



Panther POSTSCRIPTS



PUBLISHED BY THE BURLINGAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - SPRING / SUMMER 2014

Co-Presidents Message

Judy Falk Chiasson & Terry Naylor

The time is here! It's time to say goodbye to the last paper edition of the *Panther Postscripts* that will be mailed to your home. But it is almost time to sign on to the newly created and exciting home of the Burlingame High School Alumni Association to find the latest version of the newsletter and so much more!

- Our web edition of the *Panther Postscripts* newsletter
- Information about reunions
- BHS Alumni events
- Photo gallery
- BHS history
- Registration for events
- Purchase BHS gear
- Latest news about your own class

By this summer, you will be able to find all of the alumni news and history on the new website at burlingamealumni.org:

All graduating classes will be invited to set up their own page on the BHSAA site. Some are already ahead of the game, with a website, a *Facebook* page, or a *Twitter* following. Some are just beginning.

The BHS Alumni Board and a committee composed of **Sue Mendell '66**, **Serenetta Leoni '66**, and consultant **Sirenetta Leoni** have been working for months to help us reach into 21st century technology and communications. Look for us on the web at burlingamealumni.org in a couple of months. We will send reminders to every email address we have and will trust that you will help by sending the message to your BHS friends. We'll see you on the web!

Principal's Message

By P. Di Yim

"Ooh! Ah! You wish you were a Panther!" This is a chant that I have heard repeatedly at different athletic events over the past seven months in my first year as principal of Burlingame High School. I've heard it chanted by our cheerleaders. I've heard it chanted by the BHS crowd so loudly that the bleachers shook from the noise. I've heard it chanted with enthusiasm by proud parents at a recent championship basketball game that ended in a great win for BHS Panthers. However, the chant that sticks in my mind the most is an exchange of four 6-year old girls at a championship boys' soccer game a few weeks ago. One girl was instructing her friends the correct way to say, **"Ooh! Ah! You wish you were a Panther!"** It had a little bit of attitude and a great deal of spirit. Seeing this future

generation of BHS students showing such animation at the prospect of being a Panther one day made me delight in another small but significant part of the prevalent BHS legacy. We are indeed fortunate to be Panthers.

****ANNUAL BOARD MEMBERS**** GENERAL MEETING

All graduates are encouraged to attend
When: May 19TH 5:30pm - BHS alumni room
Precedes the 6:30pm Awards and
Scholarships Meeting

Class Reunions

THE CLASS OF 1952 is now taking reservations for their **"coming of age" 80th birthday bash** to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 20 and 21, 2014. Join us Saturday for a cocktail party and buffet. This will be followed by a cruise/luncheon out of Jack London Square on Sunday. For more info, or to make reservations, contact: **Marty Hurley Roise** - mjroise@sbcglobal.net, **Jill Gellerman Opper** - ojilda@comcast.net, **Pat Gfroerer** - patgofer@comcast.net. Cost for the reunion: Saturday \$25.00 p/p, Sunday \$90.00 p/p.

THE CLASS OF 1959 Join us on the weekend of Sept. 19-21, 2014 for our **55th Reunion!** Saturday at the Coyote Point Yacht Club. More to follow. terry.naylor@yahoo.com

THE CLASS OF 1968 will be celebrating their **45th Reunion** on November 16, 2014 from 6:30 to 11:30 PM. The reunion will be held at Poplar Creek Grill at Coyote Point. Reservations must be received by October 31, 2014. If you haven't already made your reservation or want more information, please contact **Maureen Mazzarella Redmond**: Ph: 916-989-2489 email: jredmond@jps.net

CLASS OF 1974 has planned their **40th Reunion** for Sept 20, 2014 from 6:00-11:30pm at **Sparky's Hot Rod Garage** in San Carlos the **#1 reunion destination**. With so much to see and do, this might be the first reunion that your spouse actually looks forward to. email **Sue Peletta** peletta@pacbell.net or check our Facebook page **"Burlingame High School Class of 1974"** for more details.

PLAY BALL!

The 6th Annual Alumni Baseball game and Golf Tournament are coming in May! Golf will be played on Friday, May 2nd at Palo Alto Muni Course. On Saturday, May 3rd, Alumni baseball will be at Washington Park, followed by a BBQ at the Rec Center. The events are low key and a lot of fun for all physical abilities. Contact Rusty Knudsen to play in this year's event. BHSAlumni74@gmail.com

'Connecting with Jo' An Alumni Update

By Jo-Ellen Arnaudo Ellis '58

30's **Earle W. Jacobs '37** says: "I may be one of only a few left. In my retirement I have taken up writing. My third wife, Alla, finally got me to have some of my stories published. There are now about seventeen or so in publication. If anyone is interested, they can be found in the on-line catalogues of Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble. Click on books and type my full name with initial in the search box. Some of them you can open to read the first few pages and some of them will let you read the author's bio, which mentions Burlingame High School. I am now 94 and have lived in this same house since September 1963. My sister, **Betty Mae Jacobs Brown '39**, is 92 and a widow. She has an apartment in an assisted living complex in Redlands.

