



# SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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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.*

## HALF A CENTURY OF HANGOUTS

By Chris Zeek

**Editor's Note:** *Chris Zeek informs me that he interviewed SRHS students from the decades of the 50s through the 90s while writing this article. He apologizes for any cherished spot he may have missed. Still there's plenty here to take you back to a time when we were younger and the years stretched limitlessly before us.*

### THE 50S

After school and on weekends, Panthers just wanna have fun. There were always the football and basketball games. But as many SRHS students found themselves behind the wheel, one of their primary weekend pastimes was cruising, or tooling. The car became the hangout. The route was a slow amble west on 4th from College Avenue, around the Courthouse, then east to the turnaround at the Gordon's Drive-In parking lot. Repeat. Then repeat again. Drive and flirt with the cuties in cars next to you. When hungry, pull into Gordon's that, for a time, had roller skating car hops to serve you at your car window.

But SRHS students found a lot more to do than cruising. Other popular activities were going to the walk-in movie theaters, the Cal, the Roxy, and the Tower, and

also the Drive-Ins: the Village and the Redwood. There were two pool halls downtown, Kurlanders and J&J Billiards. The hot spots at the Coast and Russian River were Salmon Creek Beach, Healdsburg Memorial Beach, Mirabel, and Hacienda. With the car cultists came the introduction of organized drag races, popularly located out west of town on Llano Road. Then there were the new bowling alleys: the Rose Bowl and the Holiday Bowl. Panthers could eat and play pinball, and, oh yeah, bowl. Gordon's stayed popular. So did Canevari's Deli, Eat and Run (known unkindly by some as "The Scarf and Barf,") Zestos, and McMullen's Soda Fountain.

### THE 60s

The after football and basketball game hangout became Roma's Pizza on Old Courthouse Square. The late night place to go was the Casa Rosa Pancake House.

The early to mid-60s brought the closing of Gordon's and The Tower Theater. Zestos changed its name to Rogers Drive-In. For cruisers, the east turnaround became the intersection of St. Helena Avenue, 13th Street, and 4th Street. Lengthening the cruise to the east created new hangouts like **Fosters** *Continued on page 4*

## CHARDONNAY, PANTHERS?

By Don Cambou

They're in the field at first light, working the vines. Is this a high school class? You bet. It's Ag instructor Riggs Lokka's SRHS Environmental Horticulture class at the Alba Lane Farm north of Santa Rosa. The school district acquired the 60 acre farm with its 30 acres of protected wetlands when Maria Carrillo High School was built in Rincon Valley. Here you'll find six acres of Chardonnay grapes growing in choice Sonoma County soil. The students care for eight rows, producing about a ton of grapes, while Kendall-Jackson manages the rest. The whole vineyard produces approximately 18 tons a year. La Crema, a Kendall-Jackson subsidiary, buys most of the crop from SRHS at \$1,200 a ton. But the SRHS Ag Boosters buy the students' ton to make Vintage Panther Chardonnay.

SRHS first offered the course featuring viticulture in 1997. The school was a leader. Now, El Molino High, Analy, St. Helena, and Sonoma have all followed. SRHS is still the largest program. Approximately 350 students have taken the course. Several of them now work in the wine industry.

Chris Wills, the winemaker  
*Continued on page 9*

## SRHS FOUNDATION AT 27

So much has happened already this 2015/2016 school year. It is hard to believe your Foundation has been in existence for 27 years. I am excited about this year's activities and functions.



First is that the Panther Project Fund (PPF) is off to a great start with funding for SRHS requests over \$28 thousand. These requests were for equipment, software, field trips and various items for the classroom, which will provide an enhanced educational experience for the students. One of the more interesting recent requests was from the SRHS "Pep Band". A few years ago several music students felt the need to create a Pep Band to generate the "Panther Spirit" at the school, especially at the various sporting activities. Your Foundation provided the startup cost. The students found some of the old SRHS marching band uniforms, which became their uniforms. This October 2015 the Pep Band requested funding to repair and clean these uniforms, to purchase mallets, a marching bass drum and carrier and to consider the repairing of a vintage sousaphone. As I recall the days when SRHS had a marching band, I'm reminded of the Gaye LeBaron's past Press Democrat columns on "You're Older If You Remember (things of the past)!"

The PPF funding to SRHS is the direct result(s) of the members and friends of the Foundation. Continuing your membership, your annual contributions, becoming a One Thousand Panthers (OTP) and attending our two fund raising events allows your Board of Directors (BOD) to fund the various requests from SRHS. An example is the recent Foundation's 20th annual golf tournament held this September. The tournament was one of the most successful tournaments to date with 86 golfers and successful silent and live auctions. The net amount of funds raised was over \$25 thousand. A great event put on by Chairpersons Doug Pavese and Sue Bolt, the golf committee and the BOD.

