



Panther Postscripts



BURLINGAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOC NEWSLETTER FALL/WINTER EDITION 2020/21 - EDITOR - RUSTY KNUDSEN -

BHSAA President Rusty Knudsen '74



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We hope that this newsletter finds everyone successfully managing through the pandemic that has continued to present challenges for all of us.

The Alumni Board continues to meet monthly via zoom calls to keep in contact while managing social distancing for the school, students, faculty, the community and to our fellow Alumni.

Let me take you through some of the more important items we continue to focus on as we recover from this current pandemic.

WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out our new website please do so. You will find lots of information that will cover events, reunions, newsletters, apparel, history of BHS and our newest addition, Yearbooks. You can find the website at the link is www.BurlingameAlumni.com We've been working hard to get all the BHS Alumni over to the new website. **This is your website and the only official website that is truly dedicated to Burlingame High School.** Please do not pay for Classmates or Alumni.com, as these sites are not affiliated in any way with our school. In fact the monies

they collect from you for apparel or monthly and yearly dues are solely for their own benefit. Nothing comes to the Alumni to support our Website, Scholarships, Events, Hall of Fame and the planning for our upcoming 100th year anniversary. Please help by forwarding this info to your classmates & friends from BHS to help make them aware.

BHS YEARBOOKS

We negotiated favorable terms with a company in Syracuse NY to add our yearbooks on our website for you to view. The section on our Website is now up and we will continue to add yearbooks as they become available to us. Currently we have digitized 12 yearbooks thus far, representing classes from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 90's and 00's. Our goal is to get all the yearbooks from BHS onto the site. As you can imagine this is a very large undertaking and requires several people working to complete. This process will take some time. This project is targeted for completion over the next 24 months. So check back periodically on our site. I will also send notifications via our dedicated BHS Facebook page. If you are on Facebook please join this site. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BurlingameHighSchoolAlumniAssociation>

NEW APPAREL STORE

We recently opened a new apparel store on our website with a partnership with SquadLocker. Here you will find new BHS Logo'd; Hats, Shirts, Sweatshirts, Polo's, Tee Shirts, Light Jackets, and more. You will find sizes for both men and women. Check the store periodically for discounts and the addition of newer items that are more relevant to the seasons and also new logos. If there is an item you would like added, let us know and we will see if that item is available. I hope you enjoy this site and look to purchase items for your reunions or Alumni events such as Golf or Bocce.

ALUMNI EVENTS – GOLF, BOCCIE

Sad to say because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've had to cancel our popular annual fundraisers; Alumni Golf and Bocce tournaments twice now, Once in May '20, then Oct '20 and again in May '21. We have tentative dates set again in October '21 for Golf & Bocce. More to follow throughout the year if this

happens. COVID-19 vaccines will hopefully be completed well before these events.

HALL OF FAME

We introduced a new category to coincide with our Athletic Hall of Fame; it is called **Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame**, which will recognize those alumni and teachers, or community members who have contributed to their field of endeavor, community and school. We have our first nominees to receive this recognition. This event would normally coincide with the Little Big Game so we are looking at alternate dates for the fall of this year. More to come, as we get through the pandemic.

100th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

We have started the groundwork on planning for the 100th year celebration of BHS, which will be in October in 2023. Committees will be formed once we have a better handle on the pandemic. If you would like to join us and participate in this Centennial Celebration of Burlingame High School, we would love to have you.

FUND RAISING

We are a non-profit organization and have a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt number for your donations. Your donations are used in supporting our website monthly costs as well as support scholarships to worthy students (5) per year, digitizing our BHS Yearbooks, and events such as; Hall of Fame ceremonies, Alumnus of the Year, updating our Alumni room and preparing for BHS Centennial Recognition Campaigns to help raise the necessary funds to keep the Alumni Organization thriving. You can donate on our website [By Clicking Here](#)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Come join our growing organization to help with several committees; 100th Anniversary of BHS in 2023, Web Site, Reunions, Annual Events, Fund Raising, Publication, Scholarships, Hall of Fame, History of BHS, Hospitality, and Advisory roles. If you would like to join us, please Contact, bhsalumni74@gmail.com and come join us at our next meeting. You can find our Schedule for meetings at the end of this newsletter or on our web site.

– Rusty Knudsen '74

BHS - 2020 Alumni of the Year *Dennis Zell '86*



Our 2020 Alumni of the Year is Dennis Zell from the class of 1986. Dennis is the son of Carol Kerns (class of 1962), brother of Deborah (class of 1982), stepfather of

Jade and Stefanie Garcia (classes of 2004 and 2007), and father of Elizabeth and Matthew (classes of 2018 and 2019). At Burlingame High School Dennis appeared in eight school plays, participated in student government and Junior Statesmen of America, and played two years of varsity baseball.