40's Eleanor Evans Borkenhagen '45

wrote to inform us of the death of Theodore **"Ted" Roeder '43** in Montana. He is survived by his wife, Sandy, his sister **Helen Roeder Lund '45**, and his brother, **Ernest "Ernie" Roeder '51**. Later, his wife, Sandy, called to tell us that Ted had passed away from leukemia at age 88 on August 22, 2013. They had been married for 22 years. His first wife, **Mary Wettleson Roeder '44** passed away in 1998. He is survived by his two sons, Phillip Roeder and Tress Roeder.

Suzannah Hayes, daughter of **Burton Lloyd Hainline '45**, wrote to tell us her father passed away at her home in Columbia, SC January 30, 2014. After graduating from BHS, Burt enlisted in the Navy and served as a gunner's mate third-class on Guam. He earned a BA at the University of CA, Santa Barbara ('52), then enlisted in the Army & served in Germany during its post-war reconstruction. Burt earned a Master's degree in journalism from Stanford University ('54) and began his journalism career in 1955 as a reporter for The Fresno Bee. After living in Bakersfield he and his wife, Mary, moved to Santa Rosa, CA, where he served as City Manager for four years. Burt's work in public service eventually led to his position as Labor Relations Specialist for the Veteran's Administration in 1970, from which he retired in 1997. Burt was predeceased by his wife of 50 years, and eldest son, Chris. He is survived by his son, David, two daughters, Amy Christiansen and Suzannah Hayes, twelve grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Suzannah said Burt always looked forward to receiving and sharing his *Panther Postscripts*.

Tom Foster '47 tells us: "I regret to report that **George W. Porter '47**, one of BHS's finest athletes, died on March 7, 2013. Old Number

44 was 1st string PAL tackle and placekicker on our 1946 Championship Team. George continued his playing career at Texas Christian University then San Jose State where he was All-Western Conference tackle and Team Captain his senior year. At tight end with George was Bill Walsh who also had a pretty good coaching career. George was drafted to the NFL with the Philadelphia Eagles and played one game with the SF 49ers when he decided to begin his coaching and teaching career. His next 40 years took him to many schools and universities. At Jackson HS he had a 26-6 record. At Monterey Peninsula College (39-12) he took them to three bowl games and the Coast Conference Championship in 1961. George was an offensive coordinator at Washington State and Utah State and head coach of the semipro Sacramento Capitols. He then returned to teaching and school administration with the Grant Union High School District, retiring in 1993. George was a great sportsman and a great friend to all he knew." He is survived by his wife, Carol, his brothers **Leo Porter '59** and **William "Bill" Porter '53**, his sister **Virginia Porter Klemme '49**, and his children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter.

Phyllis Connelly Bartlett '47 wrote to tell us that her classmate **Jeanne Aurel Schneider '47** passed away on August 29, 2013. A memorial was held for Jeanne at her home in France last summer. Jeanne was the Valedictorian of the class of 1947. If you would like to read Jeanne's full obituary, go to: <http://www.hullschapel.com/obituaries>

Barbara Routh Sorby '47 writes that "All is well here in Sun City Roseville." She celebrated 65 years of marriage. She has six kids, eleven grandchildren, and two great grandsons.

50's **Lawrence "Larry" Mellema '50** passed away on August 6, 2013. He was vice president of Transdyne Inc., an electrical engineering company, for 30 years. Larry was one of the founding members of the Castle Oaks Senior Golf Club in Lone, CA. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn, his daughter, Laurel, his sons, Jan, Erik and Greg, three grandchildren, and brothers **Dr. James "Jay" Mellema '58** and **Michael Mellema '62**. Jay is a retired pediatrician. Michael is also retired and lives in the "old Burlingame homestead".

Mike Hurd '54 wrote in January: Although I love my little historic town of Colebrook, CT, and enjoy the many facets of my early colonial heritage, at present it is below zero causing me to think fondly of my youthful years (sometimes rebellious) in Burlingame – 1945-1954. I still have a number of California friends dating back to BHS and Grammar School. Hope to visit again before the lengthening shadows disappear. Thanks to all who keep the *Panther Postscripts* in print – always look forward to the next issue.

