

# MUSTANG MEMORIES

Spring 2014

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

Vol. 7, Issue 2

## No false starts for 1947 track star

A member of the class of 1947 dropped in to share some



great stories about his days at San Dieguito...

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Jack Ambriz, '47 as seen in the 1947 Hoopprint.

## Calling all Reunion Committee Members

Learn about what the Alumni Association can offer to



Reunion Committees with our Reunion Committee kit...

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## Would you be interested in sponsoring Mustang Memories?

We keep costs low thanks to volunteers who help us assemble the newsletter, but our printing and mailing costs typically



Randy Bell and Linda Bollinger arrange the Academic section.

range between \$1500 and \$2000 per issue. Your deductible donations help keep our newsletter free for all alumni. If you'd like to help by sponsoring a newsletter, please contact us at (760) 753-1121, x 5085 or [sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com).

## 3rd Annual Faculty & Staff Reunion

San Dieguito's third annual Faculty & Staff Reunion was held Thursday, March 20, 2014 in the Media Center at San Dieguito High School Academy. (Photos may be found at [www.sdafoundation.com/alumni](http://www.sdafoundation.com/alumni))

All former faculty and staff were invited, as were any alumni who wanted to attend. Attendees this year included: Fran Fenical, Bill Berrier, Manuelita Brown, Shirley Richardson, Vanora St. Clair, Jerry Henning, AnneMarie Ebeling, Bobbi Karnes, Ed (and Loretta) Burke, James Fosnot, Roger Taylor, Neil Bruington, Jay (and Wanda) Williams, Vince Meyer, Don Rizzi, Jeanne Jones, Margaret Pluth, Shawn Neely-Wirth, Henry Herms, Joe (and Carol) Koch, Gail Twohy, Bob Zakowski, Jeanne Orphan, Anne Fragasso, Cathy Straitiff, Abrán Quevedo, Rod Keillor, Mary Williams Leon ('68), Lori Leon, Ruben Leon,

Ken Harrison ('73) Jack Ambriz ('47) Debbie Rowe ('73), John Crowson ('42), Shorty Gonzales ('42), Louie Gonzales ('68), Mary Magana ('40), Betty Brass ('41 SDUHS Junior High), Lloyd O'Connell, Greg Meyer ('66), John Meyer ('71), Jeanne Fatseas Redlinger ('73), Bob Kundinger ('50), Cheryl Dietert Robinson ('72), Randall McNames ('64), Victor Kazekovich, Bob Stuckenschneider ('68), Jay Helmantoler ('60), Sue Sieber Cooper ('66), and many more!

If you'd like to attend next year's Faculty & Staff Reunion, let us know. Email [sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com) and we'll put you on the list!



Attendees at the Faculty & Staff Reunion included: Manuelita Brown, Bobbi Karnes, Shirley Richardson, Jeanne Orphan, and Anne Fragasso.

## Mustang Legacy Project Phase 3 nears completion

First four phases have most prominent placement around bell tower

Phase 3 of the Mustang Legacy Project is filling up fast and should be installed just in time for graduation June 13, 2014.

If you miss Phase 3, you can always participate in Phase 4, but remember, Phase 4 will be the last phase available with the most desirable placement: surrounding our bell tower.

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](http://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).

## Join our email blast mailing list!

If you have an email address, get it in to us as soon as possible and we will enroll you in our monthly Alumni Email Blasts.

Monthly emails allow us to provide more timely information to alumni than we can provide in these twice-yearly newsletters.

We will never share nor sell our alumni contact information and we hate spam as much as you do, so your contact information will be safe with us.

To sign up—or, if you've recently moved and need to update your contact information—send the following to [sduhs.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sduhs.alumni@gmail.com):

1. your current name
2. your name at graduation and class year
3. your mailing address and phone number

## Calling all Reunion Committee members!

### SAN DIEGUITO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REUNION COMMITTEE GUIDE

#### Meet your Alumni Committee

Left to right: Dennis White, Alumni Committee Chair; David Johnson, 1947 Alumni Committee Chair; Jay Kaminstein, 1947, Jay Lester, 1947, 1948 Alumni Committee Chair; Steve Smith, 1947 Alumni Committee Chair. Other members not pictured include: Mary Ann Smith, Margaret Cook, Brent Quinn, and Bill Cook. See document C19.



We usually meet the first Thursday of the month, at 5:30 pm. All alumni are invited to attend and bring a card to Alumni Business. The more support we have, the more we can do for you.

#### What is the Alumni Association?

#### What is the SDA Foundation (SDAF)?

The San Diego Alumni Association operates under the purview of the San Diego Academy Foundation (SDAF). SDAF is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports the students and programs of the high school. SDAF collects donations to support the school and organizes volunteers, and promotes community involvement with the school.

