



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Spring, 2007

Vol. 18

Issue 3

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

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Remember When . . . 1952 by Rick Blaine

I've read all the "Remember When . . ." articles in the newsletter and it seems to me that each graduating class believes it was special. Depending on the point of view, I guess each is unique, but I like to think as we approach the reunion marking the 55th year since we graduated there really is much about the Class of 1952 that sets it apart from the rest.

First, consider what makes us similar. Like other classes, we went to school while a war was fought. When we were seniors, the Korean conflict was still raging. The ceasefire had to wait another year. Like other classes, we had our emotional and intellectual ups and downs as we matured as best we could. We've also had our share of successes and failures. We celebrate one and cope with the other. Like other classes, many of us married classmates. Some unions worked and some probably did not. At the 25th reunion I was impressed that all 25 couples who married high school sweethearts were still married.

Like other classes, we've lost classmates to tragedy and to time. But today, what we are doing because of those losses truly sets us apart. We've begun a very special fund we call "In Memory Of" to honor the passing of classmates. We then make a donation to the SRHS Foundation, a very special organization of which I'm proud to have belonged since it began. (If you don't belong, please consider joining.) The Class of 1952 is proud that our donations are fast approaching \$1000!

When we started school in the fall of 1951, \$1000 was a lot of money. The average yearly wage that year was just under \$3000. How much did you make picking prunes or hops or pears or apples to buy your school clothes? Did you pick prunes out on Steele Lane? Coddington today covers the orchard where I picked. That's where the girls wrote notes on the bottom of the boxes to the cute guys who drove around on tractors to pick up the full boxes. Remember when the opening of school was delayed so we could help with the prune harvest? That was special.

Did you wear white buck shoes and carry a chalk pad to clean the scruff marks? Or did you wear Spalding saddle shoes and roll down your socks? You could buy those shoes at Smith's for \$10.95. I remember some of the guys wore crepe-soled shoes. Did you try to rip the red tag off someone's Levis? Didn't that have a special meaning if you were successful?

I remember the girls wore skirts that were so straight they had to walk very stiffly. I was told they were called "pencil skirts." No wonder. Full skirts called the "poodle" were also gaining popularity, as was the poodle hair cut. You could buy a "Sanforized" blouse for \$3.50 at Rosenberg's where your change would come in a pneumatic tube. Do you remember the elevator operator who wore the white gloves? You could pick up a cashmere sweater for \$9.95 at the White House where your change would come in a basket from upstairs down a wire.

We guys wore Pendleton shirts with our jeans. I bought my shirt at Keegan Brothers, and I wore it for years. Corduroy coats were popular when we dressed up. We rolled up the pant legs on our jeans. Lots of us cut our hair in the Tony Curtis style and used Wild Root or Bryl Cream to keep it in place.

Lots of choices in sports kept us occupied. We played football, basketball, baseball and track, of course, but we guys also competed in boxing and tumbling, two sports they can't play today. In football that year, though we were 4-4-1, we beat Petaluma in the "Big Game" and brought home the War Club and gave it another orange peg. Remember the exchange

President's Message



I am pleased to report that our grants this school year have now totaled over \$70,000 and what makes me most proud is the diversity of programs we have been able to support with all of your help. Examples would be in Vocational areas, Athletics, Science, Journalism, Fine Arts & Music, Special Education, Agriculture and our newly dedicated Museum just to name a few. A current list of the specific grants since the last newsletter is included in this issue. A sincere thank you to all

of you for your financial support that makes all of this possible!

A bittersweet announcement is that our long time Principal and great friend, Tony Negri, has decided to retire at the end of this school year. Tony and his wife Sue have been strong advocates for the Foundation and assisted us greatly in achieving our goals of program enhancement at SRHS. Hopefully, Tony will continue to help the Foundation when he officially transitions into his leisurely retired mode. I am already thinking of ways to keep him involved.

I realize that not all of our members are computer savvy, but I do ask you to visit our Foundation Website (www.srhsf.org). Under the direction of board member David Thompson we have an outstanding website that is currently being enhanced with new features, many of which are suggestions from our membership. Keep your ideas coming – email us at info@srhsf.org or call 707-571-7747.

Over the next year and a half, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer, our membership chair, will be focusing on raising our current membership number of 1,300 to a target of 1,500. The reasons are quite straight forward. There have been several graduation classes since our last campaign and we would like all of the classes represented. There are also graduates who do not know of the tremendous work of this Foundation. Should you know of a grad who is not a member, provide him or her a copy of the membership form on the back cover of this newsletter and encourage them to join you as a member. Not surprisingly, a few hundred new members will add immeasurably to the annual grants we can provide to students. Thanks in advance for your help.

I hope to see many of you at our Annual Polenta Feed and Fund Raiser in April. This continues to be a very popular event and the tickets always sell out quite fast. Our co-chairs, Jacky Cooper Schalich and JoAnn Hembree MacDonald, have worked quite hard to bring you another outstanding program. More about this in our next issue.

Spring is just around the corner. Should you have a chance to visit SRHS, please call Marlene Callen at 707-528-5292 for a tour of our museum – it contains a lot of memories.

Doug Pavese
President 2006-2008

About the Foundation

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

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

Santa Rosa High School Foundation News is published quarterly by the Santa Rosa High School Foundation, P.O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Subscription rate is \$25.00 per year, which includes membership in the Foundation. You may also sponsor an edition of the newsletter. Please contact us if you would like more information, (707) 571-SRHS.