Dennis holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), and a Doctorate in Jurisprudence from Golden Gate University School of Law.

Between college and law school, Dennis volunteered at a non-profit foundation in Washington, D.C. and then spent several months living overseas promoting democracy and capitalism in newly independent republics of the former Soviet Union. Dennis helped conclude a Sister-City agreement between Kaunas, Lithuania and Los Angeles, helped mediate an oil pipeline dispute between Lithuania and Russia, and consulted on the restructuring of local government in Lithuania and Latvia.

Dennis has been practicing law in California since 1995, primarily in the areas of real estate and trust litigation, though Dennis has also successfully litigated election law and First Amendment cases in the California Court of Appeal, Ninth Circuit, and United States Supreme Court. Dennis has volunteered as a judge pro tem in the counties of Solano and San Mateo.

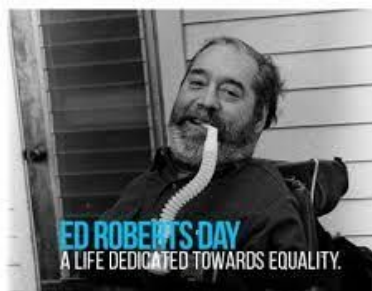
During the past twenty years, Dennis has contributed to Burlingame High School in many ways. He began giving back by serving as advisor to the Interact Club on behalf of Burlingame Rotary. He was then appointed to the Board of the Burlingame Alumni Association and served several terms as liaison to the Burlingame High School Advisory Committee on behalf of Rotary and the Alumni. In 2010 under Dennis' leadership

as President of Burlingame Rotary, the service club made Burlingame High its main beneficiary in the community, both in terms of volunteer counseling hours to at-risk students and financial support to needy students (more than half a million dollars in scholarships over the past ten years). In more recent years, Dennis has chaired the annual Little-Big Game luncheon and served as the head coach of the mock trial team. Finally, as a publicly elected member of the Peninsula Health Care District, Dennis conceived of and achieved funding for the Teen Mental Health Program, a highly-lauded reform initiative whereby Stanford University was brought in to help implement evidence-based best practices to modernize the way mental health services are provided in the entire high school district.

The BHS alumni are proud to honor Dennis Zell for his contributions to Burlingame High School as a student, an athlete, a parent and a board member. **Congrats Dennis!!!**



BHS Panthers *In the Spotlight* By Rusty Knudsen



Ed Roberts Day in California is January 23rd. But many of you may not have heard of Ed Roberts or know of his story. Ed graduated from Burlingame High School in 1959. But what makes his story unique is his will and determination to overcome his challenges to attend school and continue on to college.

Roberts was diagnosed with polio at the age of fourteen in 1953, two years before the Salk vaccine ended the epidemic. He

spent eighteen months in hospitals and returned home paralyzed from the neck down except for two fingers on one hand and several toes. He slept in an iron lung at night and often rested there during the day. When out of the lung he survived by "frog breathing," a technique for forcing air into the lungs using facial and neck muscles.

He attended BHS by telephone communication until his mother, Zona, insisted that he attend school once a week for a few hours. At school, he faced his deep fear of being stared at and transformed his sense of personal identity. He gave up thinking of himself as a "helpless cripple," and decided to think of himself as a "star." He credited his mother with teaching him by example how to fight for what he needed.

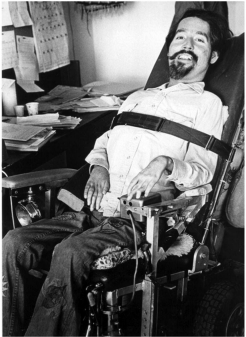


Ed Roberts is often called the father of the Independent Living movement. His career as an advocate began when he almost didn't receive his diploma because he had not completed driver's education and physical education. After attending the College of San Mateo, he was admitted to the University of California, Berkeley. He had to fight for the support he needed to attend college from the California Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, because his rehabilitation counselor thought he was too severely disabled to ever get a job. Upon learning that Roberts had a severe disability, one of the UC Berkeley deans famously commented, "We've tried cripples before and it didn't work." Other Berkeley administrators supported admitting Roberts, and expressed the opinion that the University should do more.

Roberts was admitted in 1962, two years before the Free Speech Movement transformed Berkeley into a hotbed of student protest. When his search for housing met resistance in part because of the 800-pound iron lung that he slept in at night, the director of the campus health service offered him a room in an empty wing of the Cowell Hospital. Roberts accepted on the condition that the area where he lived be treated as dormitory space, not a medical facility. His admission broke the ice for other students with severe disabilities, who

joined him over the next few years at what evolved into the Cowell Residence Program.

The group developed a sense of identity and élan, and began to formulate a political analysis of disability. They began calling themselves the "Rolling Quads" to the surprise of some non-disabled observers who had never before heard a positive expression of disability identity. In 1968, when a rehabilitation counselor threatened two of the Rolling Quads with eviction from the Cowell Residence, the Rolling Quads organized a successful "revolt" that led to the counselor's transfer.



