



SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

Winter, 2007

Vol. 18

Issue 2

*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*

Ag Program Blooms Again by Mike Daniels '59

ed. note: The following is an update of an article first printed in the Spring 1996 issue of the newsletter, Vol. 8 No. 1.

The agriculture education program at SRHS, almost dormant in the 90s, is blooming once again. One of the oldest programs on campus, its recent growth resulted from a combination of the leadership of new faculty, the loyalty of alumni and some fortunate circumstances.

Today, director Lisa Piehl has new curricula in place, enrollment is up and agriculture has a stronger presence. The instruction and practice of viticulture, a recent addition, is proving to be a significant source of education and income for the department.

On 60 acres, north of Santa Rosa on Alba Lane (land the school district acquired to offset the wetlands impact of Elsie Allan High School's construction south of Santa Rosa), the department has planted five acres of chardonnay grapes. Last fall's harvest at the SRHS farm produced almost 22 tons of grapes that were sold to Kendall-Jackson Winery, partner in the project, for \$35,000. Reflecting the change to wine grape production in Sonoma County agriculture, this new program positions SRHS agriculture to again assume a leadership role in ag education.

In another major accomplishment, a barn on the farm was recently constructed through the generous donation of labor and materials by a number of ag alumni and the financial support of the Ammirati family, SRHS agriculture alumni. The barn allows "urban farming" at its best. Today, animal projects and ag education are not often possible for the growing number of SRHS students interested in agriculture because they do not live on the farms they once did. Last fall, the farm hosted a dedication ceremony of the barn in honor of agri-businessman John Ammirati.

For some time, certainly since Santa Rosa's growth took off in the 1960s, the local economy has shifted away from an agricultural base. Back in 1920, Sonoma County ranked 8 in the nation in agricultural production. Every Panther who picked prunes or harvested hops to buy school clothes can appreciate that bit of historical data.

As orchards and livestock disappeared under the asphalt and concrete of shopping centers and housing developments, the importance of agriculture to the economy and to education at SRHS faded. Even Burke Hall itself, now overshadowed by a new welding shop and the newer DeSoto Hall, has ceased to dominate a western view of the campus.

So, after a long struggle, the re-emergence of ag education at SRHS today is especially significant. Ag education knows well what this struggle is like. Before Burke Hall, named in honor of J.J. Burke, a long-time member of the board of education and a strong supporter of ag education, opened in 1940, the SRHS ag student took instruction in whatever space the department could find. Many a student of the 1930s can remember being stuffed into small rooms in the basement of the main building, rooms that often were wet and puddle-filled during the rainy winter months as the water table of the outside campus rose to infiltrate the building.

Even before the Mendocino Avenue campus opened for the spring semester of 1925, ag students worked and studied in more limited circumstances at the crowded Humboldt Street campus. There, they took instruction in the Annex, the 1912 building that was built primarily for drama, physical education and shop instruction.

The agriculture department was officially recognized at this campus in 1921 when E.W. Everett taught the three classes of agronomy, farm math and ag project.

As agriculture's importance to the economy increased, so did ag education—in spite of constraints on space. By the time Burke Hall was built, the ag department was almost a school within a school. The ag student once had need to leave the intimacy of Burke Hall for instruction.

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President's Message



I mentioned in our last newsletter that this was going to be an exciting year for your Foundation and it certainly has started that way. Notable events would include our most successful golf tournament raising \$18,650 and our Panther Project Fund funding grants totaling \$44,079.83 year to date for a diverse list of student related requests. You will find more information about these within this newsletter. It's interesting for those of us who have

been on the Panther Project Fund Committee for a long time to note that many of the grants we are awarding currently are to replace technology-related equipment we originally funded in years past. It is in the students' interest to have them exposed to the latest equipment available, whether in science programs, digital arts, etc., to keep them competitive in this fast moving world. Stay tuned, I am expecting to have several significant announcements in our next newsletter. Very exciting!

Congratulations to the SRHS varsity football team, who played their hearts out this year and won more games than in many of the previous seasons. Kudos also must go to Mark Wardlaw, Director of the SRHS Instrumental Orchestra. His orchestra was asked by the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of Santa Rosa to perform for their "Tribute to Our Veterans" luncheon on November 2nd. Their presentation of music was acknowledged by a long, standing ovation from the audience. You will notice that our Foundation has awarded funds to this group to offset travel costs for performances in Spain and Portugal this coming year.

Our membership committee has been busy spreading the word about the Foundation. They have attended Back to School nights, new student and parent orientations and have been asked to attend several class reunions, the most recent being the Class of '66. Our Lifetime Membership has become quite popular. You may want to consider this when your next renewal comes around. And always, ask fellow alumni, if they are not already members, to join us and stay informed about what is happening at SRHS.