Secondly, BOD Sue Burch, chairperson of the membership committee, and Don Cambou, editor of the newsletter, presented a new membership campaign for approval. This will be an opportunity to increase the amount paid for your one year membership and receive Panther apparel as a "thank you" bonus. You can read more

about the campaign on page six of this newsletter. We are anticipating positive results from this campaign and look forward to your feedback.

I urge you to "Save the Date" for the annual Polenta Feed scheduled for Friday April 22, 2016. The Polenta Feed is one of the year's highlights for Santa Rosa High School and the Foundation as 650 alumni, spouses and friends gather at the event to celebrate as an "All Class Reunion".

Since the last newsletter issue Ann Porrino '61, has stepped down from the Foundation's BOD. Ann's creation was the "One Thousand Panthers" fund raising campaign, which has raised over \$200 thousand. We appreciate Ann's efforts and enthusiasm (a true Spirit of the Panther) and she will be truly missed.

It is with sadness that I inform you of the recent passing of Dan Bribiescas '77, on September 26, 2016. Dan was one of our youngest BOD members at 56 years old and brought a tremendous amount of enthusiasm along with his financial knowledge. Dan was the most successful men's soccer coach at SRHS as well as being a MVP in his playing days. The current SRHS soccer team is wearing their jerseys with Dan's initials "DB" on the back. Dan was so very proud of his daughter, Lindsay, a 2015 SRHS graduate and James Fleck Scholarship recipient, being accepted into UCLA. Dan, you were friends to many and we will miss you, but never forget you.

The BOD, which is completely volunteer, greatly appreciates your continued financial support with your membership, One Thousand Panthers and memorial contributions. Your support allows the mission of the Foundation to be met. We, the BOD, are honored to represent you and serve the interests of Santa Rosa High School.

The following is the mission statement of the Santa Rosa High School Foundation.

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.

Jim Ward '62  
President 2014-2016

**HAVE YOU INCLUDED THE FOUNDATION  
IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN?**

Dear SRHS Foundation Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to express my appreciation for selecting me for the Jack Kellar "Lucky Jade" Scholarship... (and a) James Fleck Scholarship...

I am entering McGill University in Montreal as a biology major with hope of focusing on microbiology and immunology. I am also joining McGill Chamber groups to continue playing violin.

Thanks again for your generosity and support. I promise to work extremely hard and eventually give back to other students.

Sincerely,

Caroline Chu

Dear SRHS Foundation,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the hugely generous Fleck Scholarship. I was so lucky to attend Santa Rosa High School, and feel so honored to have been sent my way with all of your support behind me.

I've just started school at Oberlin College in Northeastern Ohio and am already loving my classes. Without your incredible scholarship, it would be very difficult to attend this institution.

I can't wait to become involved as an alumna of SRHS! Thank you so much for everything you do for that school. It was, and always will be, a place of happiness in my life.

Thank you,

Kira Findling

I am Gloria Bussa Wohlschlaeger - Class of 1954 I am very pleased to tell you that my granddaughter, Gina Wohlschlaeger, is a Freshman now at Santa Rosa High!!

I really enjoy reading the Newsletter. Thank you to all of you for presenting us with so much nostalgia. – Gloria

## BOARD MEMBERS WANTED



The Santa Rosa High School Foundation Board is looking for grads and supporters to fill four open positions. The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month, August through May, at the SRHS Library. Being an active Board member entails participation on numerous committees and involvement in fundraising events. You need to attend two Board meetings prior to being elected to the Board. Come join us!

**If interested,  
call the Pandy Line at 571-7747.**

**And remember...  
ONCE A PANTHER, ALWAYS A PANTHER!**

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Article submissions are invited, as are story ideas. Please limit articles to 500 words and letters to 150 words. Please limit Panther Patter submissions to 150 words. All submissions are subject to editing and become the property of the Foundation.

Please submit articles and letters in unformatted text. Microsoft Word is preferred.

Email submissions to doncambou1@gmail.com. Or mail hard copies to PO Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1006.

## REGISTER AND SHOP

The Foundation has adopted a new program offered by Amazon.com called AmazonSmile. Through this program Amazon donates 0.5% of the cost of eligible products to a charitable organization selected by the customer.

Please register at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). Just type in "Santa Rosa High School Foundation" as your charitable organization. You will find exactly the same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon.com will donate a

portion of the purchase price to the Foundation. . You use the same log in and password on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, wish list, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. Donations are only made through AmazonSmile, so make sure you bookmark the AmazonSmile site to shop.

All donations will be distributed through our Panther Project Fund, which supplies money to teachers and students for special projects, classroom supplies and educational trips.



