

Skyline News Note



April 2020



Titan Trust News!!!

Dear All at East Bay College Fund,

We are excited to report that, according to our records and checks in the mail to you, that we have met our goal of raising \$10,000.00 for The Titan Trust – Class of 1964!!!

Our list of Titan Trust contributors:

Ann Hitchcock
Anonymous
Barbara Lawler Feyerabend
Bill Moon
Carol Szymkiewicz
Carson Haines
Clinton Rylee
Cynthia Young Harelson
Dale Matsui Satake
David K Pierce
Debbie Agee Roessler
Dennis Kneier
Donald Raabe
Donald Sarver
Gail Gershanov Eiselman
Gene Dangel
Hugh Tama
Jennifer Foreman Williams
Jessamine Gadsby
John Ballinger
John Hills
John Lyman
Judy Belcher
Karin (Kipi) Rawlins
Kathleen Hender Catanho
Kenneth Hood
Larry Helzel
Maggie Muat
Margaret Morrison
Mark Kamena
Marlen Jacobs-Smart
Marsha Standish

Marylaird Wood
Melissa Silverman Willaby
Michael J Marcum
Mildred Swafford
Neal Evans
Renee Cameto
Richard and Barbara Johns
Richard Clarke
Richelle Lieberman
Rick Steen
Robert Barklow
Robert Blesse
Robert Falaschi
Robert Sabatini
Rosemary Reitz
Sheri Gribben Hester
Stanton Lore
Stephen Whitgob
Susan Bingham Pate
Susan Telford Smith
Thomas Simpson
Thomas W Stallard
Tom Smith
Victor Gong
Virginia Braun Lefever

Dear Titan Trust Class of 1964,

Thanks for letting us know! This is very exciting news. As you mentioned, it is a bit of an unprecedented time for us. While our staff will be working remotely, we will be continuing our work to support our resilient scholars, families, and partners.

Our scholarship application just closed and we are in the process of reading through the applications. After selection, we will be in touch about the Skyline graduate that is your scholar! That will likely happen in late May.

Thank you for your patience and support in this unprecedented time. Stay safe and healthy.

Best, Maggie Croushore,
Director of Development, Oakland Promise

Direct: 708.227.3979 www.oaklandpromise.org Gender Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

Yay, congratulations Titan Team! You did it! That is great news and so timely. Thank you so much for your commitment to funding this scholarship and for choosing Oakland Promise as your vessel to pay it forward. We appreciate each of you tremendously.

Until next time, be safe and encouraged.

Tonaka Kendrick,
Outreach Manager, College Completion 510-606-4106 www.oaklandpromise.org Gender Pronouns: she/her/hers

Help us reach our ambitious recruitment goal! Share our [mentoring opportunity](#) w/your friends and colleagues!

So once again, thanks to **Susan Pate** for the idea, the **Reunion Committee** for adopting it, **Carol Szymkiewicz** and **Don Sarver** for being the legs and arms, and to all of you contributors for being the heart. **sd**



Mail in the time of COVID-19

Do you have something to add to our conversation? Please send Shayne an email at shayne@sprintmail.com

What a morning. My roommate got to Costco at 5:30. There was a rumor they would let seniors in at 6 o'clock so she called me and I went right over. That didn't happen. They opened Costco at 9 o'clock for everyone. They would only allow one toilet paper, paper towels, eggs and some other items per membership^[OBJ]. Costco was very prepared and funneled shoppers to the back of the store. From there they could shop. It was a very interesting experience and Costco handled it very well. I am now home for the duration.

Nancy Robinson

And how to deal with COVID 19 by SKY64:

People have been asking how Vicki and I are doing here in Italy as it relates to the coronavirus situation and the 5,000 infections here. We appreciate your concern and wanted to let you know we are doing just fine. Other than following the recommended safety precautions and washing our hands constantly, our lives are pretty much normal. We are not wearing masks. We go shopping, eat in restaurants, ride public transportation, and get together with friends. Without

question the number of tourists in Florence has dropped substantially and many of the tourist sites, usually crowded, are almost empty. I took photos of the [empty] Piazza di Santa Croce, Ponte Vecchio, and the Piazza del Duomo last Thursday morning. Let's hope we can get through this as soon as possible and again, thanks for your concern.

Bob

Blesse

Editors note: Cases in Italy have risen dramatically. This is a picture of **Bob** 3/24/2020.



If you need any emergency deliveries let me know.

Randy Sliver



From **Beth Beebe**: Picture worth 1000 words, if you can wade through the ads. Airport in some older downtown buildings suffered some damage.

<https://people.com/human-interest/earthquake-utah-knocks-out-states-coronavirus-hotline/>

Martha Gooby Micks' journey home:

This was a fascinating tour. I learned more than I can keep in my head. I learned the Greeks knew the world was round, as did the Romans. Atlas held a round ball on his shoulder—

not a disk. Disturbing that humans can lose so much of their knowledge.