I must acknowledge the wonderful work of Board member Mary Testorelli '47. Mary is not only Secretary of the Board, she is an active member of the Panther Project Fund, Scholarship and Student of the Month committees. You will find her also working at the Foundation's Golf Tournament and the Polenta Feed. For most people, that would be enough. However, Mary also volunteers for the Sonoma County Museum and the Election Board. We are fortunate to have Mary on our Board. You go, girl!

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will be in the midst of the holidays. I want to say thank for your ongoing support and wish you and your family the most joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.

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

SRHS Foundation Directors

Mary Main Testorelli, '47	* Mike Grace, '65
Gwin Stubaug, '48	Rosie Clarke London '65
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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

In this building, the ag student took English, math, economics, shop and other ag-influenced courses, and perhaps wandered to the main building only for Senior Problems, the transition course to the adult world once required of all seniors.

Out in Burke Hall, the aggie interested in writing could gain knowledge and experience in journalism and English by writing and helping publish the Prune Whip, a news periodical for the agriculture community.

The athletic-minded aggie could play softball and other sports on department teams that competed in an informal league with agriculture teams at other high schools, including Healdsburg, Petaluma and Sonoma.

In an initiation ceremony that reflected the intensity of the Block S Society, newcomers were welcomed to the western side of the campus. The new aggie had his head shaved, was jolted by an electric shocker, forced to push a peanut with his nose the length of Burke Hall and was humbled in a number of other embarrassing ways.

The ag student also enjoyed parties at the end of each semester at various locations, including the Russian River in the spring. These gatherings varied from informal cookouts to formal sit-down dinners at local restaurants.

Through the years, the department regularly produced judging teams and individuals who won local, state and even national championships. In 1923, when SRHS was without a campus because of the fire of 1921, a livestock-judging team of William Braun, Don Weatherington, William Braun and Wesley Jamison won third-place honors in an international livestock show. In 1928 the SRHS team was first in the state.

In 1934, Jamison, who was then teaching ag at SRHS, coached a dairy cattle judging team to a national championship in Kansas City. The team, made up of Dick Gray, Lex Murray and Noble Ledson, sent daily reports of its progress and activities to the Press Democrat. The three SRHS students enjoyed successful careers in agriculture. Gray, for example, produced championship dairy herds.

The department's Future Farmers of America chapter is the third-oldest in the state, and it today continues to win honors in competition.

The department produced a number of outstanding teachers and graduates who have accomplished much at SRHS and in the agricultural world. George Bath, for example, graduated from SRHS in 1922, went to UC Davis and returned to teach at SRHS from 1927-34. He remained active in ag education

in a number of positions before he became the UC Extension Dairy Farm Advisor for Sonoma County in 1953. He was the father of a number of Baths who enrolled in ag and who competed on judging teams.

Wes Jamison, another example, graduated from SRHS in 1926, and after earning a degree from UC Davis he returned to SRHS to spend a lengthy and successful teaching career. When Jamison joined the department in 1931, its faculty expanded to seven teachers.

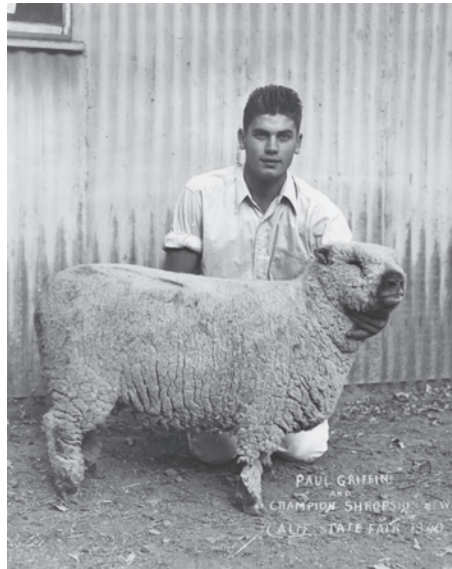
In 1935 W.C. Patchett left the ag department to become SRHS principal. He moved on in 1938 to the faculty at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Interestingly, his sister Docia, a math teacher, became girls' dean at the same time, making them the only brother and sister administrative team in SRHS history.

Don Bath, a son of George Bath, graduated from SRHS in 1950 and became a faculty member in 1957 after he attended UC Davis. He later taught in the ag program at UC Davis.

An aggie who contributed significantly to the local wine grape growing industry is Rich Thomas of the 1959 class. Thomas, another UC Davis product, taught viticulture for many years at Santa Rosa Junior College and influenced the manner in which grapes are grown throughout Sonoma County and other parts of the world.