Joanne "Jody" Matthews McMillan '51, wrote the following note: My brother, **John Lee Matthews, 1955**, died in July of last year. Johnny was a multi-talented person; an outstanding athlete, Golden Gloves boxer, All-PAL in football, and baseball player. He also

did a stint in the National Guard in high school. After graduation, he attended University of Colorado at Boulder on a football scholarship and later transferred to S.F. State to finish school. He was a decorated military veteran who left his mark on many seminal moments in U.S. history. As a First Lieutenant in the Marines in Cuba during the Missile Crisis, "his platoon, without ammunition, was in sight of the enemy. They unflinchingly held their positions." As a Captain in the Marines serving in Vietnam from 1967-1969, Johnny was one of few leaders who could say truthfully that he had never lost a man. The Vietnamese called him Big, Big Captain. Once John left the Marines, he served as a Deputy Sheriff in Los Angeles for 26 years. He was a compassionate man and would help people in various ways. He carried blankets in his car, giving them out to homeless people where he found them. Always on the lookout for Veterans, he helped many get the benefits they had earned by their service. He was first and foremost a Marine and a dedicated family man. Note: If you would like to read the whole letter from Jody, search for: John Matthews - BHS Class 1955.

Chester Parks '57 tells us: Laurie (Hillsdale 1957) and I have sold our house in PA and purchased a 45-foot motorhome. We are now touring the US and Canada. Our address in SD is just a mail drop for us. The destination is wherever we feel like stopping, mostly south in the winter and north in the summer.

Recently, **Marilyn Forrest Hess '59** informed us that her twin brother, **Melvin Forrest '60**, died on September 19, 2013. He was married to Blanche Duffey's daughter **Kathy Duffey '64**, and they had two children, a boy and a girl. In addition, she tells us that her friend, **Martha Carlson Lanning '62** died in 2013.

60's **Bruce Seligman '61**, Senior Vice President of Morgan Stanley, sent an article that was published in the Albuquerque Journal last November. The article states that Bruce was selected "Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser" for raising funds for organizations including Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Central New Mexico, Special Olympics of New Mexico and the New Mexico chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. His note says: "I was recently honored on National Philanthropy Day as the Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year by the New Mexico Association of Fundraising Professionals. Most of my work has been done on behalf of the Albuquerque Boys and Girls Clubs. I have lived in Albuquerque since 1965, but keep up to date on BHS through my brother **Steven '68**. This award is for work on behalf of local charities for the past 30+ years."

Russ Will tells us that his wife **Millie Haslett Will '63** passed away on August 21, 2013 in Roseville, CA. Millie was born in Wilkesburg, PA on Friday, April 13, 1945 and was nicknamed "Jinx". In 1956, she moved to the Bay Area and attended Burlingame schools. She had a long career with the San Mateo Sheet Metal Contractors Association where she became executive director. She and her son became partners in Golden Gate Towing which is now located in Sacramento. She also worked with her husband in his business,

Russ Will Mechanical in Hayward. She loved to travel and was known as a great hostess. She especially enjoyed time with family and friends.

Robin Anderson Essner '64 writes: "After 15 years of working as a cook/pastry chef at dude ranches in Arizona, Wyoming, and fishing lodges in Alaska, I have decided to settle down in Placerville, CA. Returning to the Bay Area where two daughters, four grandkids, brothers and their families live is a good feeling. It's time to start another chapter of adventures. I will be doing Yoga, kayaking, cooking and taking time for my art, of course with trips to Denver to visit my son. I'm so looking forward to our 50th reunion."

Barbara Jordan sent the following note: "My husband, **Mike Jordan '66** died in February of 2012 of pleural Mesothelioma at the age of 64. We were married in 1971 so I attended all of his reunions with him. The Class of '66 welcomed me enthusiastically, which I greatly appreciate ... He was a great guy and a wonderful father, grandfather and husband. I miss him every day." For more information go to www.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/

Jack Greene '67 writes from Paso Robles that his co-authored the book, "HITLER STRIKES NORTH: The Nazi Invasion of Norway and Denmark, April 9, 1940" which appeared last spring. It is his 6th and final book and he thought you would enjoy seeing it. The book is published by Frontline in the United Kingdom (part of the Pen & Sword Empire) and is handled by Casemate in the States. It is part of the History Book Club offering and so far the reviews are pretty positive. His co-author is Alessandro Massignani who is an Italian living in Valdarno near Vicenza. He tells us that he enjoys the newsletter. Note: All of his books are listed on Amazon.Com.

