

MUSTANG MEMORIES

San Dieguito has provided excellence in public education to thousands of students since 1936.

Please join us as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary!

Spring 2012

<http://sdafoundation.com/alumni/>

Vol. 5, Issue 2

Our Founders' Reception

On October 21, 2011, our Founders came back to school. *Page 2*



Memorial Update

Our veterans memorial is about to get spruced up, thanks to SDA sophomore Nick Post. *Page 3*



Which teacher inspired you?

When we asked alumni, "Which teacher inspired you?" we got some fun responses. *Page 3*



Mr. Liggett's family honored

Thespian alumni attended a special event in the new Clayton E. Liggett Theater. *Page 2*



San Dieguito's 75th anniversary celebration continues with "The Principal's Tea"

Please join us for light refreshments, school tours, and a chance to catch up with former teachers and staff. (No need for a trip to the principal's office!)



San Dieguito's first Principal's Tea will be held March 19, 2012, from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in the Media Center at San Dieguito High School Academy.

All former faculty and staff are invited—but let us know if you are coming by March 15 so we may have badges made up for you.

Light refreshments will be served and tours of the campus provided.

Alumni are welcome to attend this event, too. Come back and meet up with your favorite teachers, coaches, administrators, and other staff!

For more information, please call Bonnie Wren at 760-753-1121, x5085 or email sda.alumni@gmail.com. Updates will be posted to our website and Facebook page. Go, Mustangs!

Faculty and staff at San Dieguito Union High School, 1936-37. Front: Raymond Brock, Cathryn Beseke, Mary V. Magnuson, Bernice Pederson, Dorothy M. Brass, Earle C. Enholm. Middle: Maryline Barnard, Leola Felton, Martha Boggs, unknown (possibly June Beebe), Margherita Domenigoni. Back: Forrest Lindsay, Glen A. Moody, Gilbert S. Moore, Arthur Main, Claire W. Jobe, John D. Purviance.

A message from the Alumni Committee Chair



I'm Michael Fouts, class of 1987 and chair of the San Dieguito High School Academy Alumni Committee, sponsored by the SDA Foundation.

The Alumni Committee was formed this year in response to alumni requests. Its mission is to make it easier for alumni to reconnect with San Dieguito, but right now I can think of three ways alumni may do so:

- 1) Serve on our Alumni Committee or a class reunion committee. We welcome your input as to how to make it easier for alumni to reconnect with the school, but your class' reunion committee will be glad to have you on board, too!
- 2) Join San Dieguito's Speaker's Bureau. Teachers often need classroom speakers with specific job skills to talk to students. Visit the Alumni website and sign up at: <http://sdafoundation.com/alumni/join-us/>
- 3) Attend school events. There are wonderful theatre productions throughout the year, exciting athletic games to watch, and we're always looking for alumni musician judges for Battle of the Bands. Come back to school and experience the sights and sounds of today's Mustangs!

San Dieguito is 75-years-young this year. Together we can rekindle our Mustang spirit and help preserve the school's rich history.

Michael Fouts
AlumniCommitteeChair@gmail.com

Mr. Liggett's family honored in reception at new theater

The San Dieguito Academy Foundation hosted a lively gathering on Friday evening January 20th to dedicate and unveil the new Clayton E. Liggett Theater lobby sign. The entire Liggett family, as well as many former thespians, were in attendance to share stories and renew acquaintances.

About 50 people attended a pre-performance reception including Joe Drago ('79) who was the driving force behind the naming of the theater. SDA Principal Tim Hornig, Drama Teacher Stephanie Siers and her current theater students were also on-hand to honor the memory of the late drama teacher.

Following the reception, guests attended the evening's performance of *Metamorphoses* and observed our talented thespians in action. As one audience member was heard to say, "I wouldn't miss this for anything," and we agree! It was a wonderful tribute to a teacher whose wisdom, talent and abilities influenced the lives of countless students.

We hope to see more former thespians and San Dieguito alumni at future performances in the Clayton E. Liggett Theater. View this season's schedule at <http://bit.ly/xjSGCN>.