Burke Hall and its environ was male dominated from the beginning. The faculty was male, as was the student body. Girls did not take classes in the program for reasons that seem chauvinistic and just silly from today's enlightened point of view. But teaching girls about reproduction and having them witness and participate in animal birthing was once considered inappropriate at best.

An occasional girl may have taken a class here or there—records are unclear on the matter—but the “no girls allowed” policy remained firmly in place until 1958 when it was shattered by eight senior girls. The girls, in an interesting bit of reasoning, understood that if they could become ag students they wouldn't be required to attend the new Montgomery High School, which did not offer ag education, and they could remain at SRHS. So the eight pioneers who lived in the MHS attendance zone (Jany Maximov, Penny Hastings, Pat Townsend, Karen Engman, Karen Carlton, Mary Jo Simpson, Maureen Byrne and Janet Grant) convincingly broke the gender barrier at Burke Hall.



Ag students produced many award-winning livestock



Dept. Chair Wes Jamison sits with a judging team at Kansas City

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Letters to the Editor & Errors, Omissions, Corrections

Editor:

I am writing in response to the question in "Remember When . . . 1976" by Rick Blaine that appeared in the Spring 2006 Foundation Newsletter. The author asked if anyone remembered the first female recipient of a Block S. Actually, there were three in 1974 and all three were in swimming—Jill Lightfoot, Maridee Noonan and me. Jill and I were seniors and Maridee was a sophomore. Our swimming has waned since high school, but I have recently picked it up to compete in the Alcatraz swim in September 2007.

Dana Belden
1974

Editor:

Here's a donation from the Class of 1956. We really enjoyed the tour of SRHS conducted by Principal Negri and the bbq hosted by the Foundation. Thanks!

Members of the Class of '56

Editor:

There was an error in the date of Jimmy Underhill Jr.'s graduation year- Jimmy graduated in my class of 1952, not 1949

Thank you,
Beverlee Oates Bennett "1952"

ANCIENT PANTHER STUMBLES ON EXCITING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE PHOTO AND DIARY REVEAL CONTRADICTIONARY FACTS REGARDING GRAD LOCATION

Dear Sir, or Madam, as the case may be:
(I couldn't find your name. Don't be so modest.)

In your latest issue, Vol. 17, Issue 5, you state in the second paragraph following President Grace's message "The next year the ceremony was moved to the outdoor stage adjacent to the auditorium."

Now unless there were some ceremonies in February of 1940 (there were 1/2 year terms like that in those days) rest assured the class of June 1940 was so big we had to use THE CALIFORNIA THEATER!!!

I remember it clearly as we probably all do.

I have a large photo of the whole class on the stage of the theater. We met at the Scottish Rite Temple next door to prepare for the big event which undoubtedly included donning the white flowers and getting our marching orders.

Even more exciting (to me) is the entry in my diary of June 13, 1940, to wit:

"Graduated tonite. Had it at Calif. Theater. Went to ball with J. [Joan?] Permenter. Went to Barrett's and Lippincot's. Home 4 a.m. It's bright out. Swell gifts."

Hey, you've unleashed a flood of memories. Isn't that what it's all about?

Keep up the good work.
James M. Miller

Front Page article, continued from page 3

Department head Wes Jamison resisted the change, but the reasoning the girls presented to Dr. Mitchell Soso, the assistant superintendent, convinced him to direct Jamison to admit the girls. Jamison himself taught the girls in a segregated class for the fall semester. For the spring semester, he inexplicably turned the class over to a young male student teacher, fresh out of UC Davis. Perhaps Jamison understood girls were not a threat to the ag program after all, but they could, in fact, enrich it.

Jim King, who came to teach at SRHS in 1946, remembered that once girls were in the program their enthusiasm tended to dominate the classes and, generally, because they did not face the demands of after-school chores on the family farm, they were free to become skillful students.

During King's tenure, the ag faculty increased to 10 full and part-time instructors, many of whom operated their own farms and ranches. Then, in the early 1960s, the program began to decline. The need for classroom space forced Burke Hall to share its rooms with the more mainstream curricula. U.S. Government teacher and basketball coach George Vine, for example, moved into Room 67 where he stayed until he retired in 1980. Foreign language, math and English instructors also moved into the building.

Agriculture during the 80s attempted to maintain its viability by spreading instruction to Piner High School and Lawrence Cook Junior High, schools attended by students who lived in the more rural areas. The ag instructors, then four in number, scurried across town from school to school to instruct classes. At SRHS, enrollment and interest continued to dwindle through the 90s. The department, in fact, ceased to exist. It was swallowed and placed under the umbrella of "Vocational Education," a new department that included auto and wood shop.