The SRHS Foundation Newsletter invites submissions. Letters should be 150 or fewer words. All submissions are subject to editing. Please identify photos and provide credits where applicable. Please mail your articles and photos to the above address or e-mail to mdaniels@sonic.net.

Historian/Editor: Mike Daniels '59

Newsletter Publisher: Alicia Hodenfield '85

Newsletter Team: Mike Daniels '59, Mike Grace '65, Penny Hastings '59, Alicia Hodenfield '85, Peggy King Leiser '40, Carol Laabs Patterson '55, Elva Pringle retired staff, Jacky Cooper Schalich '57, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59

To Dan and Greg Johnston (SRHS alumni) at AJ Printing & Graphics, thank you! for all your help and support provided in the publication of this newsletter.

SRHS Foundation Directors

Mary Main Testorelli, '47	* Mike Grace, '65
Gwin Stumbaugh, '48	Rosie Clarke London, '65
Pat Acuff Thompson, '49	* Donna Dennes Peterson, '67
Ernie Thompson, '49	Paulette Guaspari Gomes, '68
Carol Laabs Patterson, '55	Walt Ryan, '68
JoAnn Hembree MacDonald, '56	Chris Zeek, '68
Jacky Cooper Schalich, '57	Mary Schaefer, '76
* Doug Pavese, '58	Alicia Hodenfield, '85
Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer, '59	Christine Romani Tonelli, '88
* Mike Daniels, '59	Dave Thompson, '92
Dick Hutchinson, '59	Tony Negri, Faculty
Ann Hutchinson Porrino, '61	Terry Swehla, Faculty Liaison
Jim Ward, '62	

* Founding Directors

You can join the Foundation, renew your membership, and make your contributions online at www.srhsf.org. Your membership fees and contributions are tax deductible.

continued from the front page

rallies with the Trojans? Did movie star Lloyd Bridges really show up at one? And did you see the chickens fly out of the SRHS bass drum during half time? We “welcomed” our rivals



Post Win Celebrations, Photo '52 Echo

that way. What fun!

And Block S! It was at its most powerful. Remember the day of initiation? When the new club members had their heads shaved and wore dresses and were smeared up with lipstick? What went on during the initiation ceremony? I've been told it's best not to ask.

We played the faculty in donkey basketball and donkey baseball. Can you imagine? What would the animal cruelty people today say about that? But we did have a good time—and no animals were hurt.

Girls played speedball and archery and other activities, mostly in intramural games and seldom with other high schools. Today the girls play a number of sports in North Bay League competition. Lots of us are glad to see they can and maybe wish the '52 girls could have competed that way. The girls had Block SR and their own initiation. They came to school in one of Dad's old shirts and in jeans or pants, the only time they would—or could.

We were kept separate, boys and girls, in lots of classes and activities. But we never questioned that. Boys had their own glee club and so did the girls, and on Senior Vocation Day the girls went to businesses one day and the boys on another. FAA and ag classes were for boys, but we came together for “Family Relations.” What was that class all about? Did you ever practice what it taught?



Family Relations class, Photo '52 Echo

That class may have been silly, but it showed SRHS cared about us and our futures. So did our teachers. And we had lots of good ones—Mitch Soso, Doug Campbell, Andy Wallstrum, Irene Scott, Lucy Spaulding. Edna Parker was new that year and became a very popular girls' dean. Rhodes Trussell's job was to make sure we went to school, and George Weeks disciplined the boys, who seemed to need it more than the girls.

Do you remember the train that ran between SRHS and SRJC? I loved it! It would make so much noise Miss Spaulding had to stop teaching English until it finally moved across Mendocino Avenue.

We enjoyed a busy social life although we sure didn't have what the kids today do. We had few cars, so we walked or rode bikes to the movies. If you did drive, you had always to be on the lookout for “Ticket Tom.” Do you remember that yellow Jeep? Who was the driver? It seemed always to be packed with girls. I guess because we didn't have the choices of today, you'd say our class was pretty innocent. We had just three choices for movies—the Cal, the Roxy or the Tower, but you could spend all Saturday afternoon at the Cal for 13 cents. What candy bar

did you buy during intermission? Love Nest or Baby Ruth or Look or Clark Bar? Did you ever buy waxed lips or waxed buck teeth? If you had to call home for a ride at the end of the day, the telephone cost you a nickel.

Dancing at the Canteen on the weekend was free. We danced, really danced, to Fats Domino, Rosemary Clooney, Billy Eckstein, Patti Page, Frankie Laine. We were pre-rock 'n roll. We ate hamburgers and drank Cokes at Gordon's, Sunrise Creamery or the Winkin' Lantern. We had sodas at the fountain at Tomasco Drug or Medico Drug or

Top 10 Songs of 1952

1. Lawdy Miss Clawdy - Lloyd Price
2. Jambalaya - Hank Williams
3. Have Mercy Baby - Dominoes
4. One Mint Julep - Clovers
5. Night Train - Jimmy Forrest
6. My Song - Johnny Ace
7. Goin' Home - Fats Domino
8. Moody Mood for Love - King Pleasure
9. Juke - Little Walter
10. Baby Don't Do It - 5 Royales

continued on page 4

Letters to the Editor & Errors, Omissions, Corrections

No letters were received prior to the publication of this issue. We do love hearing from you! Please let us know if we got something wrong or nailed the feeling!

Please send your notes, comments and letters to: SRHSF Newsletter P. O. Box 11002 Santa Rosa, CA 95406

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

When submitting photos for the newsletter, be sure to provide the identity of the individuals in the photos, the year the photo was taken, if you would like the source of the photo identified and any other relevant information regarding the photo.