Founders' Reception guests, left to right: Mary Arballo Magaña ('40), Charlene Bunyard, Bud Bunyard ('43), Natalia Zimmerman, Harry Zimmerman ('43), Patrick Ritter ('67), John Crowson ('42), Bettie Grice Wolfe ('41), Betty Hunt Brass, Jim Brass ('41), and Jay Williams ('42). We thank Amanda Andreen ('02) for permission to use this photo. More photos from this event may be found at <http://bit.ly/xsfdYK>

Founders' Reception honors 1937-42 alumni

Alumni from 1937-42 reunite in first event to commemorate the school's 75th anniversary

Former and current students of San Dieguito Union High School (SDUHS), San Dieguito High School (SDHS) and San Dieguito High School Academy (SDA) met on October 21, 2011 during the first "Founders' Reception," an event to honor alumni from 1937 through 1942.

Guests were brought to the Media Center, where they enjoyed music from the late 30s and early 40s, a slideshow, light refreshments, tours of the campus, and the opportunity to socialize.

Principal Tim Hornig welcomed alumni in his opening remarks. Mayor James Bond then congratulated San Dieguito on its 75th year and presented a proclamation from the City of Encinitas.

Several students provided tours, including Cheyenne Bartram, Julia Morales, Kennedy Anderson, Samantha Bannock, Genesis Castellon, Brianna Lundgren, Ashlynn McLean, Clayton Bishop, and Cynthia Belman.

TV and Film student Grant Haack taped oral histories, and Eleanore Hendrickson and Mae Wright interviewed alumni for the student newspaper, *The Mustang*. Their article may be found on the student newspaper website: <http://bit.ly/wL4WAX>.

Alumni attendees included Henry Knorr ('39), Mary Arballo Magaña ('40), James Brass ('41), Betty Hunt Brass (graduate

of the SDUHS junior high class of '41), Bettie Grice Wolfe ('41), Leo Swaim ('41) and his son Richard Swaim, John Crowson ('42), Manuel "Shorty" Gonzales ('42), Betty Kilroy ('42), Jean Smart Barnes ('42), Jay Williams ('42) and his wife Wanda Williams, Leonard "Bud" Bunyard ('43) and his wife Charlene Bunyard, Harry "Hoddie" Zimmerman ('43) and his wife Natalia Zimmerman.

Other alumni who came to the event included Patrick Ritter ('67), David Cain ('71), Cherie Spurling Patel ('71), Donna Compton Gonzales ('74 and Lead Library Technician at SDA), Sharon Corbett-Parry ('78) and her husband Bob Parry, and Leslie England ('80 and SDA's Campus Supervisor).

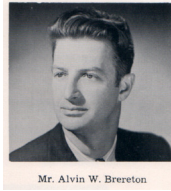
A reporter for the *Encinitas Patch* happened to be an alumna, too: Amanda Andreen ('02). (Her article and photos of the event may be found at the *Encinitas Patch* website at <http://bit.ly/xsfdYK>.)

Several attendees suggested yearly gatherings like the Founders Reception, and we think that is a wonderful idea! If you are interested in attending a fall 2012 reception to honor the earliest classes at San Dieguito, please contact Bonnie Wren by email at sda.alumni@gmail.com or call (760) 753-1121, x5085.

We asked alumni: “Which teacher inspired you?”

PETE CARPENTER ('57): Science teacher **Alvin Brereton**. We called him “Uncle Albie,” because we thought he was a little off the wall!

One Christmas vacation he organized these trips to various facilities in the Los Angeles area for science purposes.



Mr. Alvin W. Brereton

The first place we went was a rubber manufacturing place down somewhere in Long Beach. We all piled on the bus and went to that. We brought back these big blocks of synthetic rubber.

The next trip was to Lever Bros, around City of Industry, we toured this great big plant.

The final pièce de résistance was to go to the Fontana Steel Mill at night so we could see the spectacular lights when they tapped the open furnaces.

We got there, they let us in and some guy came up to us and said, “You’re just high school kids? We don’t allow high school kids to tour here!” They’d thought we were from an Indian group of some kind, because of the name “San Dieguito.”

I still remember that rolling mill—it was pretty spectacular, how a big ingot of metal comes out squashed!

WENDY NAFZIGER ARMS ('75): **Melody Martin**. She was the greatest.

AMBER MELTON: **Cathy Oversmith**; she inspired me to become a PE Teacher, in my 14th year!

CYNTHIA RIESER THOMPSON ('85): Guidance counselor **Bonnie Laughlin**. She inspired me to apply for the early admissions program at UCSD, which gave me lots of new opportunities and growth experiences.

RICHARD COSGROVE ('85): **George Stimson**—he really opened my eyes to science. I had him for physics. The bridge building/breaking competition was great mainly because of the hands on aspect of the project. His class helped to inspire me to study meteorology in college which ironically led to my career in oceanography.



