

# MUSTANG MEMORIES

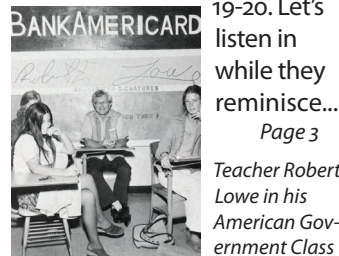
Fall 2013

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

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## The Class of '73 Remembers

The '73 reunion committee is planning a great party on Oct.

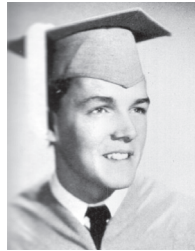


19-20. Let's listen in while they reminisce...  
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Teacher Robert Lowe in his American Government Class

## Who was "The Mysterious Sam Yick"?

Bob Lindstrom tells of his adventures with Sam Yick and what it was like to attend San Dieguito in the 1950s.  
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Francis Gray ('55)

## Third Annual Founders Reception Oct 22

Please come to our Founders Reception, an annual event that honors alumni from the classes of 1937 through 1942 during Homecoming Week at San Dieguito. The reception will be held on campus in our media center from 1:30 to 3:30. Light refreshments will be served, campus tours provided and the Mustang



Legacy Project bricks will be unveiled. All alumni are invited. If you would like to attend, RSVP to the Foundation office at (760) 753-1121, x5085 by October 15th.

# Mustang Legacy Project Phase 1 completed

## '95 alumnus who rebuilt the bell tower will install bricks

In the weeks that followed publication of our last issue, a stampede of Mustang Legacy Project brick applications flowed into the Foundation office.

As the available space in Phase 1 began to fill up, the Alumni Association searched for a contractor to install the bricks around the bell tower; a contractor who could meet SDUHS district licensing and insurance requirements as well as provide a reasonable cost for installation.

Earl Flores, Jr. ('95 and current San Dieguito High School Academy parent) submitted the winning bid and was hired to install the bricks.

You may remember reading that Earl Flores & Sons (Earl Flores Sr, Earl Flores, Jr., and Andrew Flores, '00) rebuilt our fallen bell tower in the late summer of 2012.

Our first tower was designed and built in 1960 by Elwyn L. Booth, the father of Larry Booth ('55), Mary Diane Booth ('58), and Dennis Neal Booth ('61). It was demolished by the SDUHS

District in June 2010 when the internal structure of the tower was found to be crumbling and unsafe.

Building codes and standards have changed quite a bit since 1960, and code-compliant construction bricks barely resemble those used to build the first tower. Earl took special care in rebuilding the tower to resemble the original as much as possible. He completed the job in time for our second annual Founders Reception,

when former yell leader Ruth Pelko Umphres ('37) and former cheerleader Susie Calen McCluskey ('71) rang "The Spirit of San Dieguito" bell.

Earl and his crew will install the Phase 1 bricks in front of the rebuilt bell tower. Those bricks will be unveiled during the third annual Founders Reception on October 22. (A list of all brick inscriptions and sponsors may be found on the Mustang Memories website at sdafoundation.com/alumni/.)

We've included a background story on one of the inscriptions on page 2 of this issue.

Phase 2 of the Mustang Legacy Project began October 3. If you would like to "leave your mark on San Dieguito," please use the project application form enclosed with this newsletter.

You may also choose to pay online at sdafoundation.com/alumni. For more information, please contact organizer Boydd Galland at [boyddgalland@yahoo.com](mailto:boyddgalland@yahoo.com), or Bonnie Wren at [sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com).



The Bell Tower Reconstruction Crew, AKA Earl Flores & Sons. L-R: Andres, Earl Flores, Sr., Andrew Flores ('00), and Earl Flores, Jr. ('95)

## A message from your Alumni Committee Chair



Boydd Galland

I'm Boyd Galland ('60), your San Dieguito Alumni Committee Chair.

I first got involved with the SDA Foundation when Jay Helmantoler and I attended an Alumni Committee meeting to propose the

Mustang Legacy Project. While attending those meetings I discovered that the nonprofit Foundation not only supports the students and programs of San Dieguito High School Academy, but also makes it easier for alumni to get together.