*Hangouts...continued from page 1*

Freeze and Doggie Diner. Four new teen enticing eateries opened their doors: Broiler Burger on College Avenue, Cal's Drive-In on Mendocino Avenue, the 49er Drive-In on 4th Street, and also on 4th, the Baskin & Robbins 31 Flavors Ice Cream Parlor. The Vet's Memorial started to host concerts – Who remembers seeing the Beach Boys there?

On the Russian River, Mirabel dropped in popularity and Rio Nido rose.

In the late 60s, Panthers found quite a few new hangouts and activities. But the culture started leaving Mom and Pop for Corporate. The after game hangout became Shakey's Pizza Parlor on Russell Avenue. It had a separate Teen Room with a Juke Box and pinball machines. The late night place turned into Denny's near Coddington. A new River hotspot became Palomar, north of Healdsburg Memorial Beach on the east side of Fitch Mountain. The Starvue Drive-In Movie opened in north west Santa Rosa. Two other spots opened during that time: Lucky 7 Miniature Golf -- Watch out for that windmill blade! -- and Batting Cages on Sonoma Highway and Mission Boulevard, and a Teenage Nightclub in Montgomery Village, called Surf City. New food places became popular north of the school: Arctic Circle, Sandy's, and A&W Root Beer.

### THE 70s

Shakey's reign as the after game hangout was short lived. The late night place became Lyon's off Steele Lane. Lucky 7 bogeyed out in the mid 70s. And we lost the classic Cal and Roxy movie theaters to "urban renewal," but the UA Theaters opened on 3rd Street and Mendocino Avenue. Sugarloaf Park became a Panther destination and, as counterpoint, so did the Coddington Mall Parking Lot in front of Radio Station KPLS. New food hangouts were Taco Bell, English Fish & Chips, The Red Barn, and Perrys Deli.

In the late 70s cruising changed because of work being done on 4th Street. The scene moved to Mendocino Avenue. The Starvue Drive-In closed. So did and many food hangouts. In an attempt to recreate "American Graffiti", Cal's Drive-In on Mendocino Avenue changed its name to The Teen Angel, but that was short lived. The Village Drive-In and UA Theaters were still popular. Johnson Beach at Guerneville gained ground, while Palomar lost popularity. And Panthers discovered the Pizza Experience out in the Bennett Valley Shopping Center, with its Deep Pan Pizza.

Late 70s SRHS had to get innovative. Many of the old

hangouts had disappeared. Panthers would find hidden courts in new building developments and party there. House parties became very large and elaborate.

### THE 80s

The early 80s saw SRHS grow smaller and Montgomery High grow larger, so Rincon Valley students started attending SRHS. Panthers found new hangouts in the Rincon Valley area. The beloved Village Drive-In finally closed. But multi movie complexes opened. Some SRHSers attended The Rocky Horror Show every weekend at the UA on 3rd Street. Panthers discovered The Formosa at the Montecito Shopping Center, Star Skate on Occidental Road, Snoopy's Ice Arena, and the Downtown Mall. House parties stayed strong. So did Perrys Deli, and Lyons off Steele Lane.

In the late 80s, another Lyons by the Flamingo Hotel also became a choice for late night eats. After games, some Panthers slipped over to Swensons Ice Cream across the street from Bailey Field. And the Coddington Cinemas opened.

### THE 90s

Cruising, now long established on Mendocino Avenue, entered the fifth decade of its run. Some adventurous Panthers would meet to hang out and party under a bridge out at Brush Creek and Highway 12 on property owned by a student's family. Perrys and Swensons still were popular. Lyons by the Flamingo became the late night choice. Lake Sonoma, and Scandia in Rohnert Park became new places to party. The clock hands turned backwards as the A&W (now on Armory Drive) and the old Foster Freeze hangout regained popularity. So did Hacienda on the River and Salmon Creek Beach.

After the "95" graduation, ArtQuest came onto the campus, with many out of town students attending. Maria Carrillo and Elsie Allen High Schools opened. The old order had changed. Ahead were new Glory Days for SRHS, new school spirit, and new ways to hang out.