Shirley Kadlec McCarthy '69 says: "I just moved to the Del Webb Community in Manteca, after living in Fremont in the Bay Area for 36 years, and previously to Foster City. I am now enjoying my retirement from the Fremont Unified School District, in the HR Dept. after serving my 15+ years. Before that, I worked in the title and escrow business as an Escrow Officer for 28 years."

70's It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Joseph "Joe" Mazzarella '74** on January 6, 2014. He is the brother of **Maureen Mazzarella Redmond '68**, **Josette Mazzarella Wuerthner '72** and brother-in-law of **James "Jim" Redmond '64**. He was a Juvenile Diabetic since the age of 18 months which ultimately caused many health issues in his short life of 57 yrs. To sum up the life and character of Joe is no easy task. He had numerous qualities and trademarks that set him apart from anyone else. From his signature word "Realistically", to his obsession with Harley Davidsons, his love for family, and his endearing positive attitude to take life as it came and not complain, Joe was a strong-willed, loving, and funny man. He will undoubtedly be missed by our family and his many friends.

We received the following note from **Lee Ann Hittenberger Schieberg '78**: "Thank you for

the lovely memorial of my mom, Janiece Hittenberger, in the Panther Postscripts. She was truly an amazing woman, artist and inspiration to many. She is deeply missed. Also, I wanted to let you know that **Mr. Rando** (Choir and band director at BHS for 15 years) passed away last fall. Again thank you for honoring my mom."

Gone but not Forgotten
Burlingame High School Staff

Frank Bert Firpo Jr. died on Friday, January 10, 2014. He was born in San Francisco and attended St. Cecilia School ('55), St Ignatius College Preparatory ('59) and Santa Clara University ('63). While at Santa Clara, he met the love of his life, Sharon Marie (McHugh) Firpo, and they were married in 1964. Frank was a teacher at BHS for 39 years. In addition to teaching, he coached the school's boys and girls basketball, girls volleyball and softball teams. He was a devoted Giants and Santa Clara basketball fan, and attended every game possible. In retirement he developed a love of cooking, world travel, gardening and cheering on his grandsons in their own sports. He also served at St. Robert's as lector and Eucharistic minister. Frank's obituary can be found at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/>

David H. Studebaker passed away on Dec. 12, 2013, at the age of 94. He lived his adult life in San Francisco and on the Peninsula. He earned his BA at LaVerne College in Southern CA and his Masters of Divinity at the University of Chicago and Bethany Seminary. In the 1940s and early 1950s, David was pastor of the San Francisco Church of the Brethren. He married Mary Esbensen and they had 3 children. In 1954 David earned his teaching certificate. He taught Social Studies at Capuchino High School, where later he became Dean of Boys. During the 1960s, he became the Principal of Crestmoor High. Eventually he returned to teaching, working at Burlingame High where he received the "Teacher of the Year" Award. While at Cap, he married Helen Logsdon Lee, remaining married until her passing in 2008. David enjoyed tennis and helped organize matches. He was an international traveler and tour leader for students in the AIFS program to Europe. David's obituary can be found at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/>

Donald Duncan "Deke" Harger (BHS Teacher 1958 to 1988) passed away on January 21, 2014. Deke earned his Masters degree at Stanford in 1950 and then enlisted

in the Navy. He went on to Officer Candidate School and became an intelligence officer. He had a tour of duty in Kodiak, Alaska and after active Navy service, he continued in the Navy Reserve intelligence program, retiring as a Commander. Deke was a science teacher for 33 years. He taught three years in middle school in Ventura and 30 years at BHS. He was also a yearbook advisor. He retired in 1988, and the BHS faculty presented him with another love of his life, Daisy the dog. Deke loved to backpack in the mountains and he shared his love of backpacking with students, his children, and friends. He was very involved with his church and spiritual life. Deke taught Bible classes and conducted seminars that are remembered to this day. Deke was a deeply religious man and he showed others by the way he lived: with kindness, care, and generosity. Harger was a man of many interests. He was an avid gardener, played the guitar and piano, and was an enthusiastic reader. He volunteered at the SF Airport with Traveler's Aid, and helped transport elderly patients to their doctor appointments. Even with all of this, always put his family first. He will be remembered as a loving, humorous, and considerate man, and will be missed greatly. Deke's entire obituary can be found at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate/>