Article submissions are invited. Letters should be 150 or fewer words. All submissions are subject to editing. We also invite your submissions to Panther Patter. Please provide information about Santa Rosa High School graduates including about their family, work and what they have been doing since high school.

Submissions of photos and text can be made by e-mail, through our website and by mail. E-mail to mdaniels@sonic.net or mail to P. O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

NEXT DEADLINE:

MAY 15, 2007 FOR JULY MAILING

Now you can have a "permanent" seat in the SRHS Auditorium

For a donation of \$150 you can receive an engraved brass plaque prominently affixed to a seat in the completely restored SRHS auditorium. You'll also receive a certificate inscribed with the name and location of the seat.

Name to be placed on plaque: (one name per plaque, you may purchase in your name or another's and you may purchase as many as are available - please complete separate form for each plaque) Up to 40 characters (25 first line; 15 second line. Periods and spaces are considered characters).

Your name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ Payment of \$150 for each plaque is enclosed. (Checks should be made payable to SRHS Foundation)

Please charge my Visa Mastercard Discover
Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature: _____

Ensure your place in history! Mail or fax the following application with your payment today. Mail payment and this form to SRHSF P. O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1002. You may also call in or fax over credit card orders - Phone: (707) 571-SRHS or Fax: (707) 523-4137. All proceeds go to the SRHS Foundation permanent endowment fund for the exclusive benefit of SRHS students.

All gifts are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Front Page article, continued from page 3

Hall Bros. We ate French fries and gravy at Wright's Coffee Shop. If we didn't want to go far from campus, we could have a burger at The Hand Out across Mendocino at Farmers' Market.

We enjoyed the Prom of course. Two of them. One in January and one in June. We had a mid-year graduation in those days, 34 of us went through commencement in February and 288 in June. I remember there was some talk about moving the June ceremony next door to SRJC's Bailey Field, but it remained on the campus on the outdoor stage. Was it hot that day? I don't

remember. I guess I was just happy finally to graduate.

Our senior year was event filled on the world stage too. Elizabeth II became Queen of England. Did you stay home and watch the coronation on TV? Did you have a television set? If you didn't, you could watch in the windows of Montgomery Ward or Pedersen's or many places on Fourth Street. England also joined the nuclear club that year. And the U.S. exploded the world's first thermonuclear weapon. Harry Truman chose not to run again for president. The population of the U.S. increased by three million that year. Santa Rosa had

about 20,000 people. The average life expectancy was 68.6 years. (We '52ers are sure not "average" in that category!) The Summer Olympics were in Helsinki and the Winter in Oslo. Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn won Oscars for *The African Queen*.

Through it all, we had plenty of fun as we grew and embarked on our futures. Today, though we may look back with some longing for days past, we remain proud and pleased. Proud that we still serve our alma mater and pleased at how it helped shape our destinies.

Contributions & Membership News

It seems we have the greatest, most generous group of folks that are members of this Foundation. The membership renewals, lifetime memberships, contributions and memori-

als grow each month. The word is definitely out about us and the exciting work we do supporting SRHS's programs, along with publishing an outstanding newsletter that keeps our members in touch with friends and renewing memories of our days at this great school. If you have friends that haven't joined as yet, encourage them to do so, by using the form in this newsletter or by going on-line at www.srhsf.org to make their contributions and join.

Here's the good news: Since our last newsletter, we have had 164 membership renewals and 18 new members. Contributions and memorial gifts this period are \$11,480. We thank all of you for your support and generosity.

Lee Abramson '47	Maxine & Bjorn Karlsen '47	Arlene Pettet '57	Lester Spichtig '61
Linda Andersen '68	Andy Losh friend	Ann Porrino '61	Dale Struckman '61
Julia Bussman '37	Betty Lyon 1953	Leonard & Allene Read '54/'54	Elaine Thompson '58
Peggy Call '41	Alex Malaspina '52	Gwen Rigby '64	Ilga Tyler '64
Class of 1966	Edna Irene Maxwell '25	Bill Ronchelli '45	Mary Weersing '57
Marliene Costa '50	Dan Morehouse '59	M. Candace Roney '66	Iлона Williams '64
Diane Davies '58	Virginia Mueller '40	Susan & Don Silverek '63/'64	Ellen Wilson '47
Charlotte Gale '65	Al Pisenti '41	Hal & Shirley Smith '53/'56	Dominique & Robin Wirtz friends
Margaret Hougen '41			

We welcome Bill and Suzie Friedman, class of 1966, and Catherine Gobbi, class of 1955 in to the Lifetime Membership family. We incorrectly listed Don Mills as the class of 1966 in our last newsletter when everyone knows that he was a member of the class of '61. Sorry Don! Our lifetime memberships are up to 48 now. **You go, Panthers!**

If you have concerns or questions about your membership or contributions, please call me, Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer, at 707 544-3158, or e-mail me at nsmeds@sbcglobal.net. Thanks again!