GEORGE STIMSON

CAPPIE ANNE KESHISHIAN GEIS ('72): **Louann Stodgill**, Modern Dance and **Marlys Melhouse**, who still teaches at Torrey Pines.

Ms. Stodgill had a wonderful way of making each girl feel special and worthy. She treated everyone as an equal and I went on to teach Group Fitness because of her.

Ms. Melhouse was my Cooking Instructor and Child Development Instructor. I am a Certified Clinical Nutritionist as well as a Group Fitness Instructor. I help people one on one with improving their diets AND I teach Cooking Classes (Healthy Cooking) at Great News in

Pacific Beach. Each time I introduce myself I tell my class about Ms. Melhouse.

We didn’t have much money growing up so when I wanted to learn Gourmet Cooking, Independent Study, Ms. Melhouse got special permission for me to come into the class while no one was there and cook a meal. She would grade my table setting and food and let me invite 3 friends to come enjoy the meal with me. I have a picture when I was 16 in that back room. I’m pretty sure Ms. Melhouse took the picture of me.



MARLYA MELHOUSE Homemaking

JENNIFER SWIFT ('92): My favorite teacher and memory: Hanging out with **Marisa Arbanas ('92)** and **Hilary Ratner ('92)** during long nights of putting the school paper together in **Nicole Housen's** journalism class. Nicole Housen was a fun, sassy teacher who often felt like a friend as much as a mentor!

MARK ALLYN ('84): I didn’t realize until AFTER High School, how much of an impact **Mr. Liggett** had on me. He was a great guy and very fun to be around when I ushered for him at Spreckles!

SHEILA MCLEAN MCENTIRE ('86): **Fran Fenical, Mark Embree, Terry Calen, John Close, Judi Henry, Cathy Oversmith-BAM!**

Eagle Scout Project to spruce up school’s veterans memorial

In our last issue we wrote about David Gonzales and his battle to install a veterans memorial on campus. Just before publication the Army medallion disappeared from the memorial face. By the time the replacement medallion arrived, we heard about an Eagle Scout project proposal by student Nick Post that will directly benefit our memorial. We contacted Nick to hear more.

MM: What exactly is your Eagle Scout project about and how did you get the idea for it?

NICK POST: I was waiting for my mom to pick me up one day and I happened to see skateboarders doing tricks off our memorial. Skateboarders are going to do things like that, but I have family members in the military and I thought it was disrespectful. The memorial is also broken (missing a medallion) and it’s dirty and kids like to sit on it.

I talked to Jim Wheyland [of the San Dieguito High School Veterans Association]. He mentioned they hadn’t found a replacement medallion yet. He also said that the plaque containing the names didn’t need to be updated yet, which is a good thing!

It seemed to me if there were more benches available surrounding the memorial that kids might not feel the need to sit on it. There’s a couple of benches already, but there’s always lots of kids waiting out front after school. Generally kids won’t sit on a bench if they don’t

know the person already sitting there, so I figured we probably need more benches to surround the memorial.

The pathway to the memorial is a concrete ramp, made of 2’x2’ concrete squares. For my project I proposed to take out strips of concrete and then pour in an extra layer of concrete to make a rough and bumpy surface. This will be more difficult for skateboarders to use but it will still be wheelchair accessible because wheelchairs have larger wheels than skateboarders.

MM: When is this project scheduled to be completed?

NICK: I have the signature from Mr. Hornig (the principal). I need a signature from my troop, which I’m pretty sure will come the first of February. At that point I’ll raise funds for the project. Hopefully the fundraising will take less than a month.

I’m planning on installing the benches over two weekends in March. The benches will be exactly the same as the ones we have now, two on each side of the pathway leading to the memorial.

MM: You know what, Nick, we’ve got the replacement medallion in our office right now. Do you think you could add it to your project?

NICK: I think I can get some help to get that medallion installed!

MM: That’s great! Thank you, Nick!

NICK: I’m glad to do it.

Alumni Contacts/Calendar

We'd like to try having a yearly version of our Founders' Reception (see page 2 for details). An example might be an afternoon reception for all classes celebrating 60 years or more. If this sounds like something you'd like to attend, please call 760-753-1121 x5085 and ask to be placed on the mailing list, or write SDA Foundation, Attn: Alumni, PO Box 235109, Encinitas, CA 92023-5109.