Today, however, while only two instructors teach in the ag program at SRHS, the future holds much promise of success as the teaching of agriculture branches out to embrace urban farming and viticulture and some high-tech approaches. Consider the Veterinary-Technical program soon to be added. This fledgling educational approach, made possible by a grant through the estate of SRHS alum G.K. Hardt, will be linked to UC Davis, which will monitor its curriculum and supply student teachers for SRHS students interested in veterinary medicine. SRHS agriculture is back!

Contributions & Membership News

You Panthers are the greatest! The membership renewals, lifetime memberships, contributions and memorials grow each month. The word is definitely out about our Foundation 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.

Here's the good news: Since our last newsletter, we have had 214 membership renewals and 36 new members. Contributions and memorial gifts this period were \$7,665. If you haven't joined yet, use the form available in this newsletter or go on-line to make your contributions and join. We thank you for your support. The following are individuals that have given over and above their membership:

Tony Alcocer '77	Robert Falco '67	Lorene Lake '61	Henry Schukler '46
Anonymous Donor	Larry Fitzpatrick '44	Chris Larrow '76	Norman Schupbach '50
George Benway '40	Jane Foster '40	William Lawrence '41	Jim Slaten '52
Pat Bolian '48	Art Gambini '68	Robert MacDonald '45	Oren & Nadine Smedshammer '59
Sue Burneson '74	Garaventa Enterprises friends	Mr. Mancini, Burbank Savings	Tim & Popie Stafford friends
Tony Camozzi '52	Rod Griggs '56	Mike & Susan Martini friends	Bob Stone '54
Elma Cerchi '47	Ray Guanella '49	William Mays friend	James Streeter '76
Class of '56	Georgia Hogle '52	Gary Meager '49	Kathleen Strickler '58
Dolores Comalli '37	Gary Jensen '64	Lura Oldis '68	Phillip Throwbridge '51
George Connors '36	Jean Jensen '50	Jean Osborn '48	Pat Tilley '58
Candice Dahlstet '67	Larry Johnson '66	Dave Parks '66	Frederick Tillmannshofer '52
Jack DeMeo '51	Martha Keegan '47	Teri Peterson '64	Thomas Unthank friend
Julie DeMeo '52	Nancy Kennedy staff	Harvey & Judy Podstata '52	Bruce Wright '67
Deborah Dobish '08/'10	Lou Knecht '44	Peter & Ann Porrino '61	Jo Xerogeanes '48
Gloria Duncan '54	Kathy Koenig '62	Gil & Christine Pritchard friends	

We welcome 13 new Lifetime Members to the Foundation, bringing our total to 45! Thanks to Francis DeMarco '49, William Gray '55, Dave Johnson '47, Janice Jordan '66, Jim Jordan '66, Michelle Judson '66, Don Mills '66, Judy Mills '59, Steve Nienaber '58, Nick Sokol '61, Fred Tillmannshofer '52, Thomas R. Unthank '78 and Glen Vadon '56 for their Lifetime Memberships. 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

Jessie & Marcia Carney Memorial

N.A. & A.L. Claeys friends

Evelyn Hoopes Memorial

R.M. & S.M. Seaton friends

Karen Ragsdale Memorial

Art Valencia '59

Bob Stone '54

Larry Sani Memorial

Rae Gambini '37

Larry White Memorial

Janice Lawson '48

Marie Lauritzen Memorial

Bethel Harbor Ltd. friends

K.R. & D. Blackman friends

Phyllis Broderick friends

Fran & Helen Burke friends

N.J. & A.T. Burns friends

Peggy Call '41

Dolores Comalli '37

Jeanne Cox '41

Bob & Norma Dallachie friends

Mike & Millie Fleming friends

Barbara Gaddis '43

Chet & Gloria Galeazzi '40/'41

Bob & Paulette Gunson friends

L.B. & Paul Hulsman friends

Marion Kellems friend

Fred Lahm '41

Everlyn Mitchell friend

Herbert Rockefeller friend

R.M. & S.M. Seaton friends

George Stamm friend

Leland Torliatt friend

Wanda Lux Memorial

Edna Maxwell '25

Olga Berner Memorial

Edna Maxwell '25

Fred Tovani Memorial

Bob Stone '54

Gudron Simons Memorial

Bob Stone '54

Tinx Fores Memorial

Bob Stone '54

11th Annual SRHS Foundation Golf Tournament Scores Another Record!

