



# SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING, 2020

Vol.31

Issue 2

*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.*

## **ARTQUEST: FROM AN IDEA TO A SRHS POWERHOUSE**

By Don Cambou

If you attended Santa Rosa High any time before 1994, you never heard of ArtQuest during your high school years. It didn't exist. Today, the quarter century old program is one of the most popular the school offers. It's the choice of 550 of SRHS's 2,000 students. Eleven art specialty teachers, as well as six partially dedicated ArtQuest English teachers, support the program. Its students can choose from six different art disciplines: Digital Arts, Photography, Video Arts, Visual Fine Arts, Dance, Theatre Arts, and Music. They commute from as far away as Cloverdale, Napa, Sonoma, Occidental, Healdsburg, and Petaluma. ArtQuest wasn't always this way.

In 1993, it was just an idea in the mind of SRHS teacher Chris Vetrano. She envisioned an academic program that would combine arts and technology. With the support of principal Michael Panas, she began writing grants. Meanwhile Panas advocated. The Santa Rosa School District approved the idea, and ArtQuest was born. Current Director Jan Sofie, a veteran of 25 years with ArtQuest, believes the ArtQuest idea appeared "at the right time, in the right place." Santa Rosa High's enrollment was declining, and the School District was ready to try something new.

In 1994, that "something new" began with just 50 students and two specialties, Visual Fine Arts and Multimedia. But the structure of the program was basically the same as it is today. The program's students would attend classes in their ArtQuest specialty for two periods a day. The rest of their day would be spent in general academic classes. Their ArtQuest classes are considered academic as well. As Sofie puts it, "We don't just teach technique. We teach the arts as an academic discipline. The students explore concepts, do research, learn specialty-specific vocabulary, and study the history and context of their particular discipline."

Does it work? Consider the success of some of its star students. Many, if not most, have advanced degrees. "Just the tip of the iceberg," as Sofie puts it. Kevin Kwan Loucks is a concert pianist of international renown who has performed all over the world. Vivienne Luthin acts at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the largest in the world. She

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*Editor's note: Art Horner has been teaching at Santa Rosa High for 26 years. He is the Foundation's School Liaison. This article is his inside look at how the school is dealing with COVID-19 fallout.*

## **SRHS Braves a Pandemic**

By Art Horner

There was no celebration last month when people heard that school was out for the year. The Panthers are dealing with yet another crisis.

During their high school years, the classes of 2020 and 2021 had a fire devastate their town, smoke close the school from the Paradise fire, another fire threaten neighboring towns, police lockdowns during final exams, and now a pandemic.

This is not the first class to go to school during trying times. As a long time SRHS US History teacher, I get to use many primary sources right out of our school museum. When teaching WWII, I use the old yearbooks to show what students went through during that tough time. The woodshop made Red Cross stretchers, activities were cancelled due to wartime shortages, and students dropped out to join the war effort. Students

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mary Beseda

Oh what a School year thus far for SRHS and the SRHS Foundation! In October the graduating class of 2020 experienced the mass evacuation of Sonoma County as a result of the Kincaid Fire, plus multiple power outages by P G & E. After all this, the start of the new year was moving forward until March 4 when the Coronavirus "COVID 19" created a national and international pandemic and a state of emergency was declared. By March 19 everyone in Sonoma County was required to "shelter in place", and it was determined that school would be closed for the remainder of the year. Face masks and rubber gloves have become the new accessory!



With this news the Board of Directors for the Foundation had to review what events would need to be cancelled or postponed. First on the horizon was the 25th Annual Polenta Feed. The chair of the Polenta Committee, Paulette Gomes, contacted the SR Vets' Building and Randy Apel, the chef to reschedule for a later date. It was decided that September 25, 2020 would work for everyone involved. Next, the Foundation made the announcement of the date change on Facebook, the Foundation website, and email via Mail Chimp. Paulette, Mike Daniels, and Mike Grace then called each person that purchased tickets to give them the update. All in all, only a few people were not able to make the new date.

Next the Scholarship Committee, chaired by Nadine Smedshammer, had to cancel the face to face announcements with the award recipients and move to a phone call and letter with the good news. It used the online system in place to reach out for nominees for the Memorial Scholarships and the James Fleck Scholarships. The Memorial Scholarships were first, thus the subcommittee of five were able to meet and make their decisions. Then the decision process changed with "shelter in place". For the James Fleck scholarships, Monica Baldenegro created five packets of each department's nominees and they were given to the five members of the scholarship selection subcommittee. Mike Grace and Tony Negri completed their rankings

off line and give them to Nadine, then Nadine, Monica, and Kristine Erken would attend a Zoom meeting and combine the decisions. Twelve Memorial scholarships totaling \$7,850.00 and 22 James Fleck scholarships totaling \$106,100.00 were awarded. For a list of the scholarship recipients please go to [www.srhfsf.org](http://www.srhfsf.org).