For example, the Foundation sponsors our Alumni Association. Thanks to that support, we have this newsletter, our *Mustang Memories* website and our Facebook page.

As our liaison with the school administration and the SDUHS District, the Foundation ensured we had a voice in rebuilding the bell tower and installing Mustang Legacy Project bricks, as well as current efforts to preserve the history of our school during upcoming renovations.

With the Foundation's support, the Alumni Association is able to hold events for all alumni, like our upcoming Founders Reception on October 22 and our Faculty & Staff Reunion held in March. These events are a great place to meet classmates from all years.

Our goals in 2013-14 include 1) getting the Mustang Legacy Project off and running, and 2) enlarging our Alumni Committee. The more consistent involvement we have from other alumni, the more the Committee can do for alumni.

We meet on campus at 5:30 pm on the first Thursday of every month, except January 2014, when we meet on the second Thursday.

No matter what's written on our diploma, San Dieguito Union High School (SDUHS), San Dieguito High School (SDHS), or San Dieguito High School Academy (SDA), we are all Mustangs and together we can do great things. I look forward to all the planned events and I encourage every Mustang to take part!

Sincerely,

—Boydd Galland

## The Mysterious Sam Yick... unmasked

Several of the inscriptions received for the Mustang Legacy Project had us guessing, especially one sponsored by Dr. Robert Lindstrom ('57): "Bob Lindstrom 1957 / for / Bill Darby / Richard Kelly and / the Mysterious / Sam Yick."

We offered to buy lunch for Bob if he told us the story behind Sam Yick, but before he could give us a call, several alumni beat him to it and we learned that Sam's real name was Francis Gray ('55). When we finally got in touch with Bob, he shared his memories of San Dieguito and Sam Yick. Bob, we owe you a lunch!

I went to six high schools all told—only went to San Dieguito for two-and-a-half years. It was a very small school back then; everybody knew each other and I came into the class of '57 not knowing anybody.

I wasn't a very good student, either, always getting into trouble. For example, I never got my picture taken because I'd be fooling around so much that they would kick me out of the picture line. So no pictures.

And I was always getting sent to the principal's office. Back then David Davidson was the superintendent and Matthew Korwin was the principal and the two would



"Class character Sam Yick" from the 1955 Hoofprint

were some other interesting characters involved in that class, too, like Bill Darby ('57) and Richard Kelley.

So into this dumbbell class walks a brand new teacher, and the first thing the guy does is ask us what we want him to call us, and this one kid says, "I'm Sam Yick."

Well, "Sam Yick" was not his name,

and we all knew that because we all knew him. He was a real cool kid that everybody knew, but whatever his real name was, he made a new one up on the spot. Of course, everybody else in that class immediately chose some kind of stupid name, too.

I became pretty good friends with Sam after that.

Sam had a '49 Ford. We used to drive around Encinitas in that Ford, with Brew 102 on the seat between us. Sometimes it was Lucky Lager, because it was pretty cheap. The jockeys would buy us beer.

Sam had a motorcycle, too; I remember the parking lot emptying at the end of the day and he'd still be tinkering with the bike, trying to get it to start.

Sam Yick! I thought it was the coolest name I ever heard, but I'm not sure what was his real name. [Here Bob learns that Sam Yick's real name is Francis Gray.] Ah, I'm glad Sam Yick is finally unmasked!

Dr. Robert Lindstrom eventually did go to college despite his time spent in "dumbbell English". He became a teacher, a principal, and eventually superintendent himself, presumably without a paddle.

## "THERE WAS NO LIE TOO BIG TO AVOID THE PADDLE."

come in and one of them would paddle. They had a big paddle with holes in it and it would hurt like hell and you wanted to cry, but you had to be tough. There was no lie too big to avoid the paddle.

Now, in my junior year I was placed in a "dumbbell English" class, a class that held all the losers of the school. We were the lowest caste of the student body population, the people who would never be going to college.

There was a guy in there who was maybe 22-years-old, who carried a knife in his boot. There were maybe 8 pregnant girls, and some of them were really mean. There

## Upcoming School Renovations

*If you've driven by the school and wondered about the construction work going on in the field, read on.*

In November 2012 voters approved a bond issue that gives San Dieguito High School Academy \$71 million to improve the school site. The construction in the field is just the first of several improvement projects coming up.