Their success on campus inspired the group to begin advocating for curb cuts, opening access to the wider community, and to create the (PDSP) Physically Disabled Students Program, the first student led disability services program in the

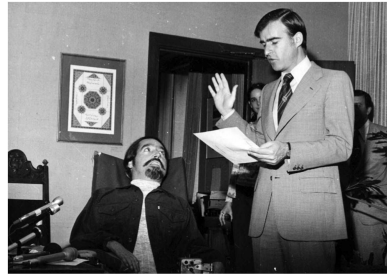
country. Roberts flew 3,000 miles, from California to Washington, D.C., with no respiratory support, to attend a conference at the start-up of the federal TRIO program through which the PDSP later secured funding. The PDSP provided services including attendant referral and wheelchair repair to students at the University, but it was soon taking calls from people with disabilities with the same concerns who were not students.

He earned B.A. (1964) and M.A. (1966) degrees from UC Berkeley in Political Science. He became an official Ph.D. candidate in political science at Berkeley in 1969, but never completed his doctoral dissertation.

The need to serve the wider community led activists to create the Berkeley Center for Independent Living (CIL), the first independent living service and advocacy program run by and for people with disabilities. Contrary to common belief, Roberts did not found the Berkeley CIL, nor was he the CIL's first executive director. At the time, he taught political science at Nairobi College, an "alternative college," but returned to Berkeley to assume leadership of the fledgling organization. He guided the CIL's rapid growth during a decisive time for the emerging disability rights movement. The CIL provided a model for a new kind of community organization designed to address the needs and

concerns of people with a wide range of disabilities. A major project in Berkeley, California led by Roberts and others at the CIL led to curb cuts up and down Telegraph and Shattuck Avenues creating an extensive path of travel. Following this, the value of curb cuts was promoted more strongly and their installment was often made on a voluntary basis by municipal authorities and developers.

In 1976, newly elected Governor Jerry Brown appointed Roberts Director of the California Department of Vocational Rehabilitation—the same agency that had once labeled him too severely disabled to work. He served in that post until 1983. When California politics again shifted to the right, he returned again to Berkeley, where he co-founded the World Institute on Disability with Judith E. Heumann and Joan Leon. The World Institute on Disability is internationally known, and considered a hotbed of disability politics activism.



Ed sworn in by Governor Jerry Brown

Before the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 was passed, Roberts realized that many of the buildings at UC Berkeley were not accessible to him or other wheelchair users. Disability rights activists wanted to end discrimination and have rights for people with disabilities that were mandated and protected by the law. Roberts and his peers demonstrated to enforce section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stated that people with disabilities should not be excluded from activities, denied the right to receive benefits, or be discriminated against, from any program that uses federal financial assistance, solely because of their disability. For 28 days, activists occupied the offices of the Carter Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare building located in San Francisco. The government staff refused to assist the protesters in any way. While the protesters gathered, Roberts spoke to motivate the crowds of people.

Eventually, the government officials agreed to a congressional hearing, which was held in the building. The testimonies of Ed Roberts along with other activists were so compelling that the representative from the Department of

Health Education Welfare joined the sit-in. After relentlessly fighting for their rights, section 504 was signed into law and became fully implemented under President Nixon. This taught disability activists that they could shape the federal rulings in their favor. These acts of resistance were a contributing factor which paved the way for the necessary creation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

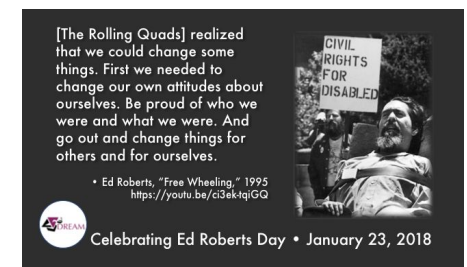


Ed with then Senator Bill Clinton

Roberts died on March 14, 1995, at the age of 56 from cardiac arrest.

Hundreds of Centers for Independent Living around the world are based on his original model. These Centers for Independent Living established the National Council on Independent Living, which holds a meeting every summer in Washington, D.C. At the one held after his passing, on May 15, 1995, Roberts' empty wheelchair was towed by a volunteer as it symbolically led more than 500 advocates from around the country for the last time, on a memorial march from Upper Senate Park to a vigil in his honor in a Senate office building. Speakers at this vigil included Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, Representative Steny Hoyer of Maryland, Judith Heumann, and Paul Hearne.

His papers are held at the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley. Roberts has been termed the father of the independent living movement in the U.S., though Lex Frieden of Texas was better known in Washington politics. Roberts is highlighted in Joseph Shapiro's 1993 book, *No Pity: People with Disabilities Forging a New Civil Rights Movement*.



