

Skyline News Note



Post Reunion News August 2019

Where are the pictures of the Reunion?
Click on the reason we were at Chabot and enjoy!!

Also: Join our Facebook Group for more pictures: Skyline High Class of 1964
Click on the Facebook Icon in the footer below.



[A Reunion Tale by Mary Wood](#)

Going to the reunion at Chabot was like driving to school as the Observatory is only 2.5 miles away from Skyline High. Even older memories came back seeing the telescopes after the reunion speeches; memories of school trips to the old Chabot near Mills in elementary school, and maybe 7th grade science. But that was afterwards; the reunion began with an outdoor reception in sunny but not hot weather and ended with group pictures just as it started to get cold. We adjourned to a rather cafeteria-like space, with tables charmingly decorated with red touches by Dhyanis Carniglia.

The vibe was different from the 50th which I remember as a big party with a fair amount of drinking and a lot of people from out of state. We did have Victor and Fanny Gong from Manhattan; Kathy Cotton Parker from Hawaii; and the farthest traveler, Bob Blesse from Italy. This reunion seemed more sedate with a preponderance of couples. But I might have been hyper-aware of couples as I lost my husband a month after the 50th reunion.

Biggest difference though is we're over 70, and 70 is a dividing line. We aren't "old, old" ----that is 80----but life is getting complicated with issues like night driving and whether to take the shuttle from the parking garage at Chabot because of our replacement joints---or the real ones---are a little stiff. And we've lost more classmates. (15% of class is listed.) And as those we knew personally at Skyline pass away, we begin to realize how many people we didn't know in high school. (A point made by Shayne in a newsletter.) Victor Gong in his presentation called out the names of local elementary and junior high schools, and I realized how we locals mostly hung out with our elementary and junior high school friends in high school.

Reunions are intense, meaningful experiences for me. My goal for the 20th (I think it



was) was to get there, but I chickened out. As I was standing outside my car I thought "I wonder if I have a tire jack?" I looked in the trunk; I didn't. I didn't go. Of course, I had owned the car a year without thinking about tire jack. And I had two tickets.

I finally made the 45th, because I had promised some friends I would go. I felt like a little kid, getting away from the table on my own a few times to talk to other people I knew, then scurrying back to safety of friends. My goal for the 50th was to have a good time despite the fact I hated my dress. I did. That reunion I felt I had graduated to Real Adulthood. I had gotten over most of my shyness (particularly with men) and resentment of "popular" people. It was a peak experience.

At this age, I find it comforting to know that there are people who remember me when I was young. When I meet new people now, they see the 72 year old woman. For this reunion, since I no longer to prove anything to myself, my goal was to get a gorgeous dress. In fact I got three outfits, in case it was hot. They will also be good for internet dating if I get one of these "fine dining" aficionados, although I really am a hamburger and beer girl.

I'd like to compliment a couple of people on the serious sides of both reunions. The 50th had a slide show recognizing the alums who had been in the military and got the information to Carol Szymkiewicz on time. Although I am anti-war, I appreciate that most of those who served believed it was important to fight for our country. They held to the values we were raised with. After all, at least once a week in grade school we sang "The Star Spangled Banner", which refers to a War of 1812 battle. In a country which is becoming polarized, I think we need to realize the sincerity of other points of view and realize that our differences are not a matter of right or wrong, but of incompatible value systems. Compromise may not be possible. In which case the majority rules.

This reunion the serious side was "Giving back" as represented by the Titan Trust. Sue Bingham Pate conceived and organized this project to give financial aid and mentoring to a graduating senior at Skyline. The letters of support from Dale

Matsui, Stan Lore and Judy Belcher added a personal touch that made this more than “another darn charity”. Class tech guru Carol Szymkiewicz set up the Pay Pal connection. Judy Belcher aided in fund-raising. Don Sarver will mentor our young man who is going to Cal.

Also Shayne gave a very touching speech of which I remember how I felt but not a word, so I hope it is in this newsletter. We ended the evening as we did after many events at Skyline....struggling to get off the hill through the fog watching the markers in the road.

Dear Shayne, Carol, and Gay... especially whoever among you found me and helped me reunite w/ 1964. Yeah! You found me at exactly the right time.

The food was the best, catered, I have had in recent history.....and the setting was truly wonderful. I would have stayed longer if I weren't solo, facing a windy, non-lit road (+ Hwy 17).....and with a GPS that chose not to work—for whatever reason.....perhaps remote location. It was a bit daunting!

Halfway down the road, I realized that I still had my name tag.....In case you intended to recycle and reuse. Oops! (Editor's Note: Nope, that was a souvenir!)

I am already committed to attending the next Skyline reunion, and I plan to stay 'til the bitter end.