The Student of the Month program chaired by Brian Mecchi also needed to be reviewed. First the end of year dinner with Student of the Month recipients and their families had to be canceled. Instead the committee decided to mail the framed certificates with a congratulatory letter and a \$50.00 gift card from Mountain Mikes. This will be mailed the first week of May to 38 recipients.

Rumors have been rumbling about another large gift from a SRHS Alumni. In the next issue of the newsletter, which is the "Donor Issue" in August, we will have the honor of telling you about the wonderful gift of \$1,000,000.00 from the Estate of Gary Rasche!

The SRHS Foundation is still in need of Board Members. Our current board is comprised of 18 Volunteers and has room for 7 more according to the Bylaws. Interested candidates should contact me at [info@srhfsf.org](mailto:info@srhfsf.org) or leave a message on the Pandy Line at 707-571-7747.

On behalf of the Board of Director's for the SRHS Foundation we wish everyone health and prosperity through the summer!

Once a Panther, Always a Panther!



## SRHS Foundation Directors

Monica Baldenegro '95	Tony Negri, Friend Treasurer
Mary Orsborn Beseda '74 President	Stephen Olsen '61 Vice President
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Brian Mecchi '77	Chris Zeek '68
Rose Machen Moeller '68	Art Horner, School Liaison
Sylvie Moore '65	* Founding Director

graduating in the next couple of years will now have stories of their own to talk about.

The Santa Rosa School District first canceled all city schools for nearly four weeks, starting March 13. It soon extended that order. Now, school is out for the rest of the year. There will be no prom, no spring sports, no end of year activities. We are still hoping to invite students back for some sort of graduation, sometime in the future.

We have transitioned to on-line instruction. Each teacher can decide how to teach their curriculum, just like during the year. All teachers have committed to regular communication with students and having the students perform some work. Within that wide scope, some teachers email back and forth with students about assignments, others are using "Google Classroom", a grading program that allows for communication with whole classes; some teachers are using "Zoom", the platform where you can have a video chat with the students, and some a combo of those and other options. How often and how in depth varies by teacher.

We are trying to reach out to students that don't have internet access or a laptop at home and are providing those as we find out about them.

The district and teachers agreed that no student will be penalized during this period, so their grade cannot drop, only go up during this time. This is tricky, since for students that are satisfied with their current grade, we must depend on students intrinsically wanting to learn.

We are hoping that students want to interact, and I for one have had a lot of communication with them. Zoom classes have been fairly well populated, though by no means are they full. Though all of us are trying, anyone that has learned on-line knows that it is no substitute for personal contact. In addition, some students are taking care of younger siblings, dealing with sick relatives, and who knows what else, so teachers are keeping education in perspective.

Staff meets occasionally in a Zoom faculty meeting, as do department chairs. There are many other optional on-line get-togethers by department and interest. The District has organized quite a few optional trainings on line as well.

We all miss each other. Strong relationships are forged between students and teachers after three quarters of a year, and to have no closure tears at our hearts, as it does the hearts of the students. The reality of the situation hit when the closing was extended to the end of the year.

Yet, as with the WWII generation and all the other generations of students that did not get to have a carefree high school experience, there is a strength that students will gain from this, even though they may not know it for decades. A junior wrote me a note thanking me for teaching her this year, and ended with an exuberant sentence about looking forward to all the fun she plans to have during her senior year. I am confident that Santa Rosa High, like the rest of society, will persevere.

## SRHS, AND ALL OF SANTA ROSA, LOSE BELOVED "MR. B"

John Bribiescas '66 lived life to the fullest. He taught for 35 years, including over 25 years at SRHS. His English students loved their "Mr. B." He was also a marathon runner and triathlete. According to close friend Mike Grace, he was perfectly suited for those endurance sports because "there was no quit in him." But his athletic passion was surfing. Back in the late '60s, John became the first president of the Sonoma County Surfing Association. He surfed until he was well into his 60s. He recalled in a 2019 interview with this newsletter, "It's the most profound encounter I've ever had with nature."



Mr. B catching a wave in 2012

Although John mentored over 8,000 students through his teaching career, his community work was at least as impactful. In 1990, he was one of the founders of an organization that would become Schools Plus. He was Schools Plus's first president and became its face for decades. Created to address programs that would suffer

because of budget cuts, the philanthropic organization has donated over \$9 million to Santa Rosa's middle and high schools, including SRHS. In 2010, Schools Plus faltered as long time board directors experienced burnout. John didn't. He took on the burden, attracted a new board, and revitalized the organization. Friends additionally say his private support of the educational needs of others was just as strong as his public support.