The 11th Annual tournament netted a record \$18,654 that will go directly to student academic and athletic enhancement programs at SRHS. The Foundation thanks all of the golfers (the most ever), our wonderful tee sponsors, raffle, mulligan and silent auction prize contributors. We especially thank our major sponsors, the Coddling Foundation, the Dale Family, Exchange Bank, First Community Bank, Morgan Stanley and Sonoma National Bank. Thanks also go to all of our hardworking volunteer committee members for their tireless efforts with additional gratitude going to the SRHS Women's Golf Team who assisted golfers and sold raffle tickets. **WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT ALL OF YOU!**

Our 110 golfers competed for the prizes in both Open and Coed divisions at the Oakmont West course. The day started with registration, a box lunch, practice range balls and a putting contest. Then, golfers were sent to the course for the shotgun start of this scramble format tournament. While we had a very cool day this



Open Division Winners - David Lee, Brian Lee, Gary Lee, Michael Lee - Photos by Bob Patterson

year,

the course yielded some great scoring and long drives. Following the tournament, golfers, guests and committee members had a great happy hour and dinner at Oakmont's Quail Inn. At the conclusion of dinner, winning golfers as well as raffle winners were given their prizes while silent and live auction bidders aggressively vied for attractively priced items and packages.

This year's winners were as follows: Open Division - Gary Lee, David Lee, Michael Lee, Brian Lee; Coed Division - Tim Cambra, Dick Cambra, Hugh Cambra, Michele Cambra; Men's Long Drive - Tim Bogue; Women's Long Drive - Carol Hansel; Senior Long Drive - Paul Biocini; Men's Closest to the Hole #16 - John Groth; Women's Closest to the Hole #16 - Linda Andersen; Putting Contest - Ed Pisenti.



Coed Division Winners Tim Cambra, Dick Cambra, Hugh Cambra, Michele Cambra - Photos by Bob Patterson

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! The date of our 12th Annual Tournament is set for Friday, September 14, 2007. If you would like to join our Golf Committee or just want further information about playing in or becoming a tournament sponsor, please contact Doug Pavese, SRHS Foundation P. O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

**SAVE THE DATE!
THE 12TH ANNUAL
SRHS FOUNDATION
GOLF TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 14, 2007**

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 Remainder Trust

For further information, please contact: Doug Pavese, SRHS Foundation P.O. Box 11002, Santa Rosa, CA 95406; or call Doug at (707) 524-1037 (days).

Panther Project Fund

Grants for the 2006-2007 School Year Through November

Industrial Arts Automotive - Purchase of Two Automotive Fluid Flushing Machines	\$ 3,005
SRHS Museum Project - Glass For Display Cases	\$ 1,434
Freshman Orientation Refreshments	\$ 250
World Language - Vocabulary Teaching Aids	\$ 175
Music (Instrumental) - Offset Travel Costs For Students Performing In Spain And Portugal	\$ 3,000
Project Graduation - Offset Cost Of Event	\$ 2,000
Administration - Bottled Water For Emergency Preparedness	\$ 250
Administration - Cost Of Materials For Landscaping Project In New Tennis Court Area	\$ 543
World Language - CD/Tape and DVD Players For Instructional Library	\$ 220
Social Sciences - Dictionaries And "Understanding Government" DVD Set	\$ 765
Social Sciences - 30 Updated Teaching Resource DVDs Aligned With District and State Standards	\$ 1,586
ArtQuest Video - Replace 2 older iMAC Computers With Current Technology Models	\$ 2,458
Digital Arts - 2 Current Technology iMAC Computers	\$ 2,375
World Languages Spanish - Replace 2 Dry Erase White Boards	\$ 566
Social Sciences - Set of 20 National Geographic World Atlas Books	\$ 485
Agriculture Program - Offset Student Cost Of Attending The FFA National Convention	\$ 400
Social Sciences - Monochrome Laser Printer for Department	\$ 432
Echo Yearbook - Replace Two Existing Workstations Used To Produce The Echo	\$ 4,014
Science Dept. - Three Viewsonic LCD Projectors For Classroom Teaching Aids	\$ 2,697
SRHS Foundation Full Page Ad In Echo Yearbook	\$ 425
Directed Gift - Anonymous Donor - Greenhouse Project	\$ 6,000
Directed Gift - Shirley O. Hutchinson Trust - Greenhouse Project	\$11,000
Totals YTD	\$44,080

Dear Santa Rosa High School Foundation Members:

At its meeting on July 26, 2006, the Board of Education of the Santa Rosa City Schools gratefully accepted your donation of \$15,019.59 to Santa Rosa High School to offset partial cost of sheet metal shear, automotive flushing machine, TV, chemistry lab stations and upgraded track timing system.

*Thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Sincerely,*

*Bill Carle
Board President*



Dear Foundation Members,

My viewsonic projector allows me to incorporate a new level of exciting technology into my lesson. Thank you very much for approving a request for such expensive, but necessary classroom equipment. Your support for students and teachers continues to amaze me.

