RICH MARTIN '58/PHIL BOX '58

A.M. Venturini '58



MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS:

MARY FOLEY MAYHUE '56

JOHN MAYHUE '54

Laura Mayhue Strand '77
Michael Mayhue '76
Thomas Mayhue '79

BRUCE MECCHI MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Paulette/Rick Gomes '68
Gary Ronconi 'Friend

PEANUT BUTTER JELLY

CLUB SRHS

Class of 57

PANDY'S PANTRY

Class of 57

FRANCES PERRY '43

Donna Dennes Doyle '67
Eleanor Griffin '45

BRUNO ROCHETTI '45

Rick/Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68

LARRY STEELE '68

John Goodrow '68

ELIZABETH LEE TIPTON

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DONALD WALTENSPIEL '61

Don Laabs '53

SEAT PLAQUES

Paul/Therese Troppy '84

MORE DONORS

The following list consists of Memorial donors and Corporate sponsors who did not appear in our Donor Appreciation newsletter. We'd like to acknowledge their generosity now.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Ballestrasse, Janice
Barri, Janet
Barsuglia, Richard (Rick)
Bassignani, Rocco
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The Golf Mart

In Memoriam

Roy Bode	1941	Gerald Kowell	1949	Norman Oliver	1961
Marjorie Gardner Cook Jaffrey	1940	Joyce Carrington Theiller	1949	Michael Watson	1963
Thalia Carey Snodgrass	1943	Irene Hindringer Nygard	1951	Craig Zielke	1966
Don Christensen	1944	George Slender	1952	Melvin Canillo	1971
Mary Bergwall Fitzpatrick	1945	Clark Allen	1954	Matthew Madrid	1992
Charles Lavell	1948	Norman Bostock	1956	Eric Batzdorff	1996
Richard Fores	1949	Donald Flohr	1957		

BOBBY YATES TOWN HERO

By Mike Grace

Twinkle Toes he was called. Bobby Yates played Varsity Basketball for three years at SRHS, graduating in 1961. He led the Panthers to two North Bay League titles and was voted All League both years. In addition to leading the league in scoring both years he also led SRHS to first place in the Redwood Empire Invitational Tournament in Healdsburg.

He played in a different era. Sports didn't dominate our three or four T.V. stations. Maybe a game or two a week and several bowl games on New Year's Day. So the local sports scene was king – for boys anyway. Radio station KSRO personalities announced some of the games live. Press coverage was huge. It was good to have a local hero, and Bobby Yates certainly fit the bill.

I remember watching him lead the Panthers in the SRHS gym, affectionately known as "The Cracker Box." Add the pep band, jam packed stands, and 10 cent fresh popcorn and this junior high kid couldn't ask for a better evening.

Bobby merely had to use a simple head fake and he was gone. He was so quick. Shooting? All of us kids tried to copy his silk smooth jumper. He would take a few dribbles...stop on a dime...launch himself straight up and drill one before the defender had a chance to block his shot. A coach once tried putting a much taller opponent on him trying to overmatch him with height. But Bobby was just too quick for the player and he scored 22 points, leading the Panthers to a 20 point win. Bobby worked hard at his game. His buddy Ann Hutchinson Porrino said Bobby told her he practiced on his own one hour before dinner and one hour after dinner.

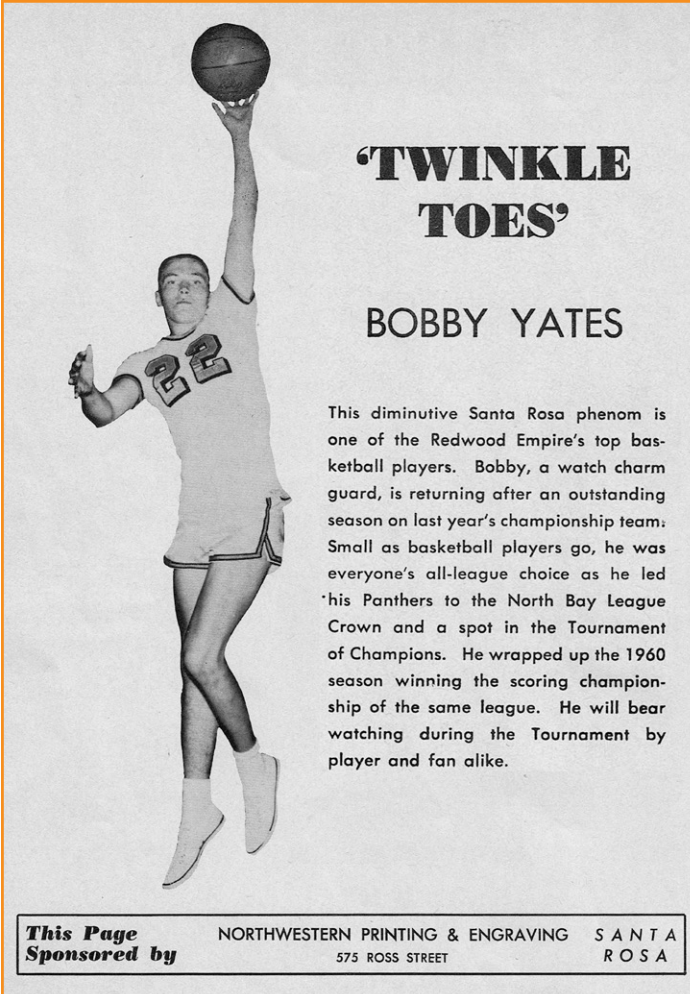
His on court exploits weren't just confined to the Cracker Box. The Panthers had a tough schedule to start their 1961 season – Bobby's last season. They had five games against teams from San Francisco: Lincoln, Washington, Sacred Heart, St. Ignatius and Balboa but defeated all five, often because of Bobby's brilliance in the final seconds.