Memorial Contributions

Marsha & Jessie Carney

Memorial

Michael Carney family
N.A. & A. L. Claey's friends

Margaret Galvin Memorial

Vernon & Betty Lawson '38/'42

Pam Griffin McMahon

Memorial

Jim & Diane Keegan '66/'67
Peggy Leiser '40

Arthur Jones Memorial

Nadine & Oren Smedshammer '59

Marie Lauritze Memorial

Gloria Leandro friend

Wanda Lux Memorial

Carmelita Canevari friend
Barbara Lealhy friend

Peter Porrino Memorial

Elmer Brown staff

Leslie Rolph Memorial

Nancy Rolph-Johnson '61

John Rovai Memorial

John & Rosalie Caulfield '60

Tracy Schalach Memorial

Jim & Linda Andersen '68
Nick Colasanti friend

Richard & Angie Colombini '49
Gene & Alice Cristani friends
Robert & Norma Dallachie friends

Jon & Carrie Dorsey friends
Pat & Cynthia Gallaher friends
Jim & Laurie Ghilmetti friends
Genevieve Mazzetta friend

Rod & Phyllis Palmieri friends
Frank & Ann Pugh friends
Bill & Kathleen Robinson friends
Ron & Mary Ruggles friends
Joseph & Jacklyn Schalach '46/'57
Gregory Smith friend

Tuttle's Pharmacies, Inc. friends
Kevin & Joanne Welch friends
Betty Workman friend

James Ward Memorial

Michael & Nydia Bogue '61/'63
Shirley Close friend
Dick & Angie Colombini '49
David & Pat Engman '57
Bill Fisher '49
Anita Graziano friend

Vern & Betty Lawson 38/'42

McMurtry, Marion '43

Perry & Norma Murray friends
Doug Pavese '58

Ben & Barbara Race friends
Robert & Beth Salisbury friends
Oren & Nadine Smedshammer '59
Frank & Tracey Stevenson friends
Telecompioneers friends

Berta Wiggins Memorial

Peter & Annie Allena friends
Ray & Jeanette Ambrosio friends
Sheryl Baxter ?
Ed & Janice Bello friends
Virginia & Gary Boswell friends
Bill & Cleidith Bruner '54/'56
Margaret Buckley friend
James Byrom friend
Hugh & Connie Coddling '36/'52
Norma Edwards friend
Micheala Elliott '68
David & Pat Engman '57
Joyce Flanagan friend
Bud & Barbara Gerhardt '52
Jim & Bobbie Grant friends
Ray & Bev Guanella '49
Heyer Realty friends
Mary Jobson friend
Jane Kunde friend

C.J. & E.M. Lawson '43

James & Cynthia Mathiesen friends
Teresa McMahon friend
Harvey Miller friend

Angelo & Joan Muzzin friends
Douglas & Georgina Noren friends
Al & Shirley Nott friends
Doug Pavese '58

Russ & Joan Peterich friends
Jeanette Pierre '55

Pinnacle Homes friends
Pisenti & Brinker friends
Bill & Marylou Reinking friends

Bob & Beth Salisbury friends
John & Vickie Scharer friends
Mickey & Marian Singer friends
Gary & Janet Sitton friends
Mike & Pam Smedshammer '84
Nadine & Oren Smedshammer '59

Kathy Sorensen '59
Frank Stevenson friend
Judith & Ron Thomas '57
Bud & Diane Thorp friends
Keith & Beverly Totemeier '53
Eugene & Vickie Turney friends
Donna Vine '55
Floyd & Julie Wiggins '55/'55

Meet Ben Grace by Mary Main Testorelli '47

Each year since 1990, the Foundation has awarded a \$1000 scholarship to one, and sometimes two or three, graduating seniors to assist them in their future educational efforts. A committee of board members, aided by the SRHS counseling staff, selects the recipient through an interview and consideration of resumes.

One significant criterion reflects character and contribution to choose the student who will be missed because of his or her presence on campus. In other words, the student you'd be sorry to see leave.

Ben Grace, who received the Foundation scholarship in 1995, is such a student. Today, his teachers still often remark about his qualities and ask about him.

Following are Ben's answers to a series of pertinent questions about the scholarship.

Q: Why do you believe you were chosen as the recipient of the scholarship?

A: That's a tough one to answer. I wasn't a stand-out student in any one area. I believe I received it because I was involved in the school in a positive way in a variety of areas. I enjoyed my classes and did well, and I competed in a number of sports. More importantly, I gave back to the school in other ways, such as helping to paint the senior steps and lockers in the main building. Mostly, I was always willing to give in a positive manner.

Q: What college did you attend?

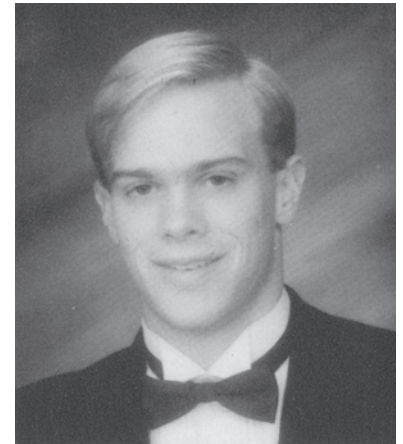
A: I went first to SRJC, and then I went to CSU, Chico to pursue a degree in graphic design. While at SRHS I took art classes every semester. I applied much of what I learned at SRHS to my courses at Chico. I strongly believe in the importance of arts in the schools. I think I am a great example of how art classes in high school can have an important and direct impact on life and career path.

Q: What is your most impressive high school experience?

A: That's another tough question. It is very difficult to choose just one. Running track and cross-country helped shape my high school experience in a very positive way. I think it is important to have high school activities other than academic.

Q: What are you doing now?

A: I am proud to say I am working in the same field in which I earned my B.A.-graphic design. I'm working for a small design studio in Santa Rosa, Robert, Mather and Gibbs. I married Christina Tonelli, a classmate of '95. We just had a baby girl in November. Her name is Emma and we're very proud, happy parents. I have also started showing my artwork professionally.