In 2017, John was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer. He had never been a smoker. His doctors gave him six months to a year to live. But John proved them wrong. He continued to

swim and work out for the next two years. He traveled with Carol, his wife of nearly 20 years, to Hawaii. With admirable courage, he was out in public, working, meeting with friends, and joking. He died in February of 2020 at age 71. "There was no quit in him."

also talks to students about her experiences. Rebecca Miller has a career as an actor and playwright. Paul Dooley is a composer. His orchestral works have been performed by professional symphony orchestras throughout the country. Jordan Wardlaw is a versatile saxophone and woodwind artist. He has performed with the Temptations, Quincy Jones, Megan Hilty, Marilyn McCoo, Johnny Mathis and New York Voices. Gabe Kahane has established a national presence as a pianist/singer/songwriter with several solo albums to his credit. He has been featured in many of America's great concert halls, including Carnegie Hall. Michael Sakir is a well-regarded opera conductor with Opera Memphis, the Shreveport Opera, and the Middlebury Opera. He made his Seattle Opera debut in 2019. John Reynolds is an accomplished jazz trumpeter and teacher. Two of his jazz ensembles from the San Diego School for the Arts were accepted to perform in the prestigious Essentially Ellington Festival at Lincoln Center in NYC. Antonia Mitchell and Carmen Mitchell were both performers with Disney on Ice – Antonia is also a singer, actor, and dancer. Marissah Simonini is a Laker Girl professional dancer. Taylor Tarantino does the same with the Clippers. Both regularly perform before tens of thousands during games. Ryan Brady and Branden Kimball both have successful careers scoring music for television, film, and the video game industry. Zoot Grantham works for Disney Animation in Los Angeles. Remy Labesque is a San Francisco-based Industrial Designer with Frog Design, where he works with key clients such as Disney, Google, Honda, Honeywell, HP, Intel, and Starbucks.

Then there are those whose paths show how strong the academic approach of ArtQuest is. Many medical doctors and lawyers graduated from the ArtQuest program. Perhaps not surprisingly, a large portion of the lawyers come from Theatre Arts. Others include Lindsay Knight, a PhD student in Translational Neuroscience. Jacob Appelbaum is an independent journalist, computer security researcher, artist, human rights activist, and hacker – the only ArtQuest student to appear in Rolling Stone magazine. And Zoey Gassner, a designer on a specialized design team for Adobe, an American multinational computer software company.

But Sofie finds an additional way to measure success. “I can't put a number on the hundreds of students who've come up to me and said ArtQuest is the reason they graduated high school.”

In addition to student success, the program itself has been the recipient of several prestigious awards,

including the Sonoma State School of Education's Jack London Award for Innovative Education, and the California School Board's coveted Golden Bell Award.

ArtQuest has been a key participant in several very large scale interdisciplinary projects. Two endeavors that went on for a full year were the War Requiem project and Child of our Time project, which were collaborations with the Santa Rosa Symphony. For both, ArtQuest had art exhibits in the lobby of the Luther Burbank Center, choral, dance, and theatrical performances on its stage, and roaming performances. ArtQuest presented project related performances at SRHS as well.

The growth of ArtQuest parallels the growth of the Santa Rosa High Foundation. The Foundation has always been a supporter of ArtQuest, but in recent years, with more financial muscle, its support has increased substantially. In the last few years, your SRHS Foundation has supported ArtQuest with grants totaling \$13,000 to \$17,000 per year. What did those grants pay for? Such things as purchase of computer desks and class computers for the Photography program, AV equipment for the Choral room, equipment for the Dance program, a large-screen TV for the Video program, rental of two busses to take Photography students to Alcatraz, theatrical lighting for the Drama program, drawing tablets for the Visual Arts program, 30 chairs for the Black Box Theater, airline tickets for the Choral program's invitation to sing at Carnegie Hall, tickets to a ballet performance in Oakland for the Dance program, a yearly Sonoma County Museum membership for all ArtQuest students and all other SRHS students and staff, Adobe Creative Cloud software for the overall Visual Arts side of the program, and much, much more.

Still, Sofie finds more than money coming ArtQuest's way. “We feel very supported by both the Foundation and Friends of ArtQuest, not only financially, but with their level of enthusiasm and advocacy.”

Now, ArtQuest has a new acquisition that is in need of support. The City of Santa Rosa has given up the lease of its media lab on the SRHS campus, and turned over the building and its contents to ArtQuest. In the early 1990s, the newly created community media center found its synergistic place next to the newly created ArtQuest program. Public media services were mandated by law. ArtQuest and other student groups have used the media lab for 25 years. Now, it's ArtQuest's facility. The program has full use of a main studio, animation studio, editing suites, and meeting and office areas. But many areas need to be cleaned or

*ArtQuest...continued from page 4*

repurposed, and much of the equipment is old and must be replaced – digital media has moved fast in 25 years. ArtQuest needs professional help just to ascertain what is useable and what should be discarded. And it needs to find funds to buy new equipment. Though the program has already made good progress, much work remains to be done.