### SRHS Foundation Directors

Jim Ward '62, President	Stephen Olsen '61
Tony Negri, Friend, V President	Dick Owens '72
Mary Schaefer '76, Treasurer	Carol Laabs Patterson '55
Mary Orsborn Beseda '74, Secretary	Doug Pavese '58 *
Sue Ellen Bolt, Friend	Donna Dennes Peterson '67 *
Susan Burch, Friend	Nadine Wiggins Smedshammer '59
Don Cambou '64	Sylvia Zane Strong '62
Benjamin F. Catching, Friend	Mark A. Walsvick, '74
Paulette Guaspari Gomes '68	Ilona Mayer Williams '64
Phil Hulen '58	
JoAnn Hembree MacDonald '56	* Founding Director
Matt Metzger '91	

# 20TH ANNUAL SRHS FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT – A BIG SCORE FOR STUDENTS

The Foundation held its 20th Annual Foundation tournament on September 11, 2015, and raised a record \$25,500 that will go directly to student academic and athletic



enhancement programs at SRHS. The Foundation thanks all of our sponsors, committee members, volunteers and golfers for making this such

a memorable event. We especially acknowledge our major sponsors: Ann Porrino, Montgomery Village, Class of 1978, the Coddling Foundation, the Dale Family, Exchange Bank, Doug Pavese and Walsvick Financial & Tax Services, LLC. Additional gratitude goes to the SRHS Cheerleaders and Golf Teams who welcomed and assisted our golfers.

86 golfers in Open and Coed divisions joined us at the Oakmont West course for a shotgun start for this scramble format tournament. The weather was a bit warm, but the competition and team comradery could not have been better. Following the tournament, golfers and guests attended our awards dinner at Oakmont's Quail Inn. At the conclusion of dinner, winning golfers were announced while the silent and live auction bidders competed for

attractively priced items and packages.

Here's a rundown of the tournament winners: Open Orange Flight – Brent Thatcher, Michael Simpson, Bill Rubach, Jim Sager; Open Black Flight – Gregg Stumbaugh, Dion Dudley, Mark Parnel, Aaron Jordan; Coed Division – Todd Beseda, Mary Beseda, Scott Beseda, David Boyce; Men's Long Drive – Brent Thatcher; Women's Long Drive – Maria DeMeo; Senior Long Drive – Rick Heidebrink; Men's Closest to the Hole #16 – Hugh Cambra; Women's Closest to the Hole #16 – Andree Benson; Putting contest – Tim Burch. Congratulations to all!



The date of our 21st Annual Tournament is already set for Friday, September 9, 2016. Mark your calendar. The tournament is open to all men and women golfing supporters of SRHS. If you want further information about next year's tournament, serving on our golf committee or becoming a tournament sponsor, please email us at [golf@srhsf.org](mailto:golf@srhsf.org), or call the Pandey Line at 707-571-7747, or write us at SRHS Foundation Golf, P.O. Box 11006, Santa Rosa, CA 95406.

## ANNUAL POLENTA FEED – FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016

It's almost time again for the Annual SRHS Foundation Polenta Feed. It'll be held on Friday, April 22, 2016 at the Santa Rosa Vet's Building. The social hour begins at 5:30 pm with dinner at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$35.00 per person.

Tickets go on sale beginning February 1st and are available for Foundation members only until March 15. After March 15 tickets will be available to all supporters of SRHS. Order tickets by calling the Pandey Line at 571-7747. Leave your name and phone number and your call will be returned by the following day. Tickets sell quickly so mark your calendar now to make that call after Feb. 1st.

Join the fun with other alumni and supporters of SRHS. You won't want to miss this yearly extravaganza!

## DID YOU ATTEND SRJC IN THE 1950S OR 1960S?

*(Editor's note: As we all know, many SRHS students continue their education at SRJC. That's why the JC approached us with the following request.)*

The SRJC Alumni & Friends Association is searching for alumni from the 50s and 60s who would like to share their favorite memories/experiences from their time at SRJC.

Participate in an interview and your personal story will be woven into the fabric of the SRJC 100th Anniversary Celebration (1918-2018).

For more information contact Carolyn Cole-Schwiezer, SRJC Foundation at 707-524-1566 or [ccoleschweizer@santarosa.edu](mailto:ccoleschweizer@santarosa.edu)

# BECOME A BIG CAT

The Foundation is happy to announce the creation of a higher tier membership: The Big Cat Club. Up your membership fee one time, for one year to \$75 and you'll receive your newsletter AND this sturdy, PANDY emblazoned canvas SHOPPING BAG. We guarantee that the extra money the Foundation receives goes directly to helping SRHS and its students.



PANDY BASEBALL CAP. You can wear it proudly, knowing how much you've helped the school and its students.



So if you want to do more for SRHS and its students, be a BIG CAT. Just fill out the new membership form below. If you want to UPGRADE your current membership to BIG CAT status, email Susan Burch at sburch@sbcglobal.net to make arrangements.

Up your membership one time, for one year to \$100 and receive the newsletter AND this cotton embroidered

PLEASE NOTE: This form is for Big Cat memberships only. Our standard membership form is on the last page of this newsletter.

