

# FRESNO HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1955 NEWSLETTER

*SHaverty1955@comcast.net*

*No. 7 Fall 2009*

In memory of the following classmates:

**Marian Gonchoroff Close 2002**  
**Carole Saleh 6/12/09**  
**Joan Verble Miller 7/9/09**  
**Ted Andreas 7/13/09**  
**George Clayton 8/09**  
**Gaye Kizer Harless 9/11/09**

## REUNION

**WE HAVE NEWS!!!!!!** We have decided on a date and venue for our 55<sup>th</sup> reunion. It is:

**October 16, 2010**  
**Four Points by Sheraton**  
**(Blackstone and Dakota)**  
**559-230-8453**

We have the Crystal Ballroom all to ourselves. When we walked in to inspect it we were greeted with purple and gold carpeting, purple upholstered chairs, a bar covered in purple, gold, black and white formica. Several of the committee looked at each other and knew this was a good sign. It certainly helps with the decorating scheme. I signed the contract on April 20<sup>th</sup> and this locked in the 2009 prices which will go up in 2010. We did not make this decision lightly. We did look at other venues but this seemed close to perfect to our committee.

I spent some sleepless nights before signing the contract due to the fact I had to guarantee 150 people for dinner. The maximum capacity is 300 and to have that many would be my wildest fantasy. If we don't get 150 people, you will see me sitting in a median strip in a high traffic area, dressed in purple and gold with a sign begging for help in paying for those unsold dinners. **I am counting on all of you.**

Here is a quick peek at our schedule with more information coming in April regarding costs, which have not been finalized.

## Classmate Coffee

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

4 Points Pool Area

## Dinner/Dancing

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Social Hour

6:30 – 11 p.m. Dinner/Dancing

## Hotel Reservations

We have **10 rooms for Fri., Oct. 15th and 15 rooms for Sat. Oct. 16th** being held @ \$89 per night. Those rooms must be reserved before more are put aside for us. There is no guarantee that we can get more rooms at \$89. You can make reservations now at the number across the page. **Be sure to identify yourself as FHS Class of 1955 for the reunion in October 2010.** There are two queen beds per room or one king per room. There are no elevators so ask for a bottom floor. All rooms are non smoking.

We have nothing organized for Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> but several committee members will be spending the night at the hotel and will be available in the lounge area around 5 p.m. This is next to the hotel restaurant. We will be there to greet incoming classmates.

Reunion information is on  
**[www.classmates.com](http://www.classmates.com)** and  
**[www.fresnohighalumni.com](http://www.fresnohighalumni.com)**.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BAY AREA MINI REUNION

The weather was a bit threatening, but the day turned out great for the fourth annual Bay Area Mini-Reunion. Once again, Gail Giffen opened her beautiful home and yard/sculpture garden to our pot-luck barbeque. Seventeen members of the Class of '55 and their spouses participated in this semifinal warmup for next year's 55<sup>th</sup> reunion.

Gail has invited us back, so we intend to hold a final-final warmup next May! Please note that we have a very liberal interpretation of "Bay Area" when it comes to attending this party, so let Gail or Arnold know if you will be in the Lafayette area the first Saturday of next May.

### (Bay Area Mini-Reunion, Cont'd)



(L-R) Jim Keeffe, Deanna Amos Tarr, Floyd Yearout, Karen Jurgensen Nielsen, Rick Baird, Pete Siemens, Deanna Holcomb Moore, Ron Turney, Jere Swanson, Marsha Mortland Gonzales, Elizabeth Whepley Bawden, Bob Van Galder, Arnold Joyal, Niel Davidson, Nancy McLaughlin Rideout, Gail Giffen, and Patty Kent Smayda

### **A TRIVIA QUESTION**

This was suggested by **Danny Whitby**. He challenges all classmates to name the movie theaters and drive in theaters in the Fresno area during our time at Fresno High. Remember, some changed names. The answers we came up with are on the back page.

### **GRAMMAR SCHOOL PICTURES**

We are moving forward with class school pictures. We have all of Heaton's pictures. We have some but need the following years for **Morris E. Daley-'42, '43, '47, '48, '49; John Muir-'42; Lafayette-'42-'45, '49; Fresno State Training School-need all but 4<sup>th</sup> grade; Webster-'42-'44, '49; Bullard-'42-'45; Jane Addams-all; Emerson-all; Lowell-all; Jefferson - coming**. If we get pictures from all of the above schools we may have an almost complete pictorial record of FHS 1955 from Kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Picture contact is:

**Joanne Canfield Morgan**  
4068 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Fresno CA 93726-4449  
559-227-9060  
barjomor@yahoo.com

**We will also accept any snap shots that pertain to school activities.** The reunion committee has had a great time looking over these pictures and trying to identify long-time classmates. What memories they bring back! We have had several pictures not related to class pictures, but includes neighbors who attended school together.

Here is a picture that was given to me. It is the fifth birthday party of **Carol Bowman Underhill**.

The hats are pre-Martha Stewart - all hand made by Carol's mother, Dorothy Bowman.



**Top Row L-R:** Carol Bowman, Vivian Ward, Sherran Ward, cousin, Carol Ann Hill '54, Denise Crow.

**Bottom Row L-R:** Cousin, Arlene Bowman '53, cousin, Beverly Schmidt, Lynne Murray, Sheila Carpenter.

### **LOST CLASSMATES**

This is the first classmate I have lost on my watch. **(Cecelia) JoAnn Madgwick Hall**, last known address was in Las Vegas, NV. If anyone has information on her, please contact Sharon Haverty.

