

Skyline News Note



October 2019

Emergency PSA from Chabot Space and Science Center

**HELP PREVENT FIRE AT THE
CHABOT SPACE AND SCIENCE
CENTER**



WHEN: Saturday 10/12

TIME: 9:00 - 12:00

PLACE: Chabot Space and Science Center

WEAR: long sleeves, long pants and heavy shoes

BRING: your own reusable water bottle

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Join us for an all-out effort to pull French broom, limb up, and clear dead debris on the grounds of the Chabot Space and Science Center. The goal is to reduce the fire risk and at the same time, we may clear the way for the endangered Pallid manzanita which grows onsite.

Since we no longer have the Wildfire Prevention Assessment District, the city budget can only handle so much. We need the community to do the rest.

Can't do the heavy lifting? No problem- we need snacks, sign up help, and folks to direct cars.

Please rsvp so we will have enough snacks and tools. email: cablife@aol.com

Titan Trust - Class of 1964
News and Challenge

A challenge has been made!! Ten of our classmates have said they will match your donation to a combined total of \$1,000. This mean we have the opportunity to raise \$2,000 this month!!! As you recall, we have a goal to hit by April 2020 of \$10,000. As you can see, we are over half way there!! Oh and did I tell you, there is a **deadline for matching donations - November 15th!**



Once again: What is the Titan Trust - Class of 1964? It is the name of the account we have set up with East Bay College Fund (soon to be known as Oakland Promise). Read about the Oakland Promise here. Every child who wants to go to college, should have the promise of getting there.

If you send a check directly to EBCF, please send us an email stating your donation amount so that we can match those funds.

Press the Donate Here Button or Write a Check



In the memo of your check, write:

Titan Trust - Class of 1964

Address: East Bay College Fund
300 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza #430,
Oakland, CA 94612

Do you have a sibling, child or grandchild that went to Skyline? We are looking for other alumni who would be interested in supporting the Titan Trust as their Class Project: Contact Susan Pate or Carol Szymkiewicz



Kasper Dates

2551 MacArthur Blvd,
Oakland, CA 94602

October 8th

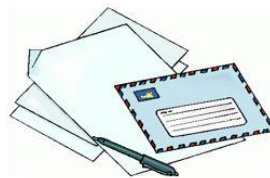
November 4th

December 9th

The Reunion continued to Oslo Norway. **Maureen Sarment** and **Carol Vierra Szymkewicz** had a visit with **Olav Gronlie** at his home in Oslo. They brought him red



Skyline sunglasses as a



Richard MacKenzie:

Went to Alaska after graduation. Enlisted in the Marines in 1965. Went to Vietnam in 1966. Got wounded in Feb. 1967, Spinal Cord Injury. Was discharged in 1967 from Treasure Island, California. Went back to Alaska; lived and worked there for 20+ years in construction. Started a family there. Retired in the early '80s. Tried a little college.

remembrance of our



55th!

Currently living in the Mojave desert.
Yucca, Arizona. Health is good.
Enjoying what time I have left.



Carol Gordon Gilen

Life I married and had 3 kids. In the 70s we moved to Oregon where we raised the kids ,worked and did some farming. We were transferred to another part of Oregon in the 80s where we purchased a larger parcel. Four years ago we were transferred to Sacramento California and Lived up by Auburn Ca. It was beautiful but I really missed Oregon and my family. We were lucky enough to get transferred back last year. We are building a home here which I took on being the contractor for the second time, I think this will be the last time. Its a full time job but pays off. I've been in the medical field most of my life and love it . Although my favorite thing is farming, hay that is, couldn't part with the animals so that was out. I love being very close to the ocean which we make a lot of trips to. We camp a lot which I would say is my favorite thing, although I do love to travel to new places just as much. Two of my kids teach skiing and snow boarding so the family spends a lot of winters in the snow. We like cross country. I have a great dane cross dog and 2 cats, that is the lowest in animals I've had for along time. At one time I was very involved as an animal activist and helped open the first Humane Shelter in K. Falls. Well that's it hope everyone that visits this site is doing well, it has been so great to talk to some of my old school friends, best thing I've done to join this site. Bye, hope to hear from you. Carol

Post-Reunion news from Chabot Science Center:

Chabot's **Conrad Jung (Victor Gong's cousin)** has won the G. Bruce Blair Award

We're proud to announce our longest-serving employee won the WAA 2019 G. Bruce Blair Medal, the 'Nobel Prize' of amateur astronomy. He's had 150,000+ students in his classes and given hundreds of thousands a glimpse through our telescopes.