But Sofie’s determination doesn’t flag, because she’s passionate about the need for ArtQuest. “A program like ArtQuest brings together all the kinds of intelligences we have: intellectual, emotional, inter-personal, kinesthetic, and more. It’s an incredibly humanizing

thing to have in your life.” And it’s something that we’re often encouraged to leave behind. “For example, most people stop drawing when they’re 10 years old because it’s not valued in many educational settings.”

If someone is arguing that two periods of art each school day takes precious time away from more “practical” skills, an ArtQuest handout has an answer for that: “Students of the arts in all disciplines outperformed their non-arts peers on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) by 91 points in a 2009 study.” Maybe it’s time we all pick up those pencils and start to draw again.

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## Historic Punches, Classroom Fireworks, Fun with Scissors, and Belly Dancers at SRHS

*Editor’s note: In our Winter 2020 newsletter, Mike Daniels ’59 wrote about “wacky” methods SRHS teachers used to keep their students’ attention. But plenty of unplanned “wacky” incidents have foiled SRHS teachers and administrators as well. Some of them are memorialized in Mike’s following article.*

by Mike Daniels ’59

### The Knock Out

Gardiner Spring became SRHS principal in 1923, two years after the fire that gutted the Humboldt Street campus. Under his guidance the student body moved to the new Mendocino Avenue campus and school spirit blossomed anew.

With that success, Spring turned his attention to a personnel matter, that of a new PE instructor, Morris Kirksey. A double gold medal winner in the 1920 Summer Olympics and in addition to that rare feat Kirksey had tied the national record in the 100 meter dash while at Stanford and starred on that school’s rugby team.

With the memory of the three-sport legacy of Ernie Nevers still fresh, the hiring of Kirksey to coach football no doubt seemed quite a hiring coup. Concerned, however, about his classroom methods, the principal invited Kirksey to the basement of the new building to discuss the matter. Kirksey took exception to Spring’s evaluation and threw a punch. That day was Kirksey’s last as a SRHS instructor.

In a touch of irony, Kirksey later worked for 25 years as a staff psychiatrist at San Quentin and Folsom prisons. He later became a member of the Stanford Athletic Hall of Fame. Interestingly, his bio there does not mention his time at SRHS.

### The Head Thump

Thorton Battelle, who joined the SRHS business faculty in

1932, advanced to principal in 1941. During the spring of his first year in that role he suffered an ignominious incident in a brief afternoon student strike. The strike was outwardly over the school board’s impending dismissal of Mary Frances McKinney, a popular first-year English teacher.

McKinney’s dismissal was a reflection of the common practice in school districts then not to hire married female teachers. McKinney had married a month before her SRHS hiring but hadn’t admitted it. That her husband was a naval aviator, fighting in the Pacific, made the board’s position on the matter unacceptable to the students. They made signs and buttons, held meetings and threatened a walkout.

Battelle, perhaps unwisely, took a strong approach. In one telling incident, Battelle confronted milling students on the front steps of the main building, attempted to seize a sign from a student and in the ensuing struggle allegedly hit the student in the head with the sign. His actions alienated the students, and he never regained their support during the remainder of his tenure.

The situation cooled when McKinney submitted a letter of resignation before the school board could take action. In the aftermath, she was hired the next year at Palo Alto High where she enjoyed a lengthy career. Her husband, by the way, survived the war and flew for Pan American Airways for many years.

### The Big Fizz

Teachers also at times must confront surprising situations. A science demonstration intended to interest students, for example, once got dangerously out of control. Ralph Guyon, biology and chemistry teacher in the 50s experienced unforeseen results from a demonstration of the unstable nature of phosphorus.

He lifted a bar of the element from a sink filled with water, intending to

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# MEET THE NEW HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

By Mike Grace '65

Roy Keegan became head coach of the SRHS Varsity football team in January of this year. He was previously an assistant coach at Montgomery for 6 years under legendary Coach Jason Franci. He came to SRHS in 2017 where he became head JV coach, and then varsity offensive coordinator. That's the position he held last fall when SRHS won the North Bay League (NBL) Oak championship.

Roy graduated from Westmoor High (Daly City), went to Sonoma State University and graduated from Eastern Oregon College. He recently retired from the Santa Rosa Fire Department as a captain. His son Robert recently joined the SRFD. His daughter Ashley is a medical assistant. Roy is married to Kendra who, like all coaches' wives it seems, helps on game day doing whatever is needed. They have one granddaughter Olivia who he says "is simply amazing."

This year, NBL has been realigned. SRHS will now play in the top division that includes perennial powerhouses like Cardinal Newman and Rancho Cotate. So I sat down with the coach and asked about his wishes for this coming year and beyond. He replied, "My goals for the next couple years are to grow the program, get the numbers up on the varsity and JV's, and to get competitive in the new Oak League. In addition I want



Head coach Roy Keegan

to become a part of the fabric of the school, the alumni and get to know the teachers." He already is a familiar face around campus and is making strides in getting to know the staff, Foundation folks, and the board of the Panther Athletic Club (PAC).