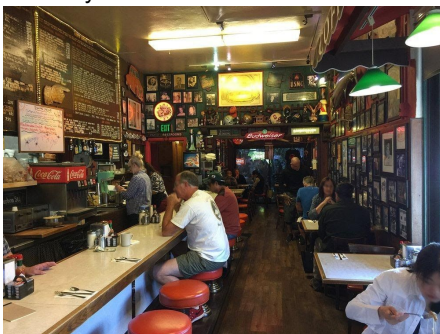
Every January 23rd we celebrate Ed Roberts Day to honor the man frequently called the father of the Independent Living movement.

A BHS Favorite Nini's Coffee Shop To Close? By Rusty Knudsen



Nini's has been a staple in Burl since '68. Weekend lines would run down Bayswater, but people would gladly wait.

Nini's Coffee Shop (Named after Nini Swartz) has been a mainstay for Burlingame residents and for those looking for a great breakfast, or lunch. With plenty of great comfort food to go along with its traditional throwback ambience to simpler times, Nini's offered no TV's, no WiFi, just friendly, polite waitresses and workers who remember your name and in most cases if you've eaten there more than half dozen times, they remembered your order. Owner Rick Swartz is your classic owner who puts his customers first. If you didn't know Rick you would've thought he was a busboy.



At the counter you might find a celebrity sitting next to you, incognito of course. Joe Montana, Jeffrey Leonard, and a host of others frequented Nini's for breakfast.

Nini's Restaurant was originally established in San Francisco in 1955, combining Nini's Italian-Swiss background and Husband Wally's cooking skills. They opened a 2nd location in SF in 1961 offering great home cooked meals, reasonable prices and good service in a clean atmosphere which became the reputation Nini's was known for.



The back courtyard was always a fun place to sit, eat, chat, relax and reminisce

In 1968 Nini and her husband Walter (Wally) found a great location on the peninsula in Burlingame/San Mateo and transformed that little grocery store with a three-bedroom apartment upstairs, into a home and restaurant. It was their retirement dream to live upstairs, cook a few meals to pay the bills and take it easy. This location, (the corner of Idaho St & Bayswater Ave) became known to us all, as simply "Nini's" Coffee Shop. Their slogan "Outskirts of Town - Best Around" soon became a fact.



The famous Nini's Menu offers so many choices but most of us ordered the same thing, every time.

Son Rick took over the establishment when Wally and Nini retired. Nini passed away in 2001. Rick has been there for decades now and has cooked meals for celebrities and local Pro Athletes who made this their favorite breakfast spot.



Looks like the Knudsen's table with sides of bacon and milkshakes on the way.

Some say if it wasn't for Nini a lot of residents and travelers would be a lot skinnier. Since the pandemic, Nini's, like so many other food establishments has had to

close during this time. With the pending off ramp for the new Peninsula Ave south bound exit off 101 under discussion and the possible impact it would have on surrounding homes and businesses, there are strong rumors that Nini's will not open back up, much to the dismay of their patrons and loyal customers.



This smiling tree greets customers outside while they wait for Nini's BFast of Champs!

I know I speak for so many who frequently ate here, that Nini's will sorely be missed. I hope these pictures help stir Great memories and moments shared by us all having spent many breakfasts and lunches at our nostalgic slice of happy days.



Now, who ordered the Denver cheddar Omelette with a dab of sour cream, chives and the country potatoes?

"Class News" An Alumni Update By Dianne Ragozzino Knudsen '74

We want to know what **you and your classmates have been up to, have done or are doing now!!** Please send your stories to **Dianne Knudsen** at dknudsenBHSalumni@gmail.com or mail them to Burlingame High School Alumni Association, 1 Mangini Way, Burlingame, CA 94010 c/o Dianne Knudsen or at info@burlingamealumni.org

40s

Don Price '49 a lifetime member of the BHS alumni group says he is not really clever at 88 with the internet but wanted to send us an update and tell us that he had a very good time during his four

years at BHS, he goes on to say, "I am trying to get used to living alone in the house we shared for 50 years in Palo Alto. I lost my dear wife of 60 years, Dee, in December. My daughter Kirsten, who lives nearby, and I did our best to care for her, and we are very thankful that we didn't have to transfer her to a nursing home. My other two kids, Dirk and Celia, live some distance away but came and helped when they could. I continue to feel the gap in my life from the loss three years ago of my twin brother, Douglas, also Class of '49. He was my best and lifelong friend. I still stay in touch with three of our buddies from the Class of '49, Dick Whitsel of Grass Valley; Dwight Allen of Aurora, Colorado; and Doug Kirkland of Carrollton by Dallas. All are reasonably well although Dwight is confined to an assisted living home. My sister, Kathleen Kennedy, of the Class of '48 is also well and looking forward to her 90th birthday. She lives with her longtime partner, Larry Stafford, Boulder, Colorado near her son, Brian and Family. I've long been retired as a CPA from Stanford University where I held various financial positions. During this crisis I take long walks every day with my daughter, Kirsten, often in the deserted and beautiful Stanford campus. These walks, substitute in part for missing my semi-weekly swims at the Y, I read a great deal, and continue to study French. I am a devotee of PBS radio and the KDFC, listener-sponsored classical music station. I am having my gardens replanted and landscaped. I had planned to take a solo cruise this spring on the "Grand Princess" from SF to Hawaii. I'm glad I didn't book the February cruise. When the crisis is over, I plan to take a train trip to Boulder, Colorado to visit my sister. So far, I've been lucky with my health."