Name (please print)	Maiden Name	Email Address
Mailing Address	Phone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership with bonus baseball cap, \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership with bonus shopping bag, \$75	
		TOTAL _____
Make Checks payable to SRHS Foundation and note BIG CAT on the check		-OR-
Charge my <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Card		
Card Number _____	Exp Date _____	3 Digit Security _____
Name on Card	Signature	

## CONTRIBUTIONS & MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Susan Burch

I am pleased to report that we have welcomed 18 new Foundation members and 143 renewals. Contributions and memorial gifts this period total \$7,929.00. This is money that goes right back to the students, one way or another, and opportunities they may not have otherwise.

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

Class of 1975  
 L-3 Communications  
 Wells Fargo Matching Gifts Program  
 Kimberly Albert '85  
 Linda Andersen '68  
 Verne & Winona Avila '55/'54  
 Richard Barsulgia '54  
 Sara Bertolini '58  
 Marian Boyrie '65  
 Robert Burpee '57  
 Jo Carley '47  
 George & Delene Cleek '58/'61

Harold Cleek '57  
 Richard Decroff '65  
 Vivian Dehay '40  
 David & Sherry Foote, Parent/'81  
 Carla Fox '66  
 James Francis '57  
 Jessica & Kevin Gilleran, Parents  
 Brian & Kim Nielsen Glynn, Parents  
 John Grace '64  
 Jeffrey Hallock '66  
 Richard Heidebrink '64  
 Lynn Heyer, Parent

Cheryl Hulsman '66  
 Bonnie Lagier-Hindley '60  
 Stephanie Madison '72  
 Gary Meagher '49  
 Dorothy Mercer '57  
 Chuck Mertel '53  
 John & Wendy Nacol, Parents  
 Marius & Theresa Nelson '45/'49  
 Steve Orsborn '68  
 Staci Pastis, Parent  
 Jerrold Peterson '60  
 James & Patricia Pickering '49

Charles Proses '50  
 Thelma Wallace Ramsey '43  
 Norma Rettinhouse '55  
 Gwen Rigby '64  
 John & Keri Ryan, Parents  
 Gene Soldate '64

Sandra Spencer '54  
 Bob Stone '54  
 Jim Streeter '76  
 Jeffrey & Lisa Sugarman, Parents  
 Sari Ulitalo-Humphrey, Parent  
 Wells Fargo Community Support

Laurie Williams '84  
 Roy Wilson '57  
 Bruce Wright '67  
 Dennis Yaeger '61  
 Michael & Debbie Ziegler '66

We also want to welcome new Lifetime Members: Kim Agrella '77, Jay Gotlieb '92, Deborah Keifer '72, Richard Leong '75, Linda Macy '63, Stephan & Staci Pastis Parent/'86

Are you interested in becoming a lifetime member? Use the form available in this newsletter or go on-line to [www.srhsf.org](http://www.srhsf.org) to join or to make contributions. Or, contact me, Susan Burch at [sburch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sburch@sbcglobal.net). The Santa Rosa High School Foundation will continue to grow with your help and our students will continue to flourish, while encouraging a commitment to education. Please talk to your family and friends about becoming members of the Foundation. Any questions or concerns should be directed to me, Susan Burch at 707-484-5234.

## MEMORIAL & SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

You may send the Foundation a contribution in the name of a deceased Panther, or in the name of a specific living person or scholarship.

### The William Barclay Memorial Fund

Jim Nelson '61

### The Phil Box Memorial

Gail Johnson '58

### The Dan Bribescas Memorial

Elaine Bossa Bacigalupi '41  
 Todd & Mary Beseda '73/74  
 Aileen Bianchini '43  
 Jan & Sue Bolt, Friend  
 Rick & Paulette Gomes '68  
 Mike & Kathy Grace '65  
 Jim & Diane Keegan '66/'67  
 Joan Muzzin, Friend  
 Doug Pavese '58  
 Donna Peterson '67  
 Oren & Nadine Smedshammer '59/Staff

### The Mildred Cheli Memorial

John & Rosalie Caulfield '60  
 Carol Guanella '56  
 Sondra Johnson '60  
 Carol Kozlowski '60  
 Barbara McDougall '60  
 Karen Murphey '60  
 Kathy Vice '60

### The David E. Clark Memorial

Jackie Clark, Friend

### The John Crevelli & Ted Lieftrinck

#### Memorial

Dan Kelly '59

### The Kathy Emery Memorial

Oren & Nadine Smedshammer '59/Staff

### The Nick Esposti Memorial

James Laier '58

### The Spirito "Petie" Falco Memorial

Dick & Angie Colombini '49  
 Rick & Paulette Gomes '68  
 Ray & Kathy Lazzini '48  
 Brian Mecchi '77  
 Beverly Stumbaugh, Friend