His team this fall will be young but he is optimistic. He has 41 boys presently working out on the varsity squad. There are 22 freshmen signed up and he hopes to continue to add to that number. In addition he faces a need for more and newer equipment. Football is a very expensive sport and that money is mostly raised by the coaches and athletes. A medium-price helmet costs, for example, \$300. A coach not only coaches but is the head of fundraising year-in and year-out. As previous principal Brad Coscarelli once stated, "Football season starts the school year off," so it is imperative we give the team all the support we can.

Having seen a great number of football coaches come through the gate over the last 30 years or so I definitely feel we have a keeper in Coach Roy Keegan. He has assembled a staff he is very excited about. So good luck Coach and we hope to see lots of SRHS grads in the stands this fall. Because, after all, "Once a Panther Always a Panther."

## POLENTA FEED

Early in March, the Polenta Committee, along with Mike Grace and Mike Daniels, made the decision to postpone the Polenta Feed scheduled on April 17th. The Committee made the difficult decision, later supported by "social distancing" rules, because of concerns for the safety and well-being of the many alumni and friends of SRHS who attend the Polenta Feed. At the same time, it created a new date for the ever popular event.

**THE POLENTA FEED HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH FROM 5:30 PM UNTIL 9 PM (barring unforeseen circumstances)**



The Feed has 170 tickets still available. At \$35 each (must be 21 to attend), the tickets will go on sale August 1st through September 11th.

**CONTACT THE PANDY LINE AT  
707-571-7747**

cut a small slice for the demonstration. The expected immediately became the unexpected. His hand slipped and the slice slid across the counter and, exposed to air, caught fire. He quickly tossed the large bar into the sink. That caused small splatters of flaming phosphorous to fly about the classroom and land here and there.

Guyon quickly grabbed a fire extinguisher to put out the fires but filled the room with Co2. The fire department arrived to finish the job so that students hanging out the second story windows could again breathe the classroom air. Demonstration over.

Guyon also conducted another demonstration, one with a safer result, in which he explained distillation. Allegedly, some students absorbed the lesson so thoroughly that they, off campus, distilled their own product and consumed it with no adverse effect. Well, maybe a hangover or maybe a headache.

### The Cut

And there were teacher pranks. One day in the late 60s, history teacher Dave Condit, who was known for his laid back style and sense of humor, walked into Sylvester Hawkins' class. Interrupting the lesson of the far more serious math teacher, Condit remarked on the beauty of Hawkins' necktie and said he'd like to have it. Whipping out a big shears from behind his back and to

the astonishment of students and teacher, Condit snipped off the tie into his hands and walked out.

### Off His Rocker

Don Hansen, a popular English teacher in the 60s, had an easy going style, yet one that kept his students on edge. During class discussions and presentations, the lanky teacher habitually sat on a high backed chair at the front of the room. As he listened and talked, he'd lean back in that chair farther and farther, almost to the tipping point, rock forward and then start leaning again. By that means he kept students focused, maybe not on the lesson but certainly on him.

### Jiggles and Giggles

Students too sometimes got into the act. English teacher Gene DeSoto, also known for a disciplined classroom, was interrupted one day in the 90s by a belly dancer his students had hired as a birthday surprise. The students, probably hoping for a "Mean Gene" tirade, were themselves surprised as DeSoto snapped his fingers and matched the dancer's gyrations. The episode ended to student laughter and applause.

Thanks to Don Frati '57 for the Guyon story and to Mike Grace '65 for the Hansen story. Thanks also to Gran Stark '59 and Nick Sokol '61 for their remembrances in last issue's Wacky Teachers article. Got more memories? Send 'em to [doncamboul@gmail.com](mailto:doncamboul@gmail.com)