70s

Debra Barnes Zografos '73 writes us; There may be some from our era that may recall the Barnes family of 10 who lived on Bayswater Ave. I'm number 3. (Our sweetest brother Jim passed in 2009. We miss him deeply). I attended ASU then later graduated



L-R; (Then) Linda '70, Loretta '78, Tom '72, Cindy '81, Debbie '73, Theresa '74, Dianna '83 and Jim '76

with a BA in Liberal Studies from SJSU in '91! I am partially retired but work for A+ Tutoring Company PT tutoring & home schooling 3 students K-8 in Language Arts, which I love. I met my husband Dino Zografos in 1982. He was the Chef at the very popular Castaway restaurant at Coyote Point. I started as a manager there in '82. We fell in love and were married in '83. He worked at the Castaway Restaurant since he was a kid and worked his way up to establish a great restaurant. It was a popular destination including for many Prom couples. My husband graduated from San Mateo High School, that's right we were rivals, but it didn't seem to get in the way! We have two sons, 32 and 27 & a beautiful granddaughter who is a kindergartener in the San Mateo Schools, whom we enjoy very much! All 3 of my guys played football for SMH; I must be one ambivalent person who can sing the fight song of both BHS & SMH, but crazier things have happened! Our younger son Chris played QB and the Bearcats took back the PAW that year 2010, but not for long. We were football parents & loved those years. We have lived in San Mateo for as long as we have been married 37 years! We live in our home for 32 years. We raised 2 sons so have enjoyed plenty of outdoor sports like water skiing, fishing and camping; I skied for 25 years, they liked tubing. We still enjoy our RV, boat and Dino's Harley occasionally. I enjoy seeing a few classmates on FB now & then. Thanks to Rusty & Dianne Knudsen for their involvement in BHS Alumni Association!



L-R;(Now)Cindy '81, Debbie '73, Dianna '83, Linda '70, Teresa '74, Loretta '78, Tom '72

Barbara A (Berkyto) Winkleblack '75 says, "Sending everyone on the BHSAA committee my regards, especially to my former classmates. I hope 2021 brings you all health and happiness!"

90s

Linda Vickery McLaughlin '67 tells us her daughter **Tara McLaughlin Robenalt '90** has been selected as CXS's Senior Director, End User Experience and Support (EUX) at Stanford University. Tara has been in University IT for nearly



four years, and will be transitioning from the role of Senior Director of Service Management and Business Relations in Service Strategy,

where she leads Business Relationship Management (BRM), Service Management Consulting (SMC), ServiceNow Operations, and Business Solutions and Reporting. Since joining UIT, Tara led the launch of the Campus IT Plan in 2018 and in 2019. Most recently, she has been actively involved in the COVID recovery Health Check Ecosystem effort. In her new role, Tara will be responsible for the Enterprise Service Desk, CRC, ITOC, UIT at SLAC, Mobile Device Services, Paging Services, and the Stanford University Hardware Program. Her experience leading service management consulting, business relationship management and her extensive relationships across the campus make her the right person to lead EUX.

BHS Athletic & Distinguished Hall of Fame

Due to Covid-19 our original plans to hold this fundraising event during the Little Big Game, (which was also cancelled) this past November has been postponed until next fall. The nominees for this year's Hall of Fame are in and we will be introducing a new version of this event that will honor Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame which will acknowledge worthy Alumni and Teachers who have made an impact on students, community, workplace and school.

The event will be held in either October or November 2021. We are planning this to be a dinner event to be held in the evening. We will also hold our Golf and Bocce events during this weekend as well Details are still being worked out since the LBG will be held at San Mateo next year so we'll work with the Football schedule later this school year and let everyone know.



BHS Alumni ~ Donations

Thank You - Thank You - Thank You

Greg Burnett '71
Laura Hesselgren '75
Barbara A (Berkyto)
Winkleblack '75

*Thank You for your Support.
It is Greatly Appreciated*

BHS Alumni donations to the BHS Alumni help support your Alma Mater in many ways. The fees collected go towards funding the Hall of Fame and other Alumni events that help raise money for athletic programs as well as provide funds used towards scholarships that are awarded each May to a select few students.