We've included below a description of some of the renovation projects as quoted from the SDUHS District's "Campus Master Plan", dated January 6, 2012.

"...(Two) new classroom buildings will be constructed to house facilities for Math, Science, English, Social Science, Art and Computer Labs..."

"...New basketball courts will be created, in addition to new baseball and softball fields. New track and field facilities will be provided with bleachers to support events. At the heart of these outdoor facilities a new state-of-the-art gymnasium and locker room complex will be constructed for easy access and accommodation..." (Note: this will be our third gym.)

"...Existing classrooms and the Industrial Arts Building will also be renovated to meet the same enhanced standards. The Industrial Arts building will receive a completely new interior that better responds to the evolving program curriculum. One component of this is relocating the photography studio to the new Arts building as the program becomes less dependent on chemical processes and more oriented toward digital imagery..."

...existing administrative offices at the core of the historic campus will be renovated to provide more effective and efficient spaces centered on the existing plaza.

**The exteriors of these historic buildings will be preserved and the architectural design of all new and renovated buildings on campus will reflect the architectural character of the historic core to create a cohesive and unified campus design..."**

*(Emphasis provided by the editor of Mustang Memories.)*

## Mustang Memories – 1973 Style

As the Mustang Class of 1973 prepares for its 40th Reunion on October 19 & 20, members of the reunion committee shared some of their memories of attending San Dieguito in "the olden days."

Jack in the Box (Cardiff), Kentucky Fried Chicken (Santa Fe Dr. where Scripps Hospital is now), and A&W (corner of Hwy 101 at Encinitas Blvd.) were the only fast food places in town. And everyone remembered the Colony Kitchen Coffee Shop right off the freeway at Santa Fe Dr.

The Del Mar Drive-in was a favorite hang out (site of Winner's Circle Hotel on Via de la Valle). Also the Solana Beach Roller Rink (now the antique mall

across the street from the Belly Up), and the Poinsettie Bowl (Hwy. 101) were student hot spots.

The first concerts attended at the San Diego Sports Arena were Three Dog Night and The Doors. Ticket prices for a concert by Ten Years After and the J. Geils Band was \$4.25.

The girls can't believe they used to "sunbathe" at Moonlight Beach using baby oil with iodine added, for their golden tans.

The thought of the freshly baked cinnamon rolls in the school cafeteria brought smiles to our faces. We remembered them costing only a quarter. Is that possible?

For those that had their own car in high school, one would have filled up at the gas station across the street from the La Paloma Theatre for only 29 cents/gallon. And if you worked for your own gas money, a student made a minimum wage of \$1.90/hour.

Lone Jack Road (Olivenhain) was nothing more than a rutted dirt road. San Dieguito had a strong 4H agricultural program and Olivenhain students usually had horses, cows, and chickens to tend to.

Homes in Olivenhain were on at least 40 acres of land, and one of the alumni's father looked into purchasing a lot. But \$10,000 was a lot of money back then. And at the time we all thought, who would ever pay the \$100,000 asking price for a large home in Rancho Santa Fe?

Reunion Committee member Jeanne (Fatseas) Redlinger noted "Our Top 40 music is now the music being heard in a lot of movies." She also reminded us that at the

20th reunion, it was revealed that some of the boys used crawl over the rafters in the old gym, and be able to look down into the girl's locker room. (The aging gym would have been almost 40 years old in 1973.)

Lu Ann (Moore) Coe says, "having PE on the beach was the coolest thing."

Kenny Marquardt reminded us that the 1982 hit film; Fast Times at Ridgemont High had nothing on San Dieguito. He



*Verlin Heuton and his General Semantics class from the 1973 Hoofprint*

distinctly remembers a certain pale yellow Chevy Camaro returning to the student parking lot after lunch, often filled with marijuana smoke. "I was not a passenger," he stated. Also in

the relaxed 70s he thought nothing of one of his female teachers giving him the keys to her house, to go pick something up she needed for class.

Diane (Albritton) Baldini remembered that classmate Lori Cook's dad owned the Encinitas VW dealership, and we got VW Bugs to use in driver's training. That's why every Class of '73 grad knows how to drive a stick shift. She also reminisces that our school dress code policy was "if your parents saw what you were wearing as you walked out the front door, it was okay to wear at school."