Much love and a hug to all....My friends (and mini-United-Nations)....who are as loving and caring as more should be,



Virginia Braun Lafever

Irene Zizack Garrett, joining with many alums in the body replacement contest, did not attend the Reunion due to recent gall bladder surgery and a knee replacement. She does, however, wish everyone well and looks forward to seeing you some time in the future.



John Close had a splitting headache and did not attend Reunion... probably the only good excuse for not attending, save that of **Stan Lore** whose drive from South Carolina was interrupted with mechanical difficulties in Oklahoma. Feel badly for those that could not/chose not to attend, but as **Pete Ramos** says, "See you at the 60th".

Titan Trust - Class of 1964

Thank you again to all that donated to the Titan Trust through East Bay Scholarship Fund.

Shout out to the Olympians that donated \$250.00 or more. Thanks for your generosity

Kathleen Catanho
Richard Clark
Gene Dangel
Victor Gong
Stan Lore
Don Sarver
Dale Matsui Satake
Tom Stallard

36 alums have donated to our scholarship. Can we get 64 to donate to '64?

GOOD NEWS! Now there are Two Ways to donate to Titan Trust!

Besides pressing that big red button, you can now write a check directly to East Bay College Fund.

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



**Donate Here
The Titan Trust**

We will be updating you next month on a new monetary goal for this fund.

New Feature

This is the first in a series of tributes to teachers at Skyline High School who positively impacted the lives of students in the Class of 1964. If you have a story to tell, please send it to Shayne Del Cohen or Carol Szymkiewicz for publication in the monthly newSnote.

Coach Clem Daniels was with us for a relatively short time, the Spring Semesters of our Junior and Senior years, because, of course, during those Fall Semesters, he was a star running back for the Oakland Raiders. During this time, Mr. Daniels certainly made an impression on many of us, and not only as head coach of the wrestling and golf teams. He also taught Physical Education and this is where I got to know him. In the second half of our Senior Year, we would play one-on-one basketball games on the playground outside the gymnasium and he would beat me up physically without really trying because he was so strong. However, Clem didn't cut me any slack, or any of us for that matter in any situation. Perhaps it was because he knew we had to learn to deal with many difficult situations in life, having grown up amid racism in Texas of the 1950s. Clem lived in an apartment near Lake Merritt and after our basketball games, he would drive me downtown to the Oakland Tribune, where I started working as a copy boy in the Sports Department in January of 1964. During those drives, Clem instilled in me the belief that I could one day cover the Raiders for the Tribune; that happened seven years later when I became the youngest beat writer covering an NFL team at age 24. After Sports Editor George Ross gave me the great news, one of the first things I did was drive to Clem Daniels Liquors on High Street in Oakland to tell Clem, and most importantly, to thank him.

"Mister, I always knew you had it in you, but you are the one who made it happen," he told me, adding how proud he was of me, something he said many

times when we saw each other at Raiders games and other functions through the years. Other times, he didn't have to tell me because I could hear it in his voice.

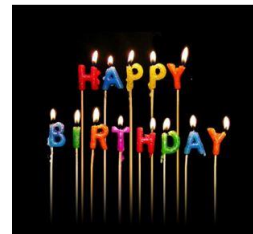
Mr. Daniels probably had more of an impact on my life than anyone except my parents and George Ross. When Clem died earlier this year, it actually felt like a death in the family. Not only was Clem Daniels my teacher - he was my friend, mentor and my hero.

By Tom LaMarre



August

- 03 Dick Johns
Rene Dokos Rores
Richard Ott
- 04 David Schendel
- 07 Bruce Quan
- 12 Bob Main
- 14 John Rochios
- 15 Doug Wood
- 17 Shayne Del Cohen
- 17 Frank Vendetti
- 18 Marilyn Hope
- 18 Susan Louise



September

- 01 Margaret Rait Muat Jones
Virginia Keller
Larry Day
Bill Dye
Marsha Haner Johnson
Phil Rocco
- 06 Steven Daniel
- 04 Michael B. Myers
- 07 Sharyn Carroll
- 08 James Morgan
- 09 Tom Cherry
- 13 Phil Rocco

20 Cathy Freel Bellinghausen
20 Mike Marcum
21 Maureen Sarment
23 Ken McCracken
25 Bob Falaschi
Geri Sanford Saunders
26 Janet Streb Greenwood
27 Donna Jenkins
28 DeeAna McLemore
29 Katheen Hender Catanho
30 Roxanne Vallis
31 Bob Blesse
Lynne Beitelspacher Head

14 Tom Lamarre
16 Donna Goeppert Knobbe
17 Richelle Lieberman
Willard Newman II
Neal John Evans
20 Dennis Osanna
21 Terrence Robert Monohan
22 Barbara Lauck Johns
Terry Sanzo
Larry Woods
24 John Herrera
Bob Barklow

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