Ben Grace, '95 Echo

Giving Through the SRHS Foundation

There are many ways to participate in providing a lasting contribution to the Foundation.

1. Establish your own fund (anonymously or in your name) with a gift of \$5000 or more.
2. Establish a Scholarship Fund with a gift of \$10,000 or more.
3. Include a bequest or other planned gift in your estate plan.

A wide variety of gifts are accepted including:

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

For further information, please contact: Doug Pavese, SRHS Foundation, P.O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406; or call Doug at (707) 538-3167.

Q: What is your advice for current SRHS students?

A: The simplest and best advice I can give is as true to high school as it is to life: It's what you make it. You have a choice of what kind of life you want, and you have more control over it than anyone.

A recap of the Class of '66 reunion can be found on page 9!



Susie "Simas" Friedman, Bill Friedman, Janice "Pedroni" Jordan, Jim Jordan at the Class of '66 Reunion



Panther Project Fund

Grants for the 2006-2007 School Year December, 2006 Through February, 2007

Music (Instrumental) - offset travel costs for students performing in Spain and Portugal	\$3,000.00
Modern Languages - French - CD/cassette player	\$ 155.51
Vocational Education - Welding - gauge box & pan brake for fabricating sheet metal	\$3,113.70
Vocational Education - landscape maintenance program	\$1,999.93
Field Lighting Fund 06/07 - final annual payment	\$5,000.00
Museum Project - refreshments cost for dedication	\$ 300.00
Fine Arts Theater & Music - materials for constructing a stage extension and platforms	\$1,200.00
Administrative - purchase of 200 block letters for students with outstanding GPAs	\$ 549.60
Athletic Dept.-offset cost to purchase a lawn tractor for use on the soccer and softball fields	\$1,000.00
Athletic Dept.-offset cost to purchase a separate compact for mowing the baseball field prior to usage	\$2,000.00
Spanish Dept.-purchase 15 marker sets for use in class for portfolio assignments	\$ 60.00
Asian & International Club-bus cost to conference	\$ 265.00
Special Education Vocational-startup cost for Bowser's Barkery business	\$1,302.00
Welding Dept.-admission fee for 47 students to attend the Tulare Farm Show	\$ 500.00
Administration - providing breakfast for Frosh, Soph and Junior students doing required STAR testing	\$2,500.00
Science Dept.-purchase a Density Flow model kit for studying flow of fluids in nature	\$ 400.00
Science Dept.-purchase a complete set of magnetic demonstration kits for biology	\$ 575.00
Carney Memorial Scholarship Recipients-\$500 to cheerleading program and \$200 to dancer Lisel Schmidt	\$ 700.00

Totals YTD

\$68,768.82

*Dear SRHS Foundation Members,
MERCII! Merci mille fois - thank you a thousand times for funding a replacement for my cassette/CD player! The students are immensely grateful not to have to listen to me attempting to use different voices as I read their practice and testing scripts for the oral components of their work. This machine will be a daily reminder of how extremely fortunate we are to be part of a school as unusually wonderful as SRHS; and of course a large part of that wonderfulness is the SRHS Foundation.
Thank you so much for being there for us, and for helping us to do our best for our students.
Merci, merci! Amanda Newlon, French teacher*

Due to space limitations, the full text of these letters may not be printed

SRHS Foundation:

Thank you for generously supporting the SRHS Welding Shop in 2006. We are now using the Sheet Metal Shear that you helped purchase in June of 2006. I would also like to thank George Johnston, Thermal Technology Inc., for contributing \$1000 to this project, Nancy Miller the SRCS Career Pathways Coordinator for finding additional funding for the project and the students in the welding program for raising the balance of the funds via the sale of the award-winning utility trailer they manufactured in 2005. In all we raised nearly \$10,000 to purchase this equipment.

The support of many businesses and individuals in Sonoma County have helped the students produce the utility trailer that will be auctioned off at the Polenta Dinner in April. Proceeds from the auction of the utility trailer will benefit the SRHS Foundation.

Please know that the students and I greatly appreciate all that you do to support our program.
Sincerely, Tom Gutsch, SRHS welding teacher

*To: Members and Executive Board of the Santa Rosa High School Foundation
It is with profound gratitude that I acknowledge your wonderful organization's astounding, generous contribution of \$6,000 toward our musical tour to Portugal and Spain in April 2007. I am moved by your recognition of the importance - indeed, the life-changing significance - of making possible this experience for 120 students.*

Although the chronology of your benevolence is not as important as the overwhelming support you provided, I would nonetheless like to thank you for revisiting our request for more assistance after you initially approved \$3,000. As you're probably aware, the entirety of your gift was directed toward our scholarship fund. Thanks to your benevolence, as well as substantial donations from other service organizations and individuals, we were able to provide real financial support to 40 of our students. Even this musician can calculate that fully one-third of our traveling students have benefitted from tremendous acts of kindness and generosity.

We are fortunate beyond measure to live and work in a community that so generously supports activities and endeavors that enrich students' lives. I speak for my students, their parents, and the entire educational community of Santa Rosa High School when I offer humble and heartfelt thanks. You honor us and you honor our whole community.