### **FOUND**

I found **Ken Mullings** in Lacey WA on Classmates.com but didn't know he was lost since we had no data for him, but now he is found and on the mailing list. **Lynn Masterson** also contacted us and we welcome him back into the '55 family.

### **NEWSLETTER**

Thank you to all who responded to my appeal for funds to continue the newsletter. Without your support we cannot do it. You will see articles about classmates and I encourage any of you to contribute your story. Please send any contributions, financial and otherwise, to:

**FHS Class of 1955**  
c/o Sharon Henryson Haverty  
3773 W. Robinson Ave.  
Fresno CA 93722  
shaverty1955@comcast.net  
559-275-3152

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

We have some classmate stories to share with you.



### **By Peggy Cobb Goodpaster**

Fishing in Oregon is Guy's and my favorite pastime. We fish out of Reedsport OR where we have a second home. My cousin, Bob Cobb, is a fishing guide there so we have the pro with us. We fish for salmon, bass, steelhead, and sturgeon. The best is the crabbing, eating fresh crab the very night you catch it.....Yummm. The fish in the picture is a "springer" salmon I caught in May. *(The fish is almost as tall as Peggy. I hounded her for 2 years for a fish picture. Thanks Peggy.)*

### **By Bill Westfall**

So, more than a half century later and what am I up to? Same old stuff. I've been teaching since 1967. I don't see any reason to quit, and they can't make me quit. After degrees in the history of art from Berkeley, Manchester, and finally Columbia, I have been teaching ever since: at Amherst College, University of Illinois in Chicago (10 years), at the University of Virginia (16 years) and since 1998 at Notre Dame, where I am able to concentrate exclusively on the history of architecture and urbanism.

The family, with two boys born in Virginia, didn't take to life in South Bend so we moved back to Richmond, VA, and I commute back and forth almost every week. Notre Dame is the most decent school I have ever been associated with. It is very hospitable to an Episcopalian like me. But most importantly, it has the only School of Architecture that takes seriously the idea that it

is possible to learn from 2500 years of experience with building buildings and cities, and it welcomes my approach, which argues that the service of buildings and cities to the civil life is more important than their evidence of originality, innovation, efficiency, and other will-of-the-wisp impulses and fashions.

I've had a lot of fun writing lots of small pieces and a pair of books, but my third book is taking longer than I have wanted. I have been blessed by being able to live in such wonderful places as NY, Massachusetts, Chicago, Rome, Charlottesville and now Richmond, and by my work that takes me to places like China, Cuba, Guatemala, and lots of cities in Europe and the US.



### **By Sharon Haverty**

On July 15<sup>th</sup> a few friends from FHS 1955 got together in Cayucos CA for lunch with **Shirley Termer Petrie**, who lives in Morro Bay CA, and **Linda Warren**, who lives in Cayucos CA. My husband and I took a few days of vacation there and friends **Delores Pedroncelli Mehling** and **Donna Stewart Kelton** came over for the day and joined us. We stood on my daughter's deck and hoped to show you the ocean but it was pea soup fog and you can see the wind is up by our hair blowing. It happened to be Donna's birthday so we celebrated that also. The really interesting thing is looking over the deck and to the right. Linda's home is just below and down on the next street. I didn't know that before. My daughter said she has seen Linda working in her yard in the past. We had such a good time catching up and I made them promise to come the 55<sup>th</sup> in 2010.

Fresno High School Class of 1955  
c/o Sharon Henryson Haverty  
3773 W. Robinson Ave.  
Fresno CA 93722

**Forwarding Address Requested**



**By Sharon Haverty**

Our coffee group had our annual birthday luncheon but something special happened that day. As our group was finishing dessert I felt a tap on my shoulder. I turned around to see one of my best friends from church who graduated from Roosevelt in '56. She took me over to her group of 20 ladies and introduced me. As I walked back to our table I noticed we had leftover cake, and mentally cut them into enough pieces to share with Roosevelt '56.

I walked back and said, "If you ladies can swallow purple and gold icing you are welcome to share our cake." They said they could do that. Back at our table, someone started singing the FHS Fight Song. They answered with the Roosevelt Fight Song; we sang our Victory song. Sitting at the bar in the lounge were several men whose heads were going back and forth like they were watching a tennis match, probably thinking this must be a last hoorah for these groups. They don't know us. It ended with Roosevelt saying, "Thank you FHS", we responded, "You're welcome RHS."

#### **TRIVIA ANSWERS**

(There may be more than what we have listed.  
**Hardy's; Sequoia**(was called Kinema at one time);  
**Wilson; Warner's; Tower; Fine Arts** (Mayfair at one time); **Crest; White's; Cal Theatre on F St; Lyceum Theatre on F St.** I only got the last two because of an Ask Me column in the Fresno Bee that listed them. The drive-ins were **Motor Inn, Sunset, Starlight, and Moonglow.**

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**Newsletter:** Arnold Joyal, 4961 Corbin Ave., San Jose CA 95118, ajoyal@comcast.net., Sharon Haverty.

(Sharon does all the work)