Classes of 1937 through 1942

Mary Magaña (858) 761-1965
Bettie Wolfe (760) 591-0434

68th Reunion of the Class of 1944 & the 65th Reunion of the 1947

Please contact Jim ('44) and Jane ('47) King and let them know if you're interested in a fall 2012 reunion at the high school. Call the Kings at (858) 755-2458 or write SDA Foundation, Attn: Alumni, PO Box 235109, Encinitas, CA 92023-5019 and we will forward your messages to them.

60th Reunion of the Class of 1952

Details to come soon! For more info, contact Pete Kneedler (916) 480-9553 or Larry Holcombe larmar@socal.rr.com.

55th Reunion of the Class of 1957

September 28-29-30, 2012. If you haven't received any information yet, please contact Mary Lou Baird (760) 224-6655 and give her your mailing address.

50th Reunion of the Class of 1962

No details received at time of printing. For more information, please contact Marilyn West Fowler (760) 744-1474.

45th Reunion of the Class of 1967

6pm June 29, 2012 at Mr. Peabody's, 136 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas. 3-9pm June 30 at Wolfe residence. Please contact Cathy Daun Hicks Daungirl@gmail.com, Kathy Stuart Jensen 760-753-2624, Anne Browne Wolfe 760-436-3547, or Marty Neville Dawson 760-603-9058.

40th Reunion of the Class of 1972

October 12-14, 2012. Contact Charlotte Gresham sdhs1972@gmail.com, Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/zJFDj>.

35th Reunion of the Class of 1977

No details received at time of printing. For more information, please contact Rose-

Marie Ceseña: rmcesena@cox.net.

30th Reunion of the Class of 1982

July 13, 2012, Encinitas Ranch Club House, 1275 Quail Gardens Dr, Encinitas. For more information contact Stephanie Fairbanks at stephaniefairbanks@stephaniefairbanks.com. Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/yq4f6T>. Website: <http://sdhsreunion82.com/>

25th Reunion of the Class of 1987

July 28, 2012, La Costa Resort & Spa, Syndee Cadwaller Wood, syndee.wood@gmail.com. Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/zwvEVA>.

20th Reunion of the Class of 1992

August 25, 2012 at La Costa Resort & Spa. Contact Sara Pachecki spachacki@gmail.com. Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/yLzAnz>. Reunion Specialists page: <http://bit.ly/zVYU2q>.

15th Reunion of the Class of 1997

No registered class representative. If you know of a reunion event for this class, please contact sda.alumni@gmail.com.

10th Reunion of the Class of 2002

June 23, 2012 at Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club. Contact Beth Van Boxtel at bethpaige@gmail.com. Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/2002sda>. Website: <http://www.2002sda.com/>

Help us keep *Mustang Memories* free!

Donate dollars: Any amount—no matter how small—will help! Make



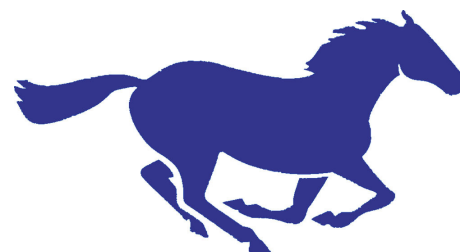
checks out to SDAF and send to PO Box 235109, Encinitas, Ca 92023-5109. (If you'd like to indicate a specific program, group, club, or some other use for your gift, let us know in the memo.)

[You may also donate securely via PayPal](#) — indicate your gift preferences in the special instructions box. Go, Mustangs!

Donate time: Work with your class on a reunion committee or as a class representative. Serve on a school advisory board. Provide career advice and your life experiences to students in classroom settings. Collect and track San Dieguito memorabilia and memories. Join an alumni community service group. Join the San Dieguito Alumni Committee.

Donate memorabilia: We're looking for original commencement lists and graduation programs, original film (or good quality tape) of "San Dieguito High School: Those Early Years" and the school groundbreaking filmed on January 11, 1937. We're also looking for original *Mustang* newspapers (and local newspaper clippings) about the school prior to 1997, as well as report cards, pink slips, employee manuals, etc.

Donate a special gift. The Pension Protection Act allows you to make a tax-free distribution from your IRA (up to \$100,000 per year) to SDA Foundation if you are at least 70 1/2-years old. Call (760) 753-1121, x5152 for more information.



The Alumni Association is part of the San Dieguito Academy Foundation, a 501(c) non-profit organization which supports the students and programs of San Dieguito High School Academy by fundraising and promoting active parental and community involvement.

We invite feedback, good or bad! Please let us know what you think of this newsletter, or tell us what you want to read about in *Mustang Memories*.

Contact us for more information:

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sda.alumni@gmail.com

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