### The Ardi Coover Fitzgerald

#### Memorial

Stephanie Madison '72

### The David Frey Memorial

Kathy Smith '67

### The Fred Jackson Memorial

Susan Coudeyre-Jackson '57

### The Wes Jamison & Don Bath

#### Memorial

Bob Proctor '61

### The Joanne Murphey Knight

#### Memorial

Carol Carr-Colglazier '58

### The Joe Lazzini, Jr. Memorial

Raymond & Katherine Lazzini '48

### The Ted Lieftrinck Memorial-

#### Directed Biology Dept

Patricia Downs '49

### The Al Mansoor Memorial

Oren & Nadine Smedshammer '59/Staff

### The Eugene Mecchi-Directed for

#### Bruce Mecchi Scholarship

Rick & Paulette Gomes '68  
 Brian Mecchi '77  
 Rena Mecchi  
 Yvonne Papeman, Friend

### The Jim Miller Memorial

Robert Tuttle '40

### The Jim Rackerby Memorial

Martha Keegan '47

### The Larry Sani & Rae Gambini

#### Memorial

Art Gambini '68

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

### In Memoriam

Myrtle Catherine (Porter) Reine-Pinoli	1936	James "Jimmi" Michael Gandola	1943	Othel Keith Haskins	1957
Irene Trogni Barnett	1937	Charles "Charlie" William Pexton	1943	Kathleen Plover Stricker	1958
Barbara Mercedes Black	1937	Margaret Helen Crane	1944	John Patrick "Pat" Davis	1969
Matilda (Tillie) Elizabeth Peterson	1937	Mary Hedges Dunwoody	1946	Daniel Bribescas	1977
Jim Miller	1940	James Rackerby	1946	Marianne Martinelli Crowley	1982
Donald Estill Bean	1941	Gene Canevari	1951	Michael Mjelde	1988
Eugene Mecchi	1941	Barbara Francis Morales	1951	Kesha Ann Weerts	1991
Spirito "Petie" Falco	1941	Donald Lee Trowbridge	1953	Caroll Schaffer Bessire	N/A
John E. Groth, Sr.	1941	Donald E. Hobart	1955	Janice Mae Ferguson-Hickey	N/A
Leona "Lee" J. Hatt	1942	Barton Bynum	1957	Bruno DalPoggetto	N/A

# A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND AND SRHS ICON

by Mary Beseda

Dan Bribiescas, SRHS Foundation Board Member, business man, and soccer coach passed away suddenly on September 26, 2015 at 56 years young.



I volunteered to write about Dan “Danny Boy” Bribiescas as I grew up with him living two doors away; he on Milano Court and me on Albany Dr. Just when you think you know everything about someone, you find out some wonderful life stories. Dan was born August 14, 1959 to John C. Bribiescas and Anne V. Bribiescas. He attended St Rose School and Santa Rosa High graduating in 1977. At Santa Rosa High Dan excelled in Football, Soccer and Baseball. Dan played on two NBL Championship varsity soccer teams; and was voted North Bay League’s Most Valuable Player his senior year. Dan went on to play soccer at Chico State University for four years. During his time at Chico, the team was the West Coast Regional Division II champion.

Upon graduating from Chico with an International Business degree Dan began his career trading commodities. He ventured into banking and investments and at one point assembled a team from around the world to solicit high net worth individuals to do business with the Bank of America. He developed his own model that B of A followed. He developed a passion for trading foreign currencies also known as FX. He also assisted Wells Fargo Bank with their FX strategy. Six years ago Dan walked away from the large institutions to form his own FX Company. His driving force was to eliminate the commute to San Francisco so he could spend more time with his daughter Lindsay who was starting at Santa Rosa Middle School.

In the mid 1980’s Dan began assisting his high school coach, Larry Anderson, with the soccer team at SRHS. The team from 1985 to 1987 went on to become NBL Champs and Tournament of Champions title winners. In 1989 Dan became Head Coach. For the next 12 years Dan’s team went on to win six more NBL Championships and North Coast Section Championships four of those years. He was the winningest soccer coach in SRHS history. But he was much more than that. He was a friend, mentor and father figure to his players. And many were in attendance at his memorial on November 1st.

The most important person in Dan’s life and his greatest legacy is his daughter Lindsay. Lindsay shared with those in attendance at the memorial that every day her Dad gave her words of encouragement; either via text, e-mail or in person; she will forever treasure their time together as she moves forward at UCLA.

As a Foundation Board Member we could always depend on Dan to help with events from set-up to working the bar at the annual Polenta Feed. Dan believed in SRHS and what it provides its students. He felt his participation on the Board further enhanced the programs offered at our High.

I grew up with Danny Boy at a time when you could play hide and seek at night with the neighborhood kids or pick up a game of baseball in the street, with shirts as our base markers. It was a safe place to play and we always had fun! For the past three years I have had the opportunity to work with Danny on the Foundation Board. It has been very precious to me to re-unite with a childhood friend. I will miss reminiscing and working the events with Danny; he somehow made hard work fun!