*Thank you,
Regina Brennan*

Dear Foundation,

I just wanted to thank you so much for the white boards. We will all be so grateful!

*Thank you,
Danista Finch*



Dear Santa Rosa High School Foundation Members:

*At its meeting on June 14, 2006, the Board of Education of the Santa Rosa City Schools gratefully accepted your donation of \$6007.81 to Santa Rosa High School to be used as follows:
\$3,072.41 for the purchase of video camera and two (2) computers for ArtQuest
\$450.12 for photo series history
\$2,000 for New York drama tickets
\$485.28 for the purchase of an English dictionary*

*Thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Sincerely,*

*Bill Carle
Board President*

Project Update

by Chris Zeek '68

Many campus projects are either now complete or well on their way to completion while some remain in the planning stage.

The Nevers Field Monument to Ernie Nevers was finished when Rich Peters '68 mounted it on the brick structure a couple of weeks before the homecoming game. Dick Colombini '49 provided hardware to illuminate the monument and the football field's sign. Scott Gunderson '90, of Sunwest Electric, completed the installation in time for homecoming.

The SRHS Museum is open. Please drop by SRHS and check it out. The Foundation always is pleased to receive donations of memorabilia. You can contact the organization by postal mail or email, or by telephoning the Pandy Line. Or you can take donations to the main office on campus. All donations will be gratefully acknowl-

edged.

The auto shop classroom is close to completion. Vic Colli '65, the instructor, is working hard at this task with the financial help of state vocational programs. Currently, a work group to clean and paint the area is planned. If you'd like to help, please contact us for more information.

The campus greenhouse, thanks to the funding by an anonymous donor and a SRHS family of alumni, is now underway. A building kit has been ordered and will be constructed over the cement walkway and slab installed by Dave Smith '66. This high priority project is a joint effort by the Foundation, the District and the Ag Boosters.

Projects in the planning stage will affect athletic, vocational and ArtQuest programs. Both the Foundation and SRHS appreciate the many donations of time, labor and talent many SRHS alums are so willing to provide.

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!

Travis Adams
Camelo Avila
Candace Borders
Jordan Casteneda
Kit Driscoll
Briana Hernandez
Dominic Onate
Ryan Sallady
Kassandra Smith

Laura Wasson
Michelle Williams
Rebecca Elliott
Saundra Howard
Angelina Martinez
Nate McMillan
Samantha Norris
Kaela Talafili
Sophia Trimboli



SRHS Foundation Annual Polenta Feed

Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building

Friday, April, 27, 2007

No host cocktails: 6 o'clock

Dinner: 7 o'clock

by Chef Ray Lazzini & Crew

Tickets: **\$25.00**

For Tickets - Please call your favorite Board Member

Tickets will be available beginning January 9th

This event is always a sell out! Request your tickets NOW!

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

REUNIONS: Recaps & Photos

When all the planning and events are over, let us know who you saw, what you did and how much fun you had at your reunion!

CLASSES OF 1934 THROUGH 1938 REUNION

The Santa Rosa High School classes of 1934 through 1938 plus a few others, celebrated their fifth consecutive reunion on July 13, 2006. All have been at the Ledson Winery on Highway 12 with a sit-down dinner, choice of filet mignon or salmon, after a fabulous hors d'houvers table. Ledson wine flowed throughout the evening under huge oak trees and stars. Free valet parking was available, attendees just drove up to the front door of the "Castle." There was also free transportation from eastern Santa Rosa to and from the winery. About 75 former graduates attended, plus an equal number of spouses, relatives and friends. You may wonder how much an affair like this cost those attending. The answer is "nothing." The entire evening was through the generosity of Steve Ledson, son of Noble Ledson, class of '34, who died a couple of years ago. The next morning Steve also hosted a champagne brunch at the Flamingo Hotel. This wasn't the end Steve Ledson said he will host the reunion next year and as long into the future as any of us are able to attend. So, mark you calendar for mid-July next year. Steve, you're some kind of guy.

George Conners
Class of '36

FRIENDSHIP RENEWED AT THE "OUTLAW REUNION"

Good weather, good food and good friends best describes the gathering of some SRHS alums of the mid-50s at the home of Roy and Marilyn Wilson in Springfield, Oregon.

The informal reunion, organized this year by Buck Gard and Sally Weeks Gard, these Panthers moved north from its usual Santa Rosa location. Those attending included the following:

Roy '57 and Marilyn (Browne) '59 Wilson; Buck '57 and Sally (Weeks) '57 Gard; Keith '57 and Carole (Jesse) '57 Haskins; Newell '57 and Delores (Camilli) '57 Winstead; Don '57 and Maggie (Murray) '58 Chandler.