The Alumni Association is a SDAF committee, the first organ in becoming a council. Once we have a consistent and enough pool of alumni involvement, we will have a better chance of becoming a council.

All San Diego parent groups, sports and events including Athletics, Academic Music, Theater, Student Support and Grad 'Nite operate under the non-profit umbrella of the SDAF Foundation.



Partial view of Phase 1 of the Mustang Legacy Project

Learn what your Alumni Association can do (or not do) for your Reunion Committee!

Get a copy of our Reunion Committee Guide by email at

[sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com)

or write

SDA Foundation

Attn: Alumni Assn.

PO Box 235109

Encinitas, CA 92023

## No false starts in '47 track star's life

Recently Jack Ambriz ('47) dropped in to tour San Dieguito and see what has changed since he ran track here. He took the time to chat with us about what it was like attending San Dieguito in the mid-to late '40s. He also attended our Faculty & Staff Reception on March 20, which also happened to be his birthday. Somehow we forgot to wish him a happy birthday during the reception. **Jack, consider this a belated but heartfelt wish: Happy belated 85th birthday, and many fun-filled returns!**

I attended San Dieguito with my seven siblings, four boys and four girls. Dennis ('63) is the youngest, a bodybuilder. He's in movies occasionally. You might have seen him in *Hildago*, *Crooked Arrows*, *Cowboys & Indians*, and *The Meeting*.

I enjoyed running track at San Dieguito. I ran the half mile. I never lost, except one time, and I never got to rechallenge that guy, either. He spiked me, stepped on my heel and they didn't see it. He just ran that one race against me and I wanted another race, but never got it.

My favorite classes were probably Physics, Chemistry and Biology. I still remember all the phyla for the classification of animals!

Mr. Elmer Wickham, he was just the greatest guy. He taught Science, Photography, Physics—but I'm not sure if he taught Chemistry because for that I had Mrs. Charmion Briggs McMillan. She was quite a lady; she worked for Scripps, and later went on a research trip to the Galapagos Islands.

“...THEY THREW SYRUP AND SAND ALL OVER US...”

Mrs. McBride was my English teacher. She was pretty young—I think her husband had a garage in Del Mar. I remember her telling me: “If you're not good in English, you just have to study harder, Jack,” and of course that was true!

I was initiated into the Letterman's Club, what an experience that was. I must've been a sophomore at that time. They took us to Moonlight Beach—they made us



Jack Ambriz, Class of 1947, visits the new track at San Dieguito High School Academy.

wear our swim suits—and there they threw syrup and sand all over us!

Then they handed us a bottle with a warm fluid in it to try to wash it off. Of course, we all thought it was urine and that's what they wanted us to think! But it was just warm water.

They even paraded us on stage at the La Paloma theatre during the movie intermission. Finally, they took us away out in the country and dropped us off in the dark and there was no way back but to walk home. They patrolled us, too, to make sure there was no way for us to catch a ride back.

I thought our Letterman's initiation was pretty mild in comparison to some others I heard about, where the initiates had to go to school all day wearing long-legged underwear and pulling a tiny toy cart. If the cart ever turned over, anyone in the Letterman's Club could paddle them. They'd tell them to bend over, and they had to bend over and get paddled.

Some of the Letterman had hardwood paddles but mine was pine wood. I still have my pine wood paddle. For some reason I kept that.

(Continued on next page)

## Our list of class representatives

**We have no registered class representatives for 1950, 1951, 1955, 1956, 1979, 1985, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, or 2013.**

**1937-1940:** Mary Magaña (858) 761-1965  
**1941:** Bettie Grice Wolfe, (760) 591-0434  
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**1945:** Hortencia Trejo, (858) 755-1670  
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**1952:** Pete Kneedler, (916) 202-3263 or Larry Holcombe [larmar@socal.rr.com](mailto:larmar@socal.rr.com)  
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**1957:** Haruko Meinhardt, (760) 753-6072 or Mary Lou Baird, (760) 224-6655  
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**1999:** Lindsey Ogata, [sdaclassof99@gmail.com](mailto:sdaclassof99@gmail.com)  
**2000:** Joni Samilin, [Joni.Ecarma@gmail.com](mailto:Joni.Ecarma@gmail.com); Marco Herrera, [Polocram@gmail.com](mailto:Polocram@gmail.com); Annie Beiner, [abeiner11@yahoo.com](mailto:abeiner11@yahoo.com)  
**2001:** Kara Kerr, [karaksda@gmail.com](mailto:karaksda@gmail.com)  
**2002:** Beth Van Boxtel, [bethpaige@gmail.com](mailto:bethpaige@gmail.com)  
**2003:** Katie Aspell, [sdaclassof2003@gmail.com](mailto:sdaclassof2003@gmail.com)  
**2004:** Alicia Hill, [sdaclassof2004@gmail.com](mailto:sdaclassof2004@gmail.com)  
**2008:** Sara Bacon, (760) 579-1569 or [sara@thedolcedesign.com](mailto:sara@thedolcedesign.com)

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Contact [sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com) for free alumni event listings in future email blasts and in this newsletter.