“Oh Danny boy the pipes, the pipes are calling; from glen to glen and down the mountain side. The summers gone and all the flowers are dying; tis you tis you must go and I must bid”

## THE DANNY BRIBIESCAS MEMORIAL FUND

The Danny Bribiescas Memorial Trust Fund has been established to benefit his daughter, Lindsay. Donations can be made at the Montgomery Village branch of the Exchange Bank, 2416 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa, CA. 95405. Ph. 707-524-3022. <http://dannybribiescasmemorialfund.com>.

## CORRECTION

IN LAST ISSUE’S “IN MEMORIAM” LIST, WE MISPELLED THE NAME OF LOUISE FERTITTA ’53. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY CONFUSION THAT ERROR MAY HAVE CAUSED LOUISE’S FAMILY OR FRIENDS.





By: Pandy

In September of 2015, The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, OK inducted professional rodeo announcer and roper **Bob Feist**, SRHS '58, into its Rodeo Hall of Fame. Bob grew up in Santa Rosa, where his family

had a cattle ranching operation. He's been called "the father of team roping," and has one of the most distinctive and recognizable voices in rodeo.....**Megan O'Brien McLaughlin** '85 was recently elected to her second, four year term on the Fairfax County School Board - in Fairfax, Virginia...**Delaney White**, '16, has the heart of a Panther. She showed her stuff again, winning the North Bay League cross-country individual title for the fourth year in a row. The Senior became the first North Bay runner -- boy or girl -- to win the NBL race all four years of high school...**Jim Gash**, '85 just authored a hard cover book: "Divine Collision." It's the true story of his time in

Africa, fighting for reforms in Uganda's criminal justice system. Jim is a lawyer and law professor in Los Angeles... **Janet Elaine Codding**, '65 is NOT hanging up the basketball shoes. For the last two years, she has played against her granddaughter, **Emily Codding**, '17, in the Alumni game. The other Alums are under 30. Janet is 68. She has two other granddaughters, one that will be a Freshman next school year at SRHS, and another who is only 2 years old. Janet's goal is stay in shape to play against all of them!..In the aftermath of the Valley Fire in the Middletown area, **Nancy Odegard Rosenblum**, '73 was reflective. She thought of the upcoming Homecoming Dance, and the girls losing their gowns to the fire. Then the San Ramon resident went into action. She started a facebook campaign, hoping to receive fifty gowns to donate. She received 300 –



Janet Elaine Codding and Emily Codding

AND 75 pairs of shoes and



Middletown High girls, dressed to the nines



*Chardonnay...continued from page 1*

for Santa Rosa Junior College, takes the ton of grapes purchased by the Ag Boosters and turns it into an exceptional Chardonnay. The students go to the crush, but as soon as the grapes start to ferment, they can no longer have "hands on" participation. From that point on out, they're



observers. The one ton of grapes produces about 60 cases, or 720 bottles. 2009 marked the first vintage. SRHS ArtQuest students designed the handsome, signature label.

But with more acreage at the Alba Lane Farm, the Ag department didn't stop at grapes. Students have planted and care for fruit trees, hops, vegetables, and even a large pumpkin patch. The vegetables are sold to local restaurants and to the district's Child Nutrition Services which makes



hot lunches for our schoolkids. Busloads of area kindergartners recently visited the pumpkin patch on a bright October day. For five dollars, each walked off with a pumpkin. Ag

instructor Dawn Stornetta stated the one simple rule: "If they can carry it, they can keep it."

You can carry off some Vintage Panther Chardonnay, as well. Simply go to [srhsagboosters.com](http://srhsagboosters.com) to purchase bottles or cases. Thirteen bucks a bottle with a 10% case discount. All proceeds support SRHS Ag student projects and events. If you're local, they'll even deliver.

# HOW TO THROW A GREAT REUNION – PART II

## 80S STYLE

By Alicia Hodenfield

While in the last issue of the newsletter the Class of 1964 had some great ideas for planning of their reunion, the Class of 1985 wants to share a thing or two about how to use technology!

One of the things our class has is an active Facebook page “Santa Rosa High School Class of 1985.” News of our classmates is posted there and we try to stay connected between reunions. We also have a website that we keep active, with a list of our “Missing Classmates” at [srhs1985.wordpress.com](http://srhs1985.wordpress.com).

Our planning group officially started meeting a bit over a year before our actual reunion took place. We decided to find an interesting venue for our 30th reunion and decided



on the DeTurk Round Barn. As soon as the ink was dry on our contract, we announced the date – we posted it on Facebook, our website and used the mailchimp.com email service to blast a save the date message to our classmates. In fact, we never mailed one invitation – we’re pretty confident anyone in

our class that wanted to be found, was found and we made it easy to find us. We also used paypal to collect our payments. One of the things our classmates enjoyed was hearing who would be attending the reunion – each time a ticket was sold, it would be updated on our website and posted on Facebook. The email reminders got more frequent as the date approached. Facebook, mailchimp.com and wordpress are extremely easy to use sites.