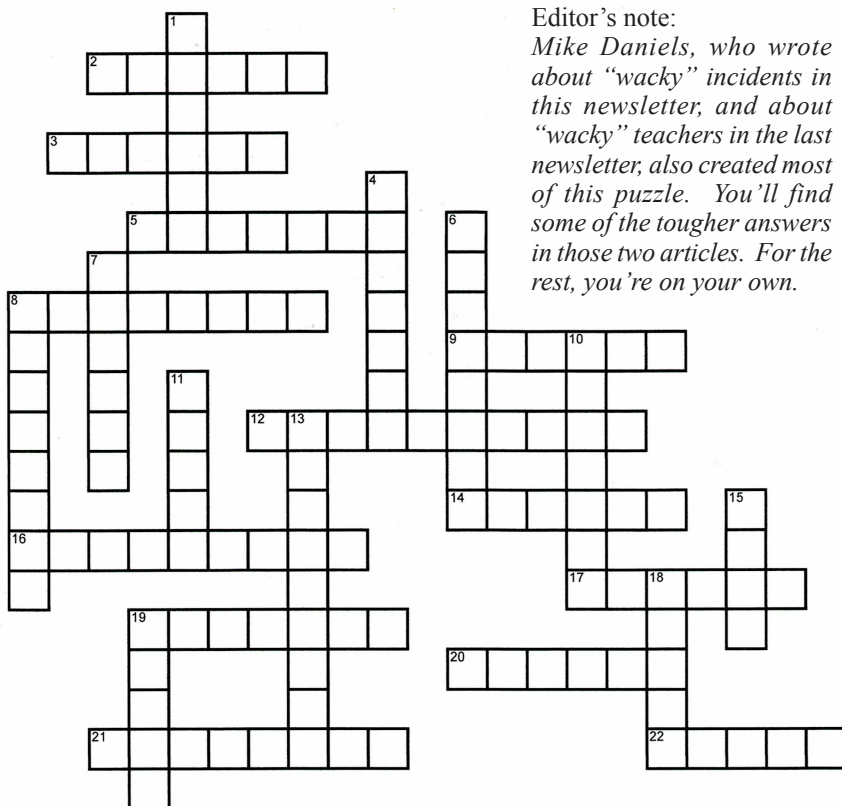
#### Across:

- 2. For years, ball for SRHS beauties
- 3. He blew clock off classroom wall
- 5. Over 600 alumni attend this event
- 8. Biggest rival until 1958
- 9. Clef beloved by ArtQuest students
- 12. Created in 1988; donated more than \$2M
- 14. Where a student keeps school stuff
- 16. Coached six NBL champs
- 17. Became world famous cartoonist
- 19. Writer of fight song
- 20. Mascot of long time rival
- 21. Students went on strike over her 1942 dismissal
- 22 Principal became California governor

#### Down:

- 1. Newest campus building named for him
- 4. 1926 alumnus, led Ag Dept for years
- 6. Students sing fight song during this season
- 7. Faculty did this in 1980
- 8. Movie made on campus in 1985
- 10. Created to honor female athletes
- 11. Music Building named for this secretary
- 13. alumnus and principal after Duey
- 15. Longest serving principal
- 18. Name of mascot
- 19. His donation created scholarships

### A SLIGHTLY WACKY SRHS HISTORY CROSSWORD



Editor's note:  
Mike Daniels, who wrote about "wacky" incidents in this newsletter, and about "wacky" teachers in the last newsletter, also created most of this puzzle. You'll find some of the tougher answers in those two articles. For the rest, you're on your own.



# CONTRIBUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP NEWS

By Rose Machen Moeller '68

Because of a drop in membership, we'd like to call on all of you to help promote membership in our Foundation. Students and the school benefit tremendously from our organization, and it is beneficial to the community as a whole.

For the Spring of 2020, the Foundation welcomes three new members, 93 renewals; current membership 885.

We gratefully thank our members and non-members for donations totaling \$2,845.46.

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

John Aguilera '55  
George Cleek '58  
Patricia Clinton '60  
Phylis Fallon Accornero '68  
Allen Garayalde '55  
Ed Hansen '57  
Julie Hanson '66

Adrienne Healy Hotchkiss '66  
James/Shirley Hurley '58/'58  
Steven Irish '69  
Martha Comstock Keegan '47  
Joel Parker '66  
Charles Proses '50  
Sandra Spencer '54

Don/Susan Silverek '63/'64  
Phil Spalding '55  
Ilona Mayer Williams '64  
Marianne Wurnitsch '53  
Buck Yaeger '59

## ORGANIZATION DONATIONS

BRIGHT FUNDS  
PG&E CO/EMPLOYEE GIVING  
UNITED WAY

## NEW MEMBERS

Meghan Andrew (Parent)

Steve Chiesa '89

Phil Spalding '55

## SEAT PLAQUES

Kirk/Rose Machen Moeller '68

## 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..

### NORMAN BOSTOCK '56

Jean Ahr '52  
Darlene Bath '56

### BASEBALL PROGRAM

Bob Brown '64

### JOHN BRIBIESCAS '66

Bob Doyle/Donna Dennes Doyle '67  
Rick Gomes/Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68  
Mike/Kathy Grace '65  
Doug Pavese '58  
Art Valencia '59

### DAVID CHAMBERLAIN '49

Russell/Marjorie Etchell '48/'50

### DONALD EVANS CHRISTENSEN '45

Nicholas/Carrie Schrup III, Friends

### AL COHEN '49

Gary Meagher '49

### FRANCIS ROCCO DE MARCO '49

Philip Beglin, Friend  
Roseanne Brandon, Friend  
Joanne De Marco, Friend  
Rosemary De Marco '48