*Sincerely,
Mark Wardlaw
Director of Instrumental Music*

SRHS Foundation:

I would like to thank the Foundation for its continued support of my teaching and my students. As I reflect on how I teach and what I see going on in my colleagues' classrooms, I understand that without the generous support of the Foundation, SRHS would be a far different place. The progressive methods and materials the staff at SRHS has the opportunity to use to provide an engaging environment for the students is a direct result of the foundation. If the staff had to rely on the district as the sole provider of educational funds, SRHS would be a much different place. I know part of what makes SRHS a special place to teach and learn is that the Foundation's support allows teachers to keep their lessons and curriculum fresh because of the new materials available through the Foundation. It is the simple things you provide that make a difference.

John Cortopassi, social science teacher

Meet the New Football Coach

By Mike Grace '65

Russell Ponce is the new varsity football coach for SRHS. Last season, his first, the Panthers won three games after having won only three in the previous five years. This remarkable achievement contributed to Ponce being named Coach of the year by his NBL coaching peers.

Ponce is a '92 SRHS alum, and since he was a youngster he wanted to be a football coach. He began his coaching at age 17 in age group football. His passion for coaching is immediately apparent in conversation, and it comes across to his athletes.

Prior to his varsity season last fall, Ponce coached the Panther junior varsity for two years. So, next fall he will have coached most of the 2007 athletes at one level or the other. This experience is critical to establish continuity and a winning tradition to an athletic team.

Ponce plans to build on last season's success and to restore the proud tradition of Panther football. You are urged to come out to the refurbished Nevers Field next fall and watch the SRHS version of Friday Night football—you will be impressed.



Student of the Month

The following students were recognized as Student of the Month, nominated by their teachers or administrative staff. They were treated to lunch at Chevy's and will be invited, along with their families, to an acknowledgement dinner at the end of the school year. We are so proud of each of their accomplishments and congratulate each one!

*J.D. Biasotti
Justin Dorman
Joe Estes
Jaelyn Garn
Cindy Juarez
Oren Stoelting
Elvia Abrica
Kjellen Belcher
Alyssa Devincenzi
Adrian Guzman*

*Katelyn Jahn
Emelyn Salmeron
Remi Dixon
Jordan Boothe
Rosina Gelormino
Serafin Duran
Ben Greenburg
Cristhian Reyes
Honah Thompson*



Golf Tournament – Save the Date!

The SRHS Foundation will hold its 12th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 14, 2007. Our goal is to



Lynda Trombetta Angell, Carol Hansel, Florine Trombetta Ellingson, Darlene McCullough Bath

have a full field of 120 golfers for this men's and coed division scramble. We specifically would like to encourage more female golfers to play. Start working on your foursomes now!

Following golf is our awards dinner and silent auction. Non-golfers and non-golfing spouses or friends are encouraged to attend the dinner. If you would like to be a hole sponsor, the cost is only \$125 and you will receive recognition at the tournament for you, your class or your company. For further information, contact Doug Pavese at 538-3167.



Having Fun at the 2005 Tournament

**The SRHS Foundation
Annual Polenta Feed
Friday, April, 27, 2007 is once again a
SELL OUT!**

**For those attending, don't forget the
Live Auction, which includes these items**

**Bodega House 2 nights/4 people
Case of William Harrison Wine
Signed Joe Montana Jersey
Dinner for 10
Trailer built by SRHS Welding Shop**

**No host cocktails: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 7 pm**

**Questions? Call: Jacky Schalich 546-4631
or JoAnn MacDonald 546-6185**

SRHS Museum Opens

After several months of planning and working by Foundation directors, the Museum on the SRHS campus celebrated a formal opening on January 27. Members of the Santa Rosa City Council, the Sonoma County Historical Society, the Board of Education and SRHS Foundation attended the dedication ceremony.

Displayed and stored in the museum on the second floor of the Main Building are a number of artifacts from the early days of SRHS to items of a more recent time. Because a fire completely consumed SRHS in November 1921, little is available from the very early days of the school's existence. On prominent display, however, is a large silver trophy won by SRHS in 1897 in a Sonoma County schools "Play Day" athletic competition. This trophy was found in an artichoke field in the King City-Salinas area and returned to the high school. The Foundation, with the assistance of principal's secretary Marlene Callen, restored the trophy to its shining glory.

Items of more recent interest are memorabilia from the filming on campus of the Francis Ford Coppola production, *Peggy Sue Got Married*, and

a photo of Hollywood stars Clark Gable and Carole Lombard standing on Mendocino Avenue with SRHS prominently in the background.

Records of Block S and Block SR and



Jill Lightfoot Hale '76, Merdee Noonan '76, Mary Main Testorelli '47, Fran Burke '40

photos of athletes, including Ernie Nevers, are on the walls and in the display cases along with items to promote spirit and Big Game interest. Additionally, material relating to academic and such extracurricular activities as dance, music

and drama are in the cases.

The museum came into being because of the efforts of Foundation Directors Mary Testorelli '47, Ernie Thompson '49, Dick Hutchinson '59, Mike Daniels '59, Alicia Hodenfield '85 and Dave Thompson '92. The idea resulted from the interests of SRHS faculty Art Horner, Mike Daniels and Tony Negri. When the business office relocated from the second floor to the first during the refurbishing of campus buildings, Negri approached the school board who gave its blessing to this one-of-a-kind idea.

Future plans are to increase museum holdings and to periodically revolve displays around school related themes. The museum welcomes all donations, which can be left in the main office on campus, and all donors will be recognized.

Tours of the museum can be arranged by telephoning the main office at 528-5302 and asking secretary Marlene Callen for an appointment.