Over the weekend of July 17th, we gathered to celebrate our 30 year reunion. We had travelers from as far as Japan, Germany, and throughout the US.

I’d say this was our best reunion yet and not because I helped plan it. We kicked off the weekend with a no-host gathering at the Hyatt’s outside bar at Brassiere. It seems the no-host events are just as important as the actual event. People on the fence about reunions can join in without having to pay to attend the main event.

The next morning, a smaller crowd gathered for our inaugural Walk/Run around Spring Lake Park. Some of us brought our kids, some of us brought our 4 legged kids.

Later that morning we gathered at SRHS for a tour led

by retired English teacher Mike Daniels – or Mr. Daniels as we’d known him in 1985. We toured familiar halls, new buildings and learned about all the exciting contributions the SRHS Foundation has made since we graduated. Many of us learned the fight song (We had a fight song?), paid homage to another of our English teachers, Mr. DeSoto, and saw for the first time the building named in his honor. We bought lots of SRHS swag.

That night, we gathered at the DeTurk Round Barn, a wonderful historic building in the West End of Santa Rosa. There just isn’t enough time! We had about 150 attendees of which more than three-quarters of them being our classmates. We decided against a sit down dinner as we wanted everyone to feel like they could mingle and mix. We anticipated dancing but we were too busy talking or taking part in the photo booth. One of our classmates, Dylan Supina, lives in Pennsylvania and wasn’t able to attend. Yet he wanted to honor the classmates we have lost, and bought a round of drinks for those of us there – we raised our glasses and toasted our lost classmates. We had gathered their class photos at a table; it was a lovely and moving tribute.

We will continue to stay connected with our classmates with our Facebook page and our website will be updated as well. We’re still searching for classmates and have a list posted on our website. Know the whereabouts of someone? Then please send an email to [srhs1985@yahoo.com](mailto:srhs1985@yahoo.com).

Here’s to the 35th my friends!

**55TH**  
**HIGH SCHOOL**  
**REUNION**

**SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL**

**CLASS OF 1961**

**55TH REUNION**  
**JULY 9, 2016**  
**4 P.M. UNTIL 10 P.M.**  
**DINNER 6:30 P.M. CASUAL**  
**WILD OAK SADDLE CLUB**  
**SANTA ROSA, CA**

**QUESTIONS: [DEBBIEMARTINI@ATT.NET](mailto:DEBBIEMARTINI@ATT.NET)**  
**[PORRINOPAD@AOL.COM](mailto:PORRINOPAD@AOL.COM)**



# Santa Rosa High School Foundation

“Once A Panther, Always A Panther”

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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. The campaign began in 2011 and **will continue until the goal is met.**

Call the Pandy Line (707.571-7747) or visit us online at [www.SRHSF.org](http://www.SRHSF.org) for assistance.

Donation options are available.

Donations by cash, check, credit card are accepted from individuals and groups (pooled), pledges over 2, 4, and 5 years, employer matching funds, stocks and commodities.

## THE MAGICAL HISTORY TOUR

By Don Cambou

For a decade and a half, Foundation board members have led hundreds of SRHS grads and others on trips down memory lane. Their 90 minute tours of the SRHS campus charm participants, especially those enjoying reunion weekends. A typical tour starts with a walk through the main building, the north gym, the auditorium, and the Foundation sponsored museum. Then it's onto the south gym, the Ag building, metal, auto, and wood shops, reconstructed Nevers Field, and 2005's Desoto Hall.

Visitors can expect a funny, lively, sometimes irreverent history lesson from tour guides Tony Negri, Mike Daniels, or Art Horner. The guides are fulfilling a Foundation mandate to “preserve and document the history and traditions of SRHS.” Sometimes, the tours end with an on campus barbeque, facilitated by the Foundation.

Tony Negri suggests any class interested in booking a tour should contact the Foundation three to six months ahead of the desired tour date. The same goes for non-

reunion groups of 15 or more. The Foundation offers the tours free of charge, but gladly accepts donations. Some groups have donated enough leftover reunion funds to join One Thousand Panthers as a class.



Mike Daniels reads a scandalous student poem in the Museum

For more information call or email either Tony Negri or Mike Daniels.

Tony: 707-478-3799, [ASNegri72@yahoo.com](mailto:ASNegri72@yahoo.com)

Mike: 707-526-6347, [mdaniels@sonic.net](mailto:mdaniels@sonic.net)





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