Our Turkish guide blamed the Church for it. I am in Paris waiting 7 hours for flight to Atlanta. From Atlanta I will fly to Mpls. I would be complaining more, but I am so grateful to get back to US - hopefully without covid19. I feel healthy now, so am hopeful!

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I am in Atlanta now and passed CDC inspectors. I was given pamphlet to read on covid19. So I have my reading material waiting for plane to Mpls. I have slept 15 minutes in the last 24 hours. Ugh! Will be happy to be home.

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And the very best from:

**Leigh Parker (Cindy Gibbs):**

**It is not boring at all  
to stay in the house.  
But how come a bag  
of rice has 7,456  
pieces and the other  
bag 7,398?**

Hilltop Pg 18 FB

I think the men of our class could relate to this.

Thomas D. Mortensen



**And how some are dealing with “self-isolation”, sheltered in place”, etc:**

**Mary Wood**

Well I feel like I am contributing to society on this grim grey day by lying in bed reading a mystery and looking at some bare but rather arty looking trees. I'm helping flatten the curve on the spread of coronavirus by staying home. Looking at a pix of me u might think laziness, or u could think depression, but for sure u would think

"comb your hair, girl."

As it happens I have 2 weeks of food supplies other than milk. However in early Feb long before I could be accused of hoarding I ordered 60 double rolls of toilet paper. What a gift I have for prophecy! I would consider trading for disinfectant wipes. I think however what people are forgetting is that when u have bad flu u stop eating and then...

I'm available for lots of phone calls. If I haven't talked to u for awhile (which means YOU didn't call either!) This is a great time. I do moral support, but I am prone to giving advice so u have to say "I am needing sympathy/an ear/moral outrage, etc." I do love to tell stories especially about Bob so be prepared. Fortunately for u all my hand gets tired holding the phone, so u might be able to get off the phone in less than an hour.

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**Sharon McWalters** Sounds perfect to me. I'm doing a little around the house, but mostly watching things I've saved on tv. Feels great



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**Gay Parker** Watching Suze Orman on kqed plus. Only thing in mail was census form today. Will read later . Watching Highway to Heaven. Stella Stevens it on Cozi TV in Pacific Time Zone now.

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**Joan Gielow** This is just what the doctor ordered!! Good job, Mary! And this is the perfect weather to get a pot of soup going, on the stove or in the crock pot!! And smelling it simmering is also therapeutic!

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**Dennis Osanna:** Yes we will get through this. IM TOO OLD SCHOOL AND FKN STUBBORN NOT TO. LOL

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**Mike Marcum:** I'm certainly tempted to run off to Sedona (where they are still in big time denial), but we are hunkered down here and, under the circumstances, just as fine as one can be. Walking the river, etc. Kind of like a minimum security joint or honor farm, for which I was ineligible in my time. But the guard here (Badge No. *Phyllis*) is strict, chance of escape remote.

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I was thinking about everything we have shared as the Class of 1964, just because we are all about the same age and have witnessed history together. Reaching out to my friends, I posted this on Facebook and feeling it is very poignant right now. Blessings to all of you.

Be safe! **Jennifer Foreman Williams**

*And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.*

*And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.*

*And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live*

*and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed. Kitty O'Meara*

Also from **Jennifer Foreman Williams**

Hoping there are ways that everyone can find that inner peace to weather this most difficult time. Connecting with my own children through FaceTime has helped, but more difficult is kissing my grandchildren through window panes. This too shall pass. Trying to think of creative ways to help. We do have our red heart lit each night on our back hill. We usually do this for Valentine's Day, but seems appropriate now as we try to navigate our lives. I hope it gives hope to even one person who needs it right now. On another note, if you know somebody that just needs a little act of kindness, whether they are grandmas, single moms, small children, someone who lives alone, and you feel they could use a boost, please let me know. I am prepared to send them one of my 12 books. I'll gladly pay the postage. Just message me with a name and address and I'll enclose a little note too. Stay safe, feel loved, and try to look at the blessings you do have. Big hugs from me... [Email Jennifer here](#)

The Williams Family and Sunshine  
the Yellow-bellied Marmot  
Taking a risk to save something at-risk



Story and Artwork by  
Jennifer Foreman de Grassi Williams

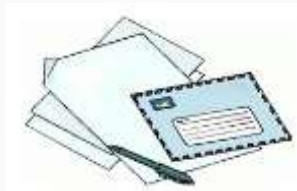


**Kasper Dates**

2551 MacArthur Blvd,  
Oakland, CA 94602

**April 6th CANCELLED**

In the meantime, call those of whom you think (thanks, Mrs Foster), stay calm and wash your hands!



Hi Carol, I always read Skyline's newSnotes and share what I read about our '64 grads with my wife. She keeps saying I should share what we are doing and my book, so I have finally taken her advice, which is usually very good, and attached is information on what we are doing, and also some information about my memoir about my 42 years of teaching. I hope you find it interesting.