### RALPH DE MARCO '44

Joanne De Marco, Friend

### HISTORY DEPT

Diane Kuykendall '61

### DUANE MYERS '52

Connie Codding '52

### MUSIC DEPT

Donald/Madeline Getts, Parents  
Anthony Martin '64

### MUSEUM

CLASS OF 1974

### ROSEMARY HARBOLD RICKMAN '41

James Laier, Jr '58  
Art Valencia '59

### BOB TROMBETTA '40

Art & Andrea Gambini '68

### WOODSHOP

Donald/Madeline Getts, Parents



## In Memoriam

Robert Trombetta	1940	Dolly Thornley Devincenzi Cress	1955	John Bribiescas	1966
Florence Ferrari	1947	Geraldine Brennan Filippi	1955	Claudette Anne Kelly	1968
Donald Sampson	1948	Ken Wilson	1958	Mark McKamey	1973
Norma Leu Adams	1949	Creagh Gemmel	1961	Bettye Kerby Lund	1974
Theresa Weber Nelson	1949	Michael London	1963		
Jack Borland	1955	Robert Narducci, Jr.	1965		

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF SRHS CLUBS

By Mike Daniels

What if you were a student at SRHS and had to belong to a club to make a PB&J sandwich? Well, you didn't have to of course, but if you were you could enjoy the company of others who liked to.

Early on clubs and organizations at SRHS reflected social group activities that provided a way for students to meet away from the eyes and ears of the classroom. But by the 20th century they began to reflect special interests. In the late 1920s, for example, SRHS could boast about a Boys' Glee Club, Press Club, Aeronautics, Art, Dramatics, Choral (called the Philomel) and the Laurean (a literary group.) In 1926 SRHS became one of the charter members of the California Scholarship Federation (CSF), a state-wide organization that honored academic scholarship. It's still active today.

In the 1930s club numbers had grown to include Girls' League (Boys' League would come later) and the Junior Red Cross, both of which would exist almost until the 21st century. Camera, Astronomy, Archery, Library, Oriental and the athletic organization for boys, Block S, also emerged. By this time a student's social standing, of a sort, was enhanced by the number of clubs to which he or she belonged. In fact, the Echo in this period listed those memberships under each senior's photograph.

Clubs came and went, depending on student and faculty interest. In the late 1930s, the earlier Dramatics Club was joined by Theater Arts and the Girls' Glee paralleled Boys' Glee. (Sexes were kept separate in most activities then.) The Saddle Kids was formed for girls who enjoyed riding horses, and Mineralogy occupied boys interested in rocks and geologic stuff. .

In the early 1940s, wartime restrictions aside, new clubs appeared, including Honor SR, a group that recognized non-academic achievements, like

students in shop classes. The Swing Club reflected popular music tastes of the day, and the Osprey Club provided opportunities for girls to fish (for the watery kind, not the opposite sex). The French Club, Forensics (debate), Dancing Club, RaRavas and the Drum Corps came to life as did Girls' Athletic Association and Block SR.

These clubs and some other, newer ones existed through the 1950s and the early 60s. The latter included Speech, Key (sponsored by the Kiwanis), Pep, Future Teachers, Spanish, Radio Guild, the Pantherettes (precision drill marching for girls) and the California Cadet Corps.

But by the mid-to-late 1960s and into the 70s things were changing in the larger society and those changes were reflected at SRHS. While some organizations continued, many were jettisoned in favor of those that reflected non-school interests. Gone, for example, was the Pep Club, disbanded because of lack of interest. New ones, like the Nauticals Swim Club, Inter-Act, Wrestling, Ski, Outdoors, Chamber Singers, Health Careers. Mayo and BSU now reflected changing student interest.

Clubs and organizations at SRHS today continue that evolution. By far most of the older ones are gone, and in their places students can now choose from Anime (animation), Art and Writing, Asian, Beekeeping, Cereal, Cheer, Chess, Christian, Clay, Fashion, Finger Skating, Floral, Hiking, Jewish Heritage, Latinos Unidos, Math, Mock Trial, Photo, Ski and Snowboarding, Ecology and GLBT and, yes, Peanut Butter and Jelly. Whew! There's certainly something for everyone today—as there has been always.



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**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.**

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<b>Carolyn Anderson</b>	<b>Alana Kelly 1978 *****</b>
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**Is Third Time the Charm for SRHS Electric Car?**

By Don Cambou

Last year, we wrote of a team of SRHS students, guided by teacher Paul Booker, who gave up their lunch periods for months to build an electric car. Their goal was to compete in the Shell Eco-marathon Americas, a huge event held at the Sonoma Raceway, where the goal is energy efficiency. High schools and colleges all over North and South America would be there. Unfortunately, the SRHS team was unable to compete because its car was unfinished. This year, a new Panther team completed the car, learning plenty of physics and mechanical design along the way. But it also was unable to compete – the event was cancelled because of COVID-19. However, the team did test drive the car on campus for 45 minutes of run time. It maintained a top speed of 14 mph and at the end of the test drive still had plenty of charge left in its book sized, rechargeable lithium ion battery – a grant from the SRHS Foundation. Look out 2021 Eco-marathon. The Panthers are coming!