Charles W. "Chuck" Mink passed away January 4, 2014 from heart failure at Mills Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame. Chuck was born and raised in Merced, CA. He tried his hand at a variety of jobs, from cutting fruit, to building and glazing doors, to being a weigh master at a packing plant. He followed his interest in science and math to UC Berkeley where he earned his degree and teaching credential. Chuck married Margaret Laverne Pitts and they moved to Lomita Park (now Millbrae). He started his 37-year career in the San Mateo Union High School District, half at BHS as a teacher of physics, chemistry, earth science and drivers training and the other half in administration, where he focused on curriculum development. He was a Chair of the District Academy of Instruction. He taught summer school at Cal as well. In 1952, Chuck and Margaret moved to Burlingame and started a family with four children of their own, and a niece and nephew. Chuck shared his love of music and the great outdoors with his family through hiking, camping and exploring the natural beauty of California. Chuck sat on the Burlingame Planning Commission for 25 years. After the passing of Margaret, Chuck married Carol Clifford, a Social Science teacher at San Mateo High. They traveled to Alaska, Hawaii, Europe, Africa, and a total solar eclipse cruise. They enjoyed driving trips throughout the United States and enjoyed

their time at their cabin in Idaho. In retirement, Chuck became a docent at the California Academy of Science and the Coyote Point Museum. He was a life-long learner through the World Affairs Council, staying current in education issues and earning his private pilot's license. Find Chuck's obituary at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sfgate>

"Where Are They Now?"

Linda Ragozzino Cooper '67 writes;

Like several girls in my graduating class, I married the summer after graduation. With the war in Vietnam going on, my husband applied for the Air Force and was accepted just before the draft notice came from the army. I followed him to Mississippi and then Italy for four years. I truly enjoyed our time in Italy and exploring other parts of Europe. My firstborn daughter was born in Wiesbaden, Germany in 1970 while stationed in Italy.

After returning to the states and civilian life in 1972, we set about building our life. After the birth of my second daughter we moved to Marin County.

My husband became a real estate broker and we utilized his knowledge and many other talents and bought, renovated and redecorated many homes, flipping them at a profit. Marin was a good place to raise children and the timing was good for our business venture.

So why does my story take a turn? I'm not really sure but the marriage ended in 1984 and life went on.

Now I had a teenager and a preteen to finish raising and a career to start building. My background was in health and fitness and I put both to good use. I became a surgical technician and a personal trainer and I managed the fitness department of Rolling Hills Club in Novato, California.

As busy as all that was I found time to start dating and met my current husband. He was a driving instructor at the Bob Bondurant School of high-performance driving and had a successful career as a race car driver.

When we married we followed the school to Phoenix Arizona where we lived for 10 years. We did a lot of race related travel and saw most of the United States.

My daughters grew to be smart, beautiful loving, women. Both daughters gave me three beautiful grandchildren.

My husband retired in 2000. We bought property near Bozeman Montana. I love big sky country and we are still there today. We still travel as much as we can. I must say life is good!

BURLINGAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Co-Presidents; Terry Naylor '59, Judy Chiasson '59 – Editor Panther Postscripts; Rusty Knudsen '74

Kay "Kiki" Arnaudo '59, Florence Smith Bulatovich '59, Tom Chase '57, Margo Wohler Cheechov '61, John Chiapelone '50, Judy Falk Chiasson '59, Bob Cissna, Naomi Ziff Cissna '51, Peter Cleaveland '58, Jo-Ellen Arnaudo Ellis '58, Ted Glasgow '53, Ariene Borelli Hipsher '55, Rusty Knudsen '74, Leonard "Len" Lubrano '64, Mike McQueen '55, Susan "Sue" Glass Mendell '66, Connie Wyant Mills '59, Terry Naylor '59, Suzanne Stebenne Sullivan '53, Sandra Singer Waterman '53, Dennis Zell '86

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1 Mangini Way
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Spring/Summer 2014
Burlingame Alumni Association
Newsletter

Attention: We are updating our files. Please check your mailing label and let us know if there are any errors. **Send corrections** to Jo-Ellen Arnaudo Ellis c/o BHS Alumni Association, 1 Mangini Way, Burlingame, CA 94010 or email BHSAlumAssoc@aol.com

BHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Enclosed is my/our check payable to: BHS Alumni Association
 - For membership dues: \$15 per alum per year. For Life Membership: \$100 per alum.
 - For the BHSAA programs (tax deductible). For the BHSAA scholarships (tax deductible).
 - For the BHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame (tax deductible).
 - For a donation "In Honor of /In Memory of..." please attach note (tax deductible).
- PLEASE UPDATE MY MAILING ADDRESS.
- Please send the Panther Postscripts to the following BHS alum (name and address attached).

Mail to: BHS Alumni Association, 1 Mangini Way, Burlingame, CA 94010 -1904 Today's Date _____

Please Print

Name _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Maiden Name _____ Your BHS Class Year _____ in Jan _____ in Jun _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____ + _____

Phone (____) _____

Email address: _____