IN MEMORIUM

'42 Gordon Laverty.....	2020
'52 Dale Roger Allen.....	2020
'54 Mike Hurd.....	2020
'54 Douglas "Budd" Odell.....	2020
'55 Patty Wilson Coles.....	2019
'55 Barbara Hewitt.....	2020
'55 John Basye.....	2020
'57 Lance Bosschart.....	2020
'59 Thomas "Smitty" Smith.....	2020
'70 Kay Dillon.....	2017
'70 Pat Leonard.....	2019
'71 Drew Anderson.....	2021
'73 David Weinberg.....	2021
'74 Kenny Plotkin.....	2020
'79 Laura Falk Gordon.....	2020
'80 Jimmy Wilson.....	2020

BHS Alumni Remembered

40's

Gordon Laverty '42

Gordon passed away in February; his loving son Larry tells us that he was active for years with the Alumni Association and as a class reunion organizer. In his life he was a World War II veteran in the Pacific, a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, retired as Assistant General Manager of East Bay Municipal Utility District, and on.



Gordon Laurence Laverty was born on March 31, 1924 in a humble cottage to Laurence and Winifred Laverty of Alameda, California. By age 14, both of Gordon's parents had passed away and he relocated to Burlingame, California to live with his great uncle, Arthur "Cy" Ross. There, he attended Burlingame High School, swam on the school's swim team and took part in student government, including the Junior Statesmen of America. In the fall of 1942, he began studies at the University of California, Berkeley. During the very first day of school, a young lady named Marjorie Pearson caught his eye and he initiated a conversation that began a relationship lasting for the next 78 years. In early 1943, with World War II raging, Gordon enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was assigned to the 4025th Signal Service Group and deployed to the Pacific Theatre of the war. In the lining of his helmet, as he sailed on a troop ship out of San Francisco Bay for points unknown, was a handkerchief given him by his sweetheart Margie.

During his three years of service, he deployed to New Guinea, the Philippines, and Tokyo. As he prepared for his flight from the Philippines to Tokyo, he was on the tarmac with General Douglas MacArthur. His camera at hand, he quickly snapped a photo of the general that today is on permanent exhibition in Washington D.C. Following his discharge from the Army in 1946, Gordon returned to his studies at U.C. Berkeley, going on to earn a degree in Civil Engineering in 1950. That same year, 1950, Gordon accepted a position as Junior Sanitary Engineer at the water utility East Bay Municipal Utility District, based in Oakland, California. A result of his exceptional skills with people, he quickly

rose through the managerial ranks of the company.

In 1957, Gordon and Margie were married in Palm Springs, California, setting up shop in 1959 in a brand-new home they helped design in Oakland. That same year, the first of three children was born to them. By 1963, their household had grown to include children Laurence, Ross, and Annette Laverty, as well as Margie's mother Violet Pearson.

By the mid-1960's, East Bay Municipal Utility District had risen to become the most respected large water utility in the world and Gordon was on his way to achieving the company's #2 position as Assistant General Manager of Operations and Maintenance. Representatives from water utilities around the world traveled to Oakland to learn from Gordon and his team.

Gordon retired from East Bay Municipal Utility District in 1984 following 34 years with the company. He then created Laverty Associates, an engineering consulting firm specializing in utility management, planning, and emergency preparedness. He was called upon as an expert witness in numerous court cases involving utilities throughout the United States. He also continued to publish numerous papers in engineering, utility management, and planning, traveling to many of the world's largest cities to speak on the subjects. During the late 1980's, he was invited to take a position in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to design the water supply system for a brand-new city of several million people but declined the offer in order to remain with his beloved family.

Throughout his years with East Bay Municipal Utility District and with Laverty Associates, Gordon remarkably made time to participate in and lead numerous professional and civic organizations. These include: The United States Public Health Service, The American Society of Civil Engineers, The American Water Works Association, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers, the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, National Coordinating Council for Emergency Management, The State of California Governor's Earthquake Task Force, The American Legion, The "Fair Haired Boys" of the U.S. Army's 4025th Signal Service Group, The Oakland Heritage Alliance, Oakland's Fruitvale Presbyterian Church, Oakland's Woodminster Summer Musicals, The Redwood Club, the Boy Scouts of America Troop 339 of Oakland, columnist for the MacArthur Metro newspaper, The Leona Heights Improvement Association,

Job's Daughter's Bethel #222 of Oakland, Alta Bates Hospital Volunteer Corps, the Burlingame High School Reunion Committee, Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans, and he was honored as the first male member of the Ebell Society-Montclair Women's Club of Oakland.

Gordon gave selflessly and tirelessly to everyone he encountered, especially to his family and to members of his extended family in times of need. He added significantly to the genealogical record of the Laverty Family, spending thousands of man-hours in libraries and halls of record throughout the United States and Europe.