Bobby Yates finished his high school career by sinking a 22' jump shot with no time left on the clock to beat highly favored El Camino High of Sacramento in the 1961 Gridley Tournament. Bobby made All Tournament. According to George Hower, Press Democrat sports editor, Bobby was named by a national basketball magazine as an All-American pick.

Bobby was an all-around athlete. He started as football quarterback his senior year. He guided his team to the NBL Championship finishing the season with a 39-0 shutout of new rival Montgomery while tossing 3 touchdown passes on a bitterly cold night at Bailey Field. In addition, he played baseball his sophomore and junior year and swam for the Panthers his senior year.

But his star shone brightest in the game of hoops. I have been a SRHS

basketball fan over half a century and I can't think of any basketball player that dominated the game like Bobby Yates. His passing, dribbling, shooting, and his tremendous court-sense made an indelible mark on the local basketball community. What a thrill to be a 14-year-old kid and get to watch my brother Jim play two years with Yates and crew in the irreplaceable Cracker Box. Twinkle Toes he was. Thanks for the memories Bobby.



**'TWINKLE
TOES'**

BOBBY YATES

This diminutive Santa Rosa phenom is one of the Redwood Empire's top basketball players. Bobby, a watch charm guard, is returning after an outstanding season on last year's championship team. Small as basketball players go, he was everyone's all-league choice as he led his Panthers to the North Bay League Crown and a spot in the Tournament of Champions. He wrapped up the 1960 season winning the scoring championship of the same league. He will bear watching during the Tournament by player and fan alike.

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Santa Rosa High School Foundation
 “Once A Panther, Always A Panther”
ONE THOUSAND PANTHERS

One Thousand Panthers is a campaign in progress to enrich the SRHSF Endowment Fund by utilizing **\$1,000 donations by 1000 panther supporters to reach a goal of \$1 million**. Proceeds are allocated to Student needs at SRHS through the Panther Project Fund of the SRHS Foundation.

Currently, we have donations totaling well over \$400,000.

Call the Pandy Line (707-571-7747) or visit us online at www.SRHSF.org for assistance.

Donations by cash, check, or credit card are accepted from individuals and groups (pooled).

Also welcome are pledges over 2, 4, and 5 years, employee matching funds, and marketable securities.

PLEASE CALL US!

We look forward to your involvement with the SRHS Foundation.

Thank you for your generous donations.

MUSEUM MESSAGES

Here’s the latest about what’s doing in the campus museum . . . First, social science instructor Art Horner received the following letter from **Karen Bode Wily ’75**: “Enclosed is the 1941 *Echo* that belonged to my late father, Roy Bode. As I looked through the book, I couldn’t help but wonder how many of these young men and women would soon be headed overseas to fight in World War II. This *Echo* showed many of their carefree days before the reality of war would change their lives forever. I’m so happy that you are able to find a home for the book in the SRHS Museum” . . . **Lucy Stratton Wilkes ’58** also donated an *Echo*, hers a 1925 edition . . . **Bill Shephard ’58**, he of a multi-generational SRHS family, spent his working life in the employ of Levi-Strauss and one day mentioned to the curator of the company’s museum that he had the very dress his mother wore at her 1927 SRHS graduation. The curator made a pitch for Bill to donate it to the Lev-S collection, but Bill demurred and brought it instead to the SRHS museum where it will one day find itself on a display-case mannequin.