Jack Ambriz, '47

(Continued from previous page)

I was a Boy Scout in Troop 74. I had 21 merit badges and I still have the sash. Instead of riding the bus to go to the Scout meetings and coming home late at night, I would spend the night with the Briggs' family. Don Briggs ('46) used to go to the Scout meetings, too. Jack Kirby—he ran the Chevron station—he went with us on Boy Scout trips and we called him "the Robin Hood of the San Juan." Well, he had a

Piper Vagabond airplane and he let me fly it with him. It was easy, you just reached the right RPM and up you'd go.

I'm a Korean War veteran. I went to Oceanside College, went through electronics school and continued 39 years with Rockwell International. I got to work for six months on the Apollo program. I volunteered, they only paid me 10 cents a mile. That was an interesting job.



Jack Ambriz,  
1947 Hoofprint.

Now I'm a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corp. The Navy League Cadet Corps works with kids from 11 through 13. The Naval Sea Cadet Corps is for ages 13 through 17. It's a pretty awesome program. I recently participated in the summer training for the older ones. These kids go on to do great things.

—As told to Bonnie Wren

## Upcoming Reunions

### Want a say in Alumni Association business?

Your Alumni Committee meets every first Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm in the Administration Building Conference room on the San Dieguito campus. All alumni are welcome to attend and all attendees have a voice. Meetings are only an hour long and a great way to network with other alumni.

### Class of 1944 70th Reunion, October 2014

Reunion to be held at 4th Annual Founders Reception. Contact [sda.alumni@gmail.com](mailto:sda.alumni@gmail.com) or call Jim King at (858) 755-2458 for more information.

### Class of 1954 60th Reunion

Call Norm Keith at (760) 753-3977 for more information.

### Class of 1963 Reunion Barbecue

May 17 at noon, San Dieguito Heritage Museum, 450 Quail Gardens

Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024. Contact Susan Trudell (760) 753-2467, [susandaniel888@gmail.com](mailto:susandaniel888@gmail.com). Friends and family are invited. \$20/person. Mail check to San Dieguito Heritage Museum, Attn: Grice, 450 Quail Garden Dr, Encinitas, CA 92024.

### Class of 1963 Dinner

Sept. 6, 2014 at 4:00 pm. Leucadia Pizzeria, 315 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, CA 92024. Contact Susan Trudell (760) 753-2467, [susandaniel888@gmail.com](mailto:susandaniel888@gmail.com).

### Class of 1964 50th Reunion

Fri., Sept. 12, Sat., Sept. 13, and Sun. Sept. 14. Please email Len Hayashi at [LenHayashi@att.net](mailto:LenHayashi@att.net) or Phone Thelma Reynaga at (760) 533-6545.

### Class of 1974 40th Reunion

Fri., Aug. 15: Meet up in downtown Encinitas and join your classmates as we paint the town psychedelic. Sat., Aug. 16: Dinner Party at the Barn. Sun., Aug. 17: Family Picnic at

Moonlight Beach. Register at: [www.gresham.com/classof74](http://www.gresham.com/classof74) or join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/442726462427343/> or contact Maureen (McKim) Gaare (760) 402-7161 or [sdhsmustangs74@gmail.com](mailto:sdhsmustangs74@gmail.com).

### Class of 1984 30th Reunion

Fri., Aug. 1, 7 pm to 12 am, Hilton Garden Inn Carlsbad Beach. \$90 before 7/1/14, \$100 after 7/2/14. RSVP to Reunion Specialists at [www.reunion-specialists.com](http://www.reunion-specialists.com). Or contact Lilia Marodi at [liliaworks@yahoo.com](mailto:liliaworks@yahoo.com)

### Class of 1994 20th Reunion

Sat., Aug. 2, 7 pm to 12 am, Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92008. \$95.00 before 07/02/14, \$105.00 after 07/02/14. RSVP to [www.reunion-specialists.com](http://www.reunion-specialists.com). Or email [info@reunion-specialists.com](mailto:info@reunion-specialists.com)

### Class of 2004 10th Reunion

Sat., Nov. 29. Email Alicia Hill at [sda.classof2004@gmail.com](mailto:sda.classof2004@gmail.com). Or visit <https://www.facebook.com/SDA2004>

## 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 via 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:

#### SDA Foundation

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