REUNION Recaps

Class of '66 Reconnects by Paddy Robotham Coreris '66

October's 45th Reunion of the Class of 1966 began with a tour of SRHS as over 50 grads marveled at the changes as they took a trip down memory lane that progressed to an evening affair on the terrace at the Hilton. The renewal of friendships ended with a dinner dance the next night at Fountaingrove Golf and Athletic Club attended by 120 grads and spouses.

Decorations and music at the dance brought back more memories as the '66 Panthers delighted in singing favorite old tunes—some with hilarious new words pertinent to the group by Terry Wright '68, Tom Wright's sister. Patricia Mihaly Nabti, PhD traveled the farthest to attend—from Lebanon.

The excitement of the evening concerned a donation to the SRHS Foundation. A total of \$6200 was gathered that resulted from 7 purchases of lifetime memberships, a raffle, purchase of an auditorium seat plaque and membership renewals. Additionally, many time and in-kind gifts were committed to campus improvement projects and fund raising. The Class of '66 challenges the Class of '67 to surpass this amount!



Dona "Marcucci" Godwin, Leigh "Hutchinson" Heyer, Jenny "Cooper" Mathews, Rich Silverek, and Paddy "Robotham" Coreris - at the Class of '66 Reunion

Many said this was the best reunion yet. We're not getting older, we're getting better!

SRHS Calendar of Events



- April**
- 5 – 9 ArtQuest Dance Company Show
- 5 – 13 SRHS band trip to Portugal and Spain
- 23 – 30 Zone of Focus Art Show
- May**
- 8 – 11 Advanced ArtQuest Dance Show
- 25 Drama Production "Anything Goes"
- June**
- 1 Graduation

Check the SRHS website to find out about your favorite sporting events
www.santarosahigh.org. Thank you for supporting SRHS and our students.

Terry Swehla
 Faculty Liaison

Keep those Reunion Recaps and Photos Coming!



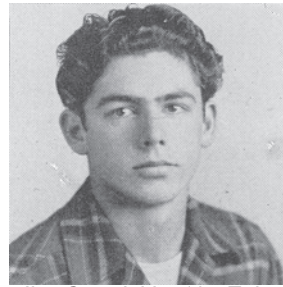
by Pandy

Just before Christmas, some 49 Panthers from the 50's and the 60's, most of them former Block S members, gathered at Michele's Restaurant in Santa Rosa for lunch and several hours of conversation and bonding. During the afternoon, some athletic and other extracurricular feats and events were denied, some were exaggerated and some were fabricated, but the general feeling of goodwill and comradeship was pervasive. The informal gathering, the brainchild of **Bob Yates '61** and **Mike Bogue '61**, was first held three years ago and has grown so that a larger venue may be necessary next year. Panther pals are indeed the best, and that's why "Once a Panther, Always a Panther" . . . **Don Tomasi** may be a Monty alum but his parents **Tom Tomasi '42** and **Anita Migliavatta '47** are Panthers and Don's kids attend SRHS. Don is the "T" in TLCD, the architectural firm that designed the recent SRHS refurbishing . . . **Zak Kronick '06**, who played SRHS varsity tennis for four years and now attends San Diego State, completed a beautiful landscaping project near the tennis courts that earned him his Eagle badge in scouting and the gratitude of SRHS. Zak's grandmother is **Shirley Cook '43** . . . **Mike Lindsay '65** retired in '05 to the Oregon coast after 22 years at Memorial Hospital and 15 at Community/Sutter. He worked as



Anita Migliavatta, '47 Echo

a respiratory therapist. In a note, Mike paid tribute to the faculty and resources of the SRHS he remembers . . . **Kathy McCarty '72**, who works as a clinical officer at Chidamoyo Christian Hospital in Zimbabwe, Africa, has an impressive list of activities and accomplishments because of her work fighting AIDS in Zimbabwe. She was recently awarded the Sebastopol Humanitarian of the Year. You can find out more at chidamoyo.org . . . In baseball news, **Tim Cossins '88** will be doing double duty for the major league Florida Marlins this year by serving as its minor-league catching coordinator as well as managing its Single A team, the Jupiter Marlins . . . **Gena Gerard '89** earned her BA at U. of Oregon and graduate degree at U. of Minnesota. Now married with two kids, Gena developed a nonprofit program to assist inner city neighborhoods seek restorative justice from street crime. Among Gena's SRHS memories is her time with Chamber Singers . . . **Kim Prather '80** is now teaching at UC San Diego. She'd like to connect with retired math teacher **Carl Hegerhorst** because she's certain he'd be quite surprised at her life now . . . While she was earning a BA in Criminal Justice and an MA in Public Policy and Administration at CSU Long Beach, **Toyicha Justice '97** appeared on a number of TV shows, including "Maury Povich" and "Las Vegas." A working mother of three, she attributes her accomplishments to SRHS and student government. She remembers Prom, Grad Night and Monty Nerd Days . . . **Jaime Abrisqueta '95** is living in Spain these days and says she can't write about her SRHS memories but declares she "did the best parties of 1995" . . . Lots of retired Panthers have told us of their