Bob '57 and Lucy Stansbery; John '57 and Clare Hamiter; Darrell '57 and Sue Robertson; Bob '57 and Tobie Cate; Bert '58 and Diane Cheli; John Wasko '56; Ed Garyalde '56; Dusty Veale '58; Clayton Gunn '57, Gary Martin '57; Gilert Rodello '57; Babs Slender '57; Lou Cerri '57; Fred Browne '57; Jacky (Cooper) Schlich '57.

Pictures, addresses and stories were exchanged, and fishing and the Sisters Quilt Show were among the activities that kept these alums busy. The group also gave Foundation board member Jackie Cooper Schlich lots of guidance regarding the upcoming 50th reunion for the Class of '57.

Everyone agreed there is nothing, absolutely nothing, better than a gathering of old friends! Yep, once a Panther, always a Panther.

SRHS Calendar of Events



January

- 1/15 Martin Luther King Holiday
- 1/22 & 1/23 Instrumental Music Concert in Auditorium 7 P.M.
- 1/25 Blood Drive in North Gym; you are welcome to donate
- 1/30 Choral Music Concert in the auditorium 7 P.M.

February

- 2/2 Patriot Acts Performance by ArtQuest in the Auditorium
Time: TBA
- 2/5 - 2/10 The Theatre Arts Dept. musical presentation in the auditorium. For times and details call 528-5292.
- 2/17 Turnabout Dance
- 2/24 SRHS Ag Boosters Crab Cioppino Dinner \$35 per person (call Marie Piazza for tickets 527-7874)

March

- 3/1 - 3/3 Advanced ArtQuest Drama presents a dramatic play in the Black Box Theatre. Seating is limited; Come early for the best seat. 7:30 P.M.
- 3/24 Special Olympics at Santa Rosa High School's All Weather Track
- 3/23 & 3/24 Schools Plus Telethon in the SRHS Auditorium
- 3/26 - 3/30 ArtQuest Fine Arts presents student work in the Multipurpose Room. Public is invited to come out and enjoy these fine pieces.

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



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.

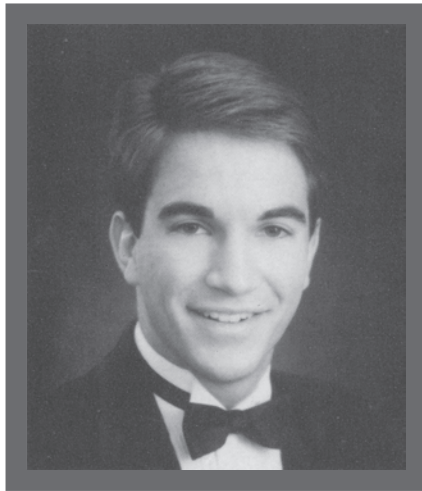
Submissions of photos and text can be made by e-mail, through our website and by mail. E-mail to mdaniels@sonic.net or mail to P. O. Box 11002 Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

NEXT DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 2007

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



The Fall 2006 edition of the newsletter printed a photo of football coach **Jimmy Underhill** during one of his legendary half-time motivational talks. Long-time Chief Photographer for the Press Democrat, **John LeBaron (Tomaes High, '47)**, called to tell us he took the photo in the Vallejo High locker room sometime in the early to mid-50's. John remembered SRHS was losing at the time. Pandy wonders if Genial Jim's pep talk fired up the Panthers to beat the Apaches in that game. If you recall the photo and the game and can give more info, please send it to the message board on the Foundation's website www.srhfsf.org. . . For years and years, graduation exercises were held in the auditorium. When did the practice cease? Well, the Class of 1939 alleged in last summer's donor issue of the newsletter that it was the last class to hold commencement there. But both **Brook Tauzer '44** and **Alice Stewart '46** called to note that their respective classes also graduated in the auditorium. If you know when the ceremony moved elsewhere, please tell us... Speaking of 1946, that's the year **Jim King** was hired to teach agriculture at SRHS. Jim retired in 1979, but he is still busy with ag activities and farm youth. Back in September he was honored as the

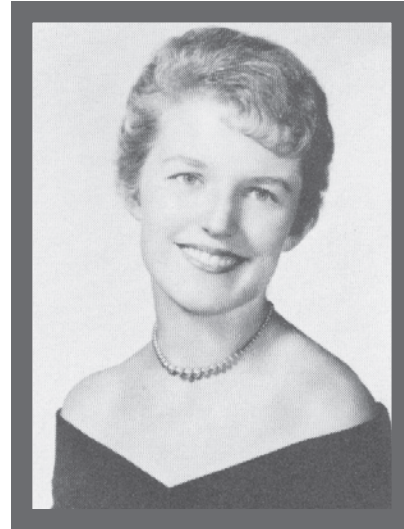


Matt Condrin, Echo 1995

recipient of the "Lifetime Contribution in Agriculture" award presented by the Sonoma County Harvest Fair. . . Another Panther honoree, **Penny Hastings '59** received the prestigious City of Santa Rosa Merit Award at a City Council meeting in November for her leadership role in the annual Girls' Sports Expo. For the last 10 years, Penny's been heavily involved with the annual expo held on both the SRHS and SRJC campuses that introduces 8 to 12 year old girls to athletics. Way to go, Penny! . . .