[More Information.](#)

55 Year Class Reunion 2019

Making the decision to attend our 55 year class reunion should not have been as difficult as it was. After all, I had kept in touch with some of my friends throughout the years, but still the yin and yang of should I, or shouldn't I, weighed heavily on me. The months leading up to the reunion brought back images and moments that I thought I had long forgotten. How silly, and innocent, so many things had become. We lived during a time when making out with your boyfriend made you feel guilty, and sneaking out of the house late at night was something you tried, because you thought you had pulled one over on your parents- hah!!! I worried a little that I would not recognize, or be recognized by, anyone when I showed up. As I didn't live in the Bay Area anymore, and did not attend the get-togethers at Fenton's or Kasper's, I also knew that a huge amount of living had taken place since I last saw many of my classmates. I had memories of our 13th reunion (what?) and how some classmates came with bigger boobs, tighter faces, and a sense of "now I can do what I want", and "world look at me now". Some of us were still stuck in high school, while others had run away.

This was said by someone who had attended a reunion:

"We are all going through a lot of changes — physically, hormonally and psychologically. We are trying to have autonomy, but our needs for that are rarely

met,” she said of the high school years. “But some time afterwards you know you wouldn’t walk behind someone you work with and make fun of him or criticize the shape of friends’ bodies in front of them. When you are finally over all that, then it’s time to attend a reunion.”

Thus, our 30th (I think) had a whole different feel to it. We were parents and grandparents showing off photos of our children and first grandchildren, going bald, putting on extra pounds, and working big jobs and really trying to make a difference in our world.

It really wasn’t until then that I realized just how mortal we are, as the list of classmates lost was too big already, and guess I just was not prepared for that, especially as many were my very dear friends. I never thought I’d leave the Bay Area, and often wonder what life would have been like for me had I stayed. But my Air Force husband, at the time, opened a huge world to me, and certainly my current husband brought my greatest joy with four children of our own and now grandchildren. We all have had a personal journey to live. Mine included having the privilege to be a high school art teacher for nearly 4 decades. I found such passion and worth in that! Oh my, if anyone had told me in high school that I was going to be a high school teacher I simply would not have believed them. I have been privy to the changes that have happened to that age group, comparing it with my own experiences as a high school kid, and being able to have a front row seat to this generation of kids that don’t seem to be as lucky as we were in many respects. I fully realized in my teaching of high school kids that the things they (we) thought were troubling then took us experiences of our own to see that life, post high school, was not necessarily predicated on the things we thought really mattered during our high school years. Life seemed complicated at times for us, but complicated has taken on a whole new meaning for what kids face now with so much social media confusing their young minds. I’d give anything to go back for a day or a year, or just do it all over again. Our class of ’64 was unique and so very lucky in the scheme of things...our new high school, the first full graduating class from it, able to brag that Tom Hanks went to our school. When we graduated the Viet Nam War polarized many of us, and the Beatles had just arrived in America (I bought a lone ticket for

\$25. to see them at the Cow Palace, with my mother driving me to attend alone, with no cell phone to call her for a ride home, but \$.25 to use a pay phone).