Michelle (Copley) Cauble noted that San Dieguito was the only high school from Carmel Valley to La Costa. "It was a melting pot for all the eight communities. It was a great equalizer for students from all walks of life."

Kimmi Robison remembered the time the guys physically picked up one of the popular female teacher's little car, and moved it from the parking lot to the center grass area.

And finally Kim (Stanton) Whitney shockingly reminded us that it was common knowledge that a few younger teachers dated older students.

**More memories will be shared at the Class of '73's 40th Reunion Dinner, Beach Party, and "Return to San Dieguito" on-campus picnic, on October 19-20. Space is limited, dinner reservations must be pre-paid, please call Cherie Lawrence Holmerud 760-436-3158 to reserve your spot (if space is still available).**

*By Ken Harrison ('73)*

## Find your class representative:

**1937-1940:** Mary Magaña (760) 753-1121 x5085  
**1941:** Bettie Grice Wolfe, (760) 591-0434  
**1942-1944:** Jim King, (858) 755-2458  
**1945:** Hortencia Trejo, (858) 755-1670  
**1946:** Barbara Thomson, (858) 513-0344  
**1947:** Jane Phillips King, (858) 755-2458  
**1948:** Jim Downs, (760) 439-3573  
**1949:** Connie Conrad Lund, (760) 753-4807  
**1952:** Pete Kneedler, (916) 480-9553  
**1954:** Norman Keith, (760) 753-3977  
**1957:** Haruko Meinhardt, (760) 753-6072;  
Mary Lou Baird, (760) 224-6655  
**1958:** Susie Good Stevenson  
[goodstevenson@yahoo.com](mailto:goodstevenson@yahoo.com)  
**1959:** Hope Meyers, (760) 438-7503; Butch & Carolyn Stillman, (951) 767-0196  
**1960:** Judy West Fuller, (760) 753-4873, Curtis Jenkins [curtis\\_jenkins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:curtis_jenkins@sbcglobal.net)  
**1961:** Ila Decker Piel, (760) 753-2095  
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**1965:** Cyd Shaw (406) 761-0851

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**1989:** Lane Kiefaber, [lanemacy@ca.rr.com](mailto:lanemacy@ca.rr.com)

## Upcoming Reunions

### Class of 1973

Sat., Oct. 19, 5pm: Tony's Jacal in Solana Beach. 7-10pm, Beach Party at Moonlight Beach. Sun, Oct 20, 11-1pm Picnic at San Dieguito High School Academy. Space is limited, dinner reservations must be pre-paid, please call Cherie Lawrence Holmerud 760-436-3158 to reserve your spot (if space available) or Ken Harrison at [califcomedy@aol.com](mailto:califcomedy@aol.com).

### Founders Reception & Mustang Legacy Project Unveiling

Oct. 22, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Mary Magaña (858) 761-1965 or Bonnie Wren (760) 753-1121 x5085. Light refreshments and campus tours provided. All alumni are invited to honor the classes of 1937-42. (We will also recognize alumni from classes of 1943-53.)

## Support your school!

### WE LOVE MONEY, SURE. Who doesn't?

**But we also love TIME.** Please consider volunteering on campus. Can you provide an internship or a mentorship to a deserving student? Would you be willing to serve as a member of the alumni committee? Will you help your class plan and carry out a rocking reunion? We need volunteers! Call (760) 753-1121 x5085 for more information.

**WE LOVE MEMORABILIA, TOO.** We are looking for original commencement lists and graduation programs, original film (or good quality tape) of "San Dieguito High School: Those Early Years" and the original film (or good quality tape) of the school groundbreaking filmed on January 11, 1937. We are 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.

### DID WE MENTION WE LOVE MONEY?

We hope to keep this newsletter free—your donations can help! Or perhaps you'd like to support a special team or club on campus. Your donations are tax-deductible and will help support the students and programs of San Dieguito High School Academy.

[Donate securely online at Paypal](#) and indicate your gift preferences in the special instructions box. Go, Mustangs!



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.

The *Mustang Memories* alumni newsletter is published to encourage alumni interest in San Dieguito High School Academy and help alumni reconnect with each other. Your donations defray mailing costs and support student programs.

Contact us for more information:

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