He embraced his family's deep passion for journalism and literature. Aside from his numerous professional and civic publications, Gordon enjoyed writing poetry. His appetite for reading spanned many subjects but history fascinated him the most. At the time of his blindness, his library encompassed several thousand books. Gordon Laverty was an uncommon man, and always built his strength through Christianity. He was the co-founder of a church in the New Guinea jungle during World War II, went on to become an accomplished Bible scholar, hosted a Christian radio show, and taught Sunday School to dozens of adults and children, including several of Oakland's challenging "crack babies." His greatest contributions to the lives of others though came not through teaching, but instead through the infectiously positive way he went about living his life.

50's

Dale Roger Allen '52



Top L-R; Irma and Dale Allen, Seated, L-R; parents John and Valera Allen

Dale Roger Allen '52, passed away in May 2020. Dale lived 60 years in Africa. Born in San Francisco at St.

Mary's Hospital and raised in Burlingame was a great start in life. Dale liked everyone he met, and most people felt the same way toward him. Explorer Scout activities taught Dale to love hiking and everything in the great outdoors. George McCown (BHS '52) was one of the kids in the neighborhood that became a life-long friend sharing hiking and exploring interests. In Burlingame High School, sports brought out the competitive side of Dale's personality. The football coach tried to keep him from doing "flying tackles" when he was on the kick-off team. Track was fun because he could run fast. Tennis was his favorite sport and he and brother, Kenton (BHS '53), competed in doubles against the Raffo brothers for several years. BHS education was very helpful in shaping Dale's interests later in life. Strong foundations in science and math helped him develop scientific management as a tool for his leadership in business. Dale was a member of the Baha'i Faith, as most members of his class will recall. It was this motivation, to try to develop people's capacity to know, love and worship God through service to each other, that prompted him to teach them about the Baha'i teachings that would help them advance. He encouraged youth to get a physical education along with their spiritual education. He practiced equality among all people of all races, and treated women and men with equal respect and dignity. He taught people to independently investigate truth and stand up for justice as the basis for unity of all peoples and nations. He wanted to make the world a better place.

Dale chose to attend the University of Arizona, class of '56, to study Ag Chemistry and Soils, with the hope of a farming career. A classmate, Ray Smith, was a close friend that scaled many of the nearby mountains with Dale. After 2 years of Army service in Fort Sam Houston, Dale moved to Southern Africa. Dale's parents, John and Valera Allen, had pioneered to Swaziland in 1954. John closed his auto dealership, retired, and became part of a worldwide effort to spread the Baha'i teachings to every country around the world. Dale went into business with his Dad and brother, and they bought a farm and cannery. Dale managed the farm growing pineapples, tomatoes and citrus in Swaziland. His farm became a major producer for Swaziland Cannery. Kenton, modernized the cannery, and together the two companies prospered. After 5 years Dale took over management of both the farm and cannery until 1968 when both were sold to Libby's. He liked to provide jobs, and

Swazi Cannery employed several hundred local people.

Dale's next adventure in Africa was to run Protein Foods, a food manufacturing plant in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe). Their civil war leading to independence as Zimbabwe caused Dale to move to Kenya to manage irrigation development for Del Monte's pineapple operation in Thika in 1979.

1982 was an important year for Dale and his family, as they moved back to Mbabane, Swaziland, to start up a business to manufacture steel products like nails, fencing, and wire products. Swazi Wire expanded by manufacturing more products, also importing and stocking lengths of steel shapes for resale. Over 40 years saw his business become the 7th largest business in Swaziland, employing about two hundred local people. Dale's two sons, Wayne and Keith continue to be major players in the running of the company, now called Eswatini Wire.

Dale would be the first person to acknowledge how his dear wife of 63 years, Irma Acosta, UofA '58, has been so helpful for their success. Irma has offered professional assistance to many USAID, WHO, UNICEF contractors assisting Swaziland's development. Both Dale and Irma worked closely with the United States Ambassador's staff, over the years, helping the Swazi people. Dale and Irma both had many friends in the Royal family of Swaziland. His Majesty King Mswati III, the King of Swaziland, now called Eswatini, liked his Ministers and officials to consult with them about local issues such as business labor policies, and the environment. Prince Metsetsela Dhlamini was one of his life-long friends.

Dale enjoyed traveling to the United States to take part as a Director of the World Business Academy, and business organizations in Europe. He loved to share ideas, and wanted to learn more about his many interests in life.

Dale's Baha'i activities were always important. He served as one of nine elected members on the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Swaziland, for close to 30 years. In this capacity he planned and helped implement their spiritual program for Swaziland. Their most important legacy was working with other Baha'is developing a government school in Swaziland that is "Baha'i inspired". This means they applied important Baha'i principles such as encouraging an equal number of girls and boys to attend. The school offered education about important

virtues like truthfulness, honesty, an upright character, respect for all races and ethnic groups, and humility before God. This foundation helped the young students guide their lives. The school now offers preschool through secondary grade level with over 600 students.