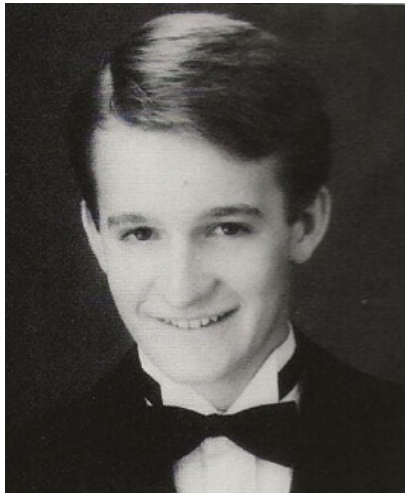


By: Pandy  
Spring '20

If you read the Winter 2020 Panther Patter page of this newsletter, you would have seen that **Brett**

**Crozier '88** had assumed command of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt. By now, you probably know that he was relieved of that command by then-Acting Naval Secretary Thomas Modly because of Crozier's letter requesting that 90 percent his ship's crew be evacuated due to an on board COVID-19 outbreak.

Crozier left the ship as his crew cheered him and chanted his name. Within days, Modly resigned from his own post. As I write this, the political firestorm the incident created is still national news, reaching all the way to the President. Over 800



members of Crozier's crew have tested positive for the virus, including Crozier. And the Navy has recommended that he be restored to the command of the Roosevelt. SRHS classmate Mike Carlson remembers Crozier this way, "He was honest, loyal, smart, outgoing, but, at the same time, probably, a bit reserved." Captain Crozier, your fellow Panthers commend you for putting the safety of your crew first. Crozier's 1988 classmates, led by Stacey White and Aaron M. Lane, made a video of support for "their Captain." See it at [www.pressdemocrat.com](http://www.pressdemocrat.com) or on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/embed/QnFCOMjVwHw>

**Mike Carlson '88**, is employed as an executive and general counsel for Wagner Family of Wine in Napa Valley.

**Lucca Mazzanti 2017**, smashed track records at SRHS. Now he's a junior at the United States Military Academy (West Point). There, he was recently selected as captain of the men's cross-country/track and field squad. A distance runner, he also competes in the steeple chase.

A lifelong Peanuts fan, **Karri Kenoyer '83** works as Distribution Coordinator at the Charles Schulz Creative Associates complex in Santa Rosa. Karri earned her BA at Fresno State.

**Alexandro Lopez 2016** is a hip hop artist known as "Guapley." Though not a super star, his popularity has steadily grown for eight years. He has over 18,000 followers on Instagram. He has performed at such schools as Rancho Cotate, Casa Grande, Roseland University Prep, and Sonoma Valley – not normal venues for hip hop artists. Guapley says, "When you look at the (hip hop) artists in Santa Rosa, a lot of rappers are speaking about positivity."

The **SRHS girls' soccer team** was perfect in the NBL Redwood Division this season. As Division champs, their record was 10-0. Not only that, they allowed their opponents exactly zero goals in all 10 games... **Kara Curry 2015** is shooting to make golf her career. In High School, she was an All-Empire golfer. At 22, she's playing in big money tournaments, hoping to make it to the even bigger money tournaments of the LPGA (Ladies Professional Golf Association)... Near the end of the 2019 season, SRHS phenom **Kirsten Carter 2018** was named Big West Conference Freshman of the Year. Her specialties are the 200 meter and 400 meter races. In the latter, she posted the second fastest time in U.C. Davis history. She continues the trend she started at SRHS where she demolished several NBL records.



**Crossword  
Answers**

**Across**

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Queens      | 14. Locker    |
| 3. Elmore      | 16. Underhill |
| 5. Polenta     | 17. Ripley    |
| 8. Petaluma    | 19. Fortier   |
| 9. Treble      | 20. Trojan    |
| 12. Foundation | 21. McKinney  |
|                | 22. Young     |

**Down**

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. DeSoto    | 11. Pryor     |
| 4. Jamison   | 13. OSullivan |
| 6. Football  | 14. Duey      |
| 7. Strike    | 18. Pandy     |
| 8. PeggySue  | 19. Fleck     |
| 10. Block SR |               |





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	<input type="checkbox"/> SRHS Staff	
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<b>Membership Fee:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 ~ 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 ~ 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 ~ 3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 ~ Lifetime
<b>Annual Fund Campaign Contribution:</b>			
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<b>Join One Thousand Panthers:</b>			
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