Oh, by the way, I have become pen pals, I guess you would say, with Mrs. June Stark Casey, my senior English teacher at Skyline for the last two or three years. I started writing her a few years ago when I learned she had a mastectomy. She was one of my favorite teachers at Skyline. She has a very interesting history, prior to teaching at Skyline! Thanks.

**Kent Willis**

Hi Carol,

I enjoy reading about what '64 Skyline grads are doing these days and I would like to contribute what I have done as well. I retired in 2013, and after a few of years of retirement, I spent a year and a half writing and organizing a memoir of my 42 years of teaching and coaching, entitled *Teaching 42+*. I really enjoyed what I did, but the people who told me that I would know when it was time to retire were right! I currently volunteer at two schools,

teaching a math class one day a week at one, coaching coach 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball at another. My wife and I help with activities at our Swedish Lodge and our church. This book is available on Amazon, and this is a copy of the front cover. The following is copy of a press release:

### Teaching 42+

In his book Teaching 42+, Dr. Kent Willis shares teaching ideas and experiences from over 42 years of teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school in Humboldt County. He has taught workshops in math and drug education at Humboldt State University, Shasta Junior College, and the Humboldt County Office of Education. He has coached basketball and track, and worked as athletic director and vice principal.



He went from graphing algebraic equations on a chalkboard, to graphing on a white board using his laptop and Promethean software in a brand-new school. He offers ideas for discipline, class organization techniques, and suggestions for science experiments. One chapter includes anecdotes from years of basketball trips.

He also explains a campus improvement project and art projects which were undertaken by him and his students. Learn about an interactive art project that involved exchanging gifts with Jackie Chan, and how reading the Diary of Anne Frank led to visits with a local Holocaust survivor and a former member of the Hitler Youth.

Included are discussions of his dedication to drug education and modern-day school safety needs. While teaching, his continuing professional education included earning two master's degrees and a doctorate. These efforts led him to write an invertebrate tidepool text that facilitated beach field trips, design a computer lab used by grades 5 through 8, and research a method that improved student learning in Algebra I.

This book can be purchased on Amazon.

**Kent**



Beware—Forestville on way to Guerneville. I drove right through them, but I think I got bit. Stay away from me, ignore anything I say..... **Mike Marcum**

**Beanie (Diane Breen Helman)**, however reports that everything is fine.

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**Maureen Sarment** is with **Jane Cornwell Darling**.

Jane and I have been friends since third grade at Maryrose grade school in Oakland.



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And though she graduated Fremont, the Bret Harters, John Swetters and Catholic Church members who were associated send big hugs and condolences to **Joan Fenton Truitt** whose consort, Gary, passed quite suddenly last month.



Sad note from **Marsh Standish**

I wanted to let you know that my step-brother, Frank Barrows passed early Saturday (3/21/2020) morning at 2 AM. I hope Don Raabe doesn't mind my forwarding this photo to you. It's a classic.



To Our Chabot Community:

I'm writing to you because Chabot needs your help in the middle of this unprecedented time.

Thanks to you, our dedicated community, Chabot has been a cornerstone institution of the Oakland landscape for over 135 years. Today, the focus of our work, STEM learning and sparking curiosity in learners of all ages is more important than ever.

At this time, in support of our communities and following official guidelines, we have temporarily closed our doors. We have stopped all field trips, events, overnights, and on site visits; combined, a significant source of revenue. However, our work continues. Curiosity never closes and Chabot continues to be here for our community with [Learning Launchpad](#), an online resource where you can explore and learn more about the Universe and Planet Earth.

We look forward to reopening our doors to our community as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, many have asked how they can help. [I ask that you please consider making a gift to Chabot today.](#) We need your help now.

Thank you for being part of Chabot's community.

With gratitude,

Adam Tobin  
Executive Director/CEO

[Donate today](#)



**April**

1     Barbarah Uhlig Harbidge  
3     Kathy Costa Rocco  
5     John Briggs  
6     Diane Breen Helman  
      Bob Bevier  
8     Linda Barkas  
9     Don Sarver  
10    Gail Gershanov Eiselman  
13    Cindy Gibbs Parker  
16    Gerhard Brostrom  
18    Judy Long Lofing  
19    Sharon McWalters  
20    Melissa Silverman Willaby  
23    Dave Siegle  
24    Gary Montgomery  
      Sherri Gribben Hester  
      Tom Simpson  
25    David Niemand  
27    Gary Caso  
28    Shirley Hay  
      Ben Leet  
29    Mark Kamena



**May**

6     Bruce Goddard  
7     John Close  
12    Layne Melmet Goodstein  
19    Ken Hood  
25    Marti Heath



You are receiving our new format for the the Skyline News Note. Please share your thoughts about how you like/dislike it. Send messages to [carol@george-carol.com](mailto:carol@george-carol.com)





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**Our mailing address is:**

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