I was conflicted and urged to the 55th reunion by many things... Wanting to see my old friends (Rene and I went to kindergarten together, and Marlen and I have stories, while my college roomie (Judy) didn't make it), and certainly I loved hugging as many as were there. Mostly, I wanted quality time with so many people (John, Shayne, Gary, etc.) to hear stories about their lives, and the inevitable forks in our roads (Yogi Berra would say "if you come to a fork in the road, pick it up!").....the conversations that were difficult to do as you'd just get into a wonderful exchange, and then another dear person would come into view that you wanted to acknowledge. That was a frustration... just NOT ENOUGH TIME when we are already feeling a bit on the short end of the clock anyway. What I loved was how amazingly beautiful people were inside and out. I say this as person who has had such huge lapses in times of seeing people, that each person first came to me as a vision of what they looked like in my high school year book, and then fast forward to today when seeing the life lines in person's face spoke a hundred words. How honored I felt to have lived through all those years, collecting sun freckles and lines of living life, sometimes on the edge. Ours, the class of 1964, is the first graduating class of post-World War II baby boom who are still retiring and rather reluctantly (for some). Presidents Bush and Clinton were also the class of '64, and haven't we experienced much as we've seen the first black man become President (got the privilege of meeting President Obama in the White House), and movie stars like Dolly Parton, Susan Sarandon, and Diane Keaton were '64 graduates. For the most part, the baby boom and our parents gave us such great lives and opportunities, even though women had about four choices after high school: housewife, nurse, telephone operator, or teacher. I didn't want to view this reunion as, perhaps, that final time I might see some people, but that is always a thought sleeping somewhere in the recesses. You can't deny that your classmates are the people with whom you share a giant history... like family. They



are people that have seen many of the things you have. Those people, and those experiences, set most of on a path of who we have become today. Social media has certainly kept many of us in touch, and reconnected us. One value anyway!

“We are all going through a lot of changes — physically, hormonally and psychologically. We are trying to have autonomy, but our needs for that are rarely met,” she said of the high school years. “But some time afterwards you know you wouldn’t walk behind someone you work with and make fun of him or criticize the shape of friends’ bodies in front of them. When you are finally over all that, then it’s time to attend a reunion.”

Some people have never attended a reunion, for lack of interest, because they don’t know, because they are afraid they might be judged, or maybe for the first time. I don’t ever want to forget all we’ve seen... good and bad (things that this generation of students can only see in books (?) or online). A reunion is a time to indulge in and take comfort in the fact that we share so much. And like the generations before us, we have much to share before we are gone. So don’t even think you are retired from life just yet! With gratitude and love to Shayne and All of our reunion committee for working tirelessly to keep our family connected.

Blessings-

Jennifer Foreman de Grassi Williams

National Teachers Hall of Fame 2016

Idaho Teacher of the Year 2002

Distinguished Alumni Boise State University

Author for Teaching Point



October

- 01 Carol La Dolce Donato
- 02 Mia Evans Rice
Sharon Smithburn Sutter
- 05 Robin Cole Rauch
- 09 Michael Edward Dickinson
Tom Mortensen
- 10 Sara Hershey Glover
- 13 Heidi Johnson Stolp
- 15 Bob Conn
- 16 Clyde Batavia
- 17 Al Mathewson
- 18 Karl Hoenack
- 21 Lois Roberts
- 24 Nancy Brick Robinson
- 30 Elizabeth Beeby
Sharon Allphin
Bob Sabatini
- 31 Arlene Moss Sherman



November

- 01 Barbara Bowles Holt
- 03 Clint Rylee
Karen Dodge Wetherbee
- 04 Steve Whitgob
- 05 Sheila Oxley
- 06 Barbara Renouf
- 08 Sidney Cummings
Joel Kuechle
- 11 Joetta Christopher
- 10 Barbara Smith Stott
Jennifer Foreman Williams
- 11 Tom Smith
- 12 Lorrie Miller
Marlene Siegel Anthony
- 13 Carol Vierra Szymkiewicz
- 14 Tom LaMarre
Kent Willis
- 15 Carlee Wells King
Joann Torbutt
- 17 Cathi Trebotich Beaubien
- 19 Gayle Smith
- 20 Ron Wofford
- 21 Nancy Klinkner Mulligan

- 26 Christopher Perry
- 27 Diane Breen Helman
Rick Steen
- 28 Diane Squaglia Fly
- 29 Jeff Prevost
- 30 Calvin Brugge

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



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