Dale loved life and his beautiful home garden was evidence of his green thumb for everything that grows. The last 30 years of his life, he was somehow able to find time to purchase and run a large farm producing many fruits, nuts and vegetables for local consumption, another dream that came true. Dale loved the Bay Area, and every few years found the time to return to San Francisco to look up old friends.

Dale's burial service in Swaziland was shared electronically with over 110 friends throughout California, Arizona, Colorado, Texas, Illinois, Europe, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Swaziland who will miss his bright smile and warm personality. He is starting a new journey through all the worlds of God.

Michael F Hurd '54

Michael passed away in January. Kevin Monahan, longtime friend and fellow classmate, tells us Mike attended Bellermine his first years of high school, then transferred to BHS in his senior year graduating with the class of 1954. He had many friends in Burlingame and was well known and popular. Mike had many impressive accomplishments throughout his life and Naval career as an enlisted submarine sailor and later as a commissioned officer.

[Michael Hurd Obituary](#)

Douglas "Budd" Odell '54

Budd passed away on November 2 2020 at Westport, Connecticut his friend and former classmate Landon George '54 tells us, "He was my friend for seventy years and will be remembered and missed."

Lance Bosschart '57



Phillip Anderson '56 tells us classmate Lance passed away in May 2020. Lance belonged to St. Matthew's since his childhood. He was an acolyte when Fr. Wylder

was the rector, and married Jeanne at the church in 1963. He served on the Vestry. As a Stanford trained engineer,

Lance was mechanically inclined, much to St. Matthews' eternal benefit. When the church buildings suffered major earthquake damage in 1989, Lance was central to their restoration. He was a fierce advocate for preservation of the original plans of the renowned architect Willis Polk, who designed the church sanctuary after the 1906 earthquake. Lance continually consulted on improvements to St. Matthew's throughout the rest of his life, including the construction of St. Matthew's Hall, the preschool construction at Charles House, and the recent refurbishment of the bell tower. His deep knowledge of every corner of the buildings and what lies beneath them has been invaluable to every project the church has undertaken in the last 30+ years. He was especially pleased with preserving the east-facing altar in the sanctuary and building the playhouse that now grace Charles House. He is deeply missed by his wife Jeanne, the rest of his family and friends.

70's

Pat Leonard '70

Pat lost his life, unexpectedly in July 2019, his close friend Michael Marino '70



says. Pat was a marine electrician and retired out of Mare Island Shipyard. He lived in Cotati and was survived by his wife Deborah and daughter Angela

Walker. He was a marine electrician and a 45-year member of IBEW Local 6. He retired out of Mare Island Shipyard in 2015 as Assistant Dock Master. During his working years he also attended various classes at College of San Mateo, Skyline College for fiber optics, and various business classes at Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University. [Patrick Leonard Obituary](#)

Drew Anderson '71



Drew passed away on Feb 11, 2021 at the age of 67. He was an avid musician, actor and photographer. He loved jazz, the ocean and films, among other things. He will be greatly missed by the many friends he made throughout his life. The photograph accompanying the obituary web tribute page is of Drew in the role of Romeo. [Drew Anderson Obituary](#)

Laura Anne Falk Gordon '79

Laura passed away in the arms of her



beloved husband, Mark in June after a courageous battle for 2 1/2 years with lung cancer. Laura was

a third-generation San Franciscan; Laura spent her early childhood in Daly City. She and her two brothers, John and David, grew up exploring the grounds of the San Francisco Golf Club along with summer vacations at the Russian River. The Falks moved to Hillsborough in 1968, and Laura attended West Elementary, Crocker Middle School, and Burlingame High School, at each of which she added to her growing circle of close friends. She was always active as she grew up, water skiing in the summer at Clear Lake, snow skiing in the winter at Lake Tahoe, and rooting for the Burlingame High Panthers as head cheerleader. Laura attended UCLA, where she excelled as a student and made even more lifelong friends. She was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, where she was affectionately known as "Lou". It was at UCLA that she met her husband Mark. They were married at St. Catherine of Sienna Church in Burlingame. Laura and Mark moved to Burlingame and then Hillsborough, where they carried on Laura's family traditions of summers at Clear Lake, winters at Lake Tahoe, and the Gordon tradition of festive Christmas time glögg parties. She also continued in her distinguished career in the wine and spirits industry, rising to become an area manager with the Heublein Company before retiring in 1994 to focus on her growing family. When she wasn't with her family, "Miss Laura" could be found tearing up the local tennis courts, on a walk through the neighborhood, at a book club meeting with close friends, or rooting for her beloved UCLA Bruins and San Francisco 49ers. [Laura