Bill Winkler '47 recently exhibited his sculptures at a Las Cruces, NM museum and at a Truth or Consequences, NM gallery. Those exhibits included paintings by his wife, son and daughter-in-law. The talented elcer Winklers who live in Hillsboro, NM also compete in masters bicycle racing and will represent New Mexico at the upcoming Senior Olympic Nationals in Louisville, KY in '07. . . During last spring's annual Foundation Polenta Feed, the three Grace Brothers - **Jim '61, John '63, Mike '65**

- contributed not one but three abalone dinners to the fund-raising auction that netted the Foundation a record amount of money. The bros. gratefully accepted extra help from **Dave Engman '57** and **Matt Condrin '95**. . . **Kathy Smith '67**, brother **Dan Smith '66** and mom **Arline Miller Westlund '41** met in Truckee late last summer for a reunion and a ride in Kathy's hot-air balloon. Kathy, retired as a commissioned officer from USPHS, currently is a free-lance writer and commercial balloon pilot in Albuquerque, NM. Dan is retired from Agilent and appears around Santa Rosa as a musician.



Penny Hastings, Echo 1959

Arline lives in Albuquerque and is a docent at the Museum of Natural History. She's retired after a career with the phone company... **Linda Stafford '68** went to Uganda in 1972 but is now working as Disability Liaison Officer at a Community College near Melbourne, Australia. Linda remembers she was a Pantherette her senior year, but she can't remember if the cafeteria

operated then. Pandy remembers the Pantherette drill marching team, and he thinks the snack bar overshadowed the cafeteria by the 70's . . . After grad school in Physical Anthropology, **Angelique Skiman '88** became a Primatologist and followed Howler monkeys through a rain forest in Costa Rica. She then taught 4th and 5th grades in San Francisco, but now is married and the mother of a 5-year-old daughter. She works for a firm that evaluates federal and state grants in educational technology. Oh, among her list of busy accomplishments is a non-profit she founded that advocates the use of real cloth diapers. It's called Real Diaper Association . . . After graduation, **Wanda Schulz Shepard '89** completed a couple years missionary work in Brazil and Mexico. Now she lives in Arkansas where she's teaching 4th, 5th and 6th grade special ed. Married for 14 years, Wanda is the mother of 4. She remembers eating bagels and drinking Martinellis on the front steps of SRHS with Sarah, Doyle and Jon. . . **David McOmber '91** has been busy. He completed a two-year mission for his church, graduated from SRJC with an AS in nursing, earned a BA from University of Utah in nursing, worked as an ICU nurse in trauma care and is now attending University of Michigan for an MA as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner . . . **Silas Stafford '04** competes on the Stanford University four-plus crew team that recently finished second in the championship race of the Head of Charles, one of the biggest collegiate rowing events in the world.

REUNIONS: Details, Dates & Announcements

Are you getting ready to start planning your next reunion? 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 1961, 45th Reunion

Date: January 20, 2007

Location: Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club

For more information contact:

Ann Hutchinson Porrino
3305 Jeremy Court, SR, CA 95404
(707) 575-4745
e-mail: porrinopad@aol.com

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

Class of 1967 40TH 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

Tell your fellow classmates in case we don't have up-to-date addresses!

Donna Dennes Peterson
(707) 322-8764

**Additional reunion coordinators
listed on our website www.srhsf.org
Check the website for up-to-date
information, contacts and details!**

Class of 1957

Jacky Shalich
(707) 546-4631

Class of 1987

Christopher Costanza
srhs1987reunion@yahoo.com

Class of 1997

Laura McNeill (Moresi)
srhs97@mac.com
(707) 292-5581

Classes of 1977 & 1976 30th & 31st Reunion

Date: Summer 2007

Planning has started for a casual 30th & 31st reunion for the classes of 1977 & 1976

If you'd like to be involved, or have questions, please e-mail

Jim McKee Jimmckeeepa@cs.com





SRHS Foundation

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SRHS Foundation in reaching its goals.

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.