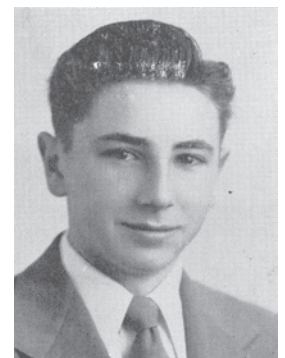


Jim Carmickle, '47 Echo

activities. Among them, **Geri Wilson Dizes '57**, widowed after 46 years of marriage and after operating a mom/pop sporting goods store in Challis, ID, is now living the retired life on the Salmon River . . . **Hector Andres Negroni '57** graduated from the USAF Academy, spent 24 years as a fighter pilot, advanced to the rank of colonel, and worked 15 years as an aerospace marketing executive in the defense industry, but now is retired and living in Vienna, VA . . . **Jackie Chandler Forster '54** retired after 32 years at PacBell/SBC. Now she and her husband trailer travel from Alaska to Mexico with regular stays at Anchor Bay and in Modoc County . . . Another PacBell retiree, **Wilma Chandler '53**, worked there for 39 years. Now she keeps busy with the thrift store at her church, Rebekah Lodge and Odd Fellows . . . Agriculture instructor **Wes Jamison** taught him well says **Jim Carmickle '47**, who's ranching and farming in retirement near Red Bluff after 22 years in the Marine Corps and 14 years as a Tehema County sheriff's deputy. . . **Ed Walthers '46**, who married **Betty Howell '46**, is retired and living in Novato after a career in marketing and advertising that took him to job stints in New York City, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Ed stays busy with the reunion committee for his class . . . **Gordon Brown '43** retired after working for PABCO Building Materials, Fibreboard Paper Products, Kentile Floors and Sears Roebuck. He lives in Santa Cruz and confesses to playing golf three times a week.



Betty Howell, '46 Echo



Ed Walthers, '46 Echo

REUNIONS: Details, Dates & Announcements

The Foundation has many valuable resources, including our Reunion Coordinator Page, found on our website, www.srhsf.org, where you'll find many helpful links and resources. You'll also find up-to-the-minute details and information about your reunion activities there!

Finding classmates is one of the most challenging jobs for reunion coordinators. If you know the whereabouts of any SRHS grads, let their class reunion coordinator know and be sure to recommend they post their BIO on the Foundation website. You can also find up-to-the-minute reunion information including dates, links, reunion coordinators, etc. and more there - www.srhsf.org.

After the reunion, TELL US ALL ABOUT IT! Who'd you see? How much fun did you have? And any other news! We love to share your recaps, stories and photos. You can also link your reunion photos on our website! Current recaps we've received are on page 9.

Class of 1947 60th Reunion

Date: August 25, 2007
Invitations forthcoming
For Information Call:
Ellen Sableman Wilson (707) 523-1814
or Mary Main Testorelli (707) 546-0445

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## **Class of 1967 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion**

Theme is "American Bandstand"  
Grad Night at the Hilton Hotel Lounge in Santa Rosa on  
Friday, August 17, 2007 at 6:00pm – Hosted hors  
d'oeuvres & No-Host Cocktails  
Reunion at the Quail Inn at Oakmont on  
Saturday, August 18, 2007 at 6:00pm  
– buffet dinner & dancing  
Donna Dennes Peterson  
(707) 322-8764

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Class of 1987 20th Reunion

Reunion Date: August 4, 2007
Reunion Time: TBD
Reunion Location: Fountaingrove Golf Club
1525 Fountaingrove Parkway, Santa Rosa
Pre-Reunion Family BBQ and SRHS Tour
Saturday, August 4, 2007
Contact: Bobbi Hoff (Buchanan)
Phone: (707) 528-7561
Email: bobbi.hoff@cbtnorcal.com

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## **Class of 1997 10<sup>th</sup> Reunion**

Laura McNeill (Moresi)  
[srhs97@mac.com](mailto:srhs97@mac.com)  
(707) 292-5581

## **Class of 1957 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion**

SAVE THE DATE  
The WEEKEND OF AUGUST 24-26  
Friday Night - Grad Night  
Saturday Night - THE FLAMINGO Hotel  
No-Host Cocktails followed by dinner  
and DJ dancing  
Sunday - Tour the beautiful SRHS campus  
Bar-B-Que to follow  
"STAY TUNED" More information to come.  
Contact Jacky Cooper Schlich (707) 546-4631 OR  
Gary Martin (707) 575-4014 or  
E-MAIL [ggminc@global.net](mailto:ggminc@global.net)  
COME AND COMPARE WRINKLES!

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Class of 1952 55th Reunion

Date: August 25, 2007
5:00 PM
Sonoma Mountain Village
1400 Valley House Drive, Suite 140, Rohnert Park
For more information contact:
Pat Ogden Myers - 539-2234
Judy Brown Podstata - 542-5418
Georgia Tenter Hogle - 545-7866

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## **Classes of 1977 & 1976 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Reunion**

Date: Summer 2007  
Planning has started for a casual 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> reunion  
for the classes of 1977 & 1976  
If you'd like to be involved, or have questions, please  
e-mail Jim McKee [jimmckee@cs.com](mailto:jimmckee@cs.com)

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Keep checking the website for up-to-date information
and reunion details



SRHS FOUNDATION

"Once a Panther, Always a Panther"

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WITH YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP FEES**

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

I am: A Grad (year _____) Parent of grad (year(s) _____)
 Staff Friend

Membership and contributions:
 1 yr \$25 2 yrs \$45
 3 yrs \$60 Lifetime \$500

Please find enclosed:
\$ _____ Membership fees
\$ _____ Tax-deductible contribution to assist the
SRHS Foundation in reaching its goals.

Please charge my: Visa Master Card Discover Card

Card# _____ Expiration date: _____

Name as printed on credit card _____

Signature _____

**You may make tax-deductible contributions, join and renew your membership on-line at our website www.srhfsf.org;
OR return this form to: Santa Rosa High School Foundation, P.O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.**