By: Pandy

FALL ‘19

Christine Giffen, SRHS Art department chair, and Special Ed instructor, was recently voted Best Teacher in the Press Democrat’s annual Best of Sonoma County readers’ poll. Congratulations

Christine!...

SRJC recently selected **Shawn Brumbaugh ’85** (Biological Sciences) to be its Brook Tauzer Faculty Lecturer for 2020. The Tauzer Lecturer is an SRJC faculty member who has been selected for teaching excellence by a committee consisting of former Tauzer Lecturers. The Brook Tauzer Faculty Lecture is the highlight of PDA Day (Professional Development Activity Day) each spring, and an honor for the faculty member selected to give it. The Tauzer Lecture is a long-time SRJC tradition (since 1987) named in honor of Brook Tauzer, who is an emeritus professor of history and former Vice President of Academic Affairs at SRJC.



Christine Giffen



Shawn Brumbaugh

Once every three summers, Northwest Deuce Days hosts over a thousand hot rods and restored classic cars in an auto show to end all auto shows. Held always on Vancouver Island in British Columbia, this year over a third of the cars were modified 1932 Fords. Among them were two beautiful '32 roadsters, owned and driven from Northern California by brothers **Buck '59** and **Denny Yaeger '61**. Participating in the past, retired SRHS auto shop instructor **Tom Gutsch '60** also has driven his '32 coupe to the event...

Austin Conrad 2014 is the co-leader of a team of Cal Poly students who spent eight months building a pair of bionic hands for a nine year old burn victim. They worked and he made headlines. The fourth year Engineering student at Cal Poly truly pulled himself up by his own bootstraps. He worked many jobs to get where he is today, including being a mechanic at his family's automotive shop. He describes his own bedroom as "a workshop with a bed." SRHSF congratulations to Austin!

Sid Albero '99 owns & operates Back to Fitness, a gym in Rohnert Park... **Alyssa Connell 2008** is a wine educator and concierge for overall guest experiences when travelers visit wine country. She is connected with local restaurants & wineries.

Judy (Odegard) Reilly '70, recently realized a 30+ year dream and opened a fine art gallery in downtown Santa Rosa. After spending a number of years working in art galleries in San Francisco, Judy returned to Santa Rosa in 1986 with her husband, Jim, and their then newborn son, Tyler. Upon retiring last year, she decided the time was finally right and opened 'j. gallery' in February at 311 D Street, between 4th and 5th Streets. Judy invites you to stop in.

Class reunions support the Foundation, too. **Dara Carol and Rosalyn Knight**, both of SRHS class of '89, came to the October Board Meeting to present \$500 to the Foundation. The money was raised from their August reunion festivities.

Gwen Stebbings Rigby '64 has chosen some unusual hobbies in her retirement: tornado chasing and UFO hunting. This season, the van in which Gwen was riding got a little too close to a twister. It rolled the van over two and a half times. The vehicle landed settled on its roof. But Gwen walked away without injury, as did the other passengers. Will Gwen ever chase tornadoes again? "You bet."

Mason Frost 2020 waited until his senior year to play football. Then, in his fifth game, he rushed for an astounding 439 yards. Panther football coach Russell

Ponce says he thinks the 5'11" Frost can touch a 10' basketball rim with his elbow. "I have never seen an athlete that I've coached, like that in my life." Go Mason!

Michael Swartz '96, paid his dues in Tinsel Town. He was working as an entry level film editor when he met his future producing partner, Tyler Nilson. Together, they conceived, wrote, and found financial backing for a feature film. It's called "The Peanut Butter Falcon." The film, about a man with Down's syndrome man who wants to be an actor, received rave reviews upon its release last August. It's a feel good independent movie that's achieving great success.

Maria de Los Angeles 2006 crossed the border into California with her family when she was eleven. Two decades later, she's an internationally known artist living in New York. In August, She came back to Santa Rosa for her first show in her hometown. "Tierra de Rosa" played from August 24 to November 3 at the Museum of Sonoma County.

Dr. Susan Northen Lacy '85, has created her own medical practice, Modern Gynecology & Reproductive Health. She states, "I want to challenge myself, and my staff to look at this work in bold new ways while maintaining the highest level of quality and service."

In 2014, fellow SRHS ArtQuest students voted **Taylor Tarantino** Best Female Dancer. Now, she's just joined the L.A. Clippers Spirit dance team. She'll have an audience numbering in the tens of thousands every game night.

Allya Furness 2022, may only be an ArtQuest sophomore, but she's already had her own YouTube channel up and running for over two years. It's called Arty Foxx, and it's packed with nearly 300 of Allya's short, animated videos. The channel has had nearly 220,000 views, and has 2,650 subscribers. View Allya's very original stuff yourself at Arty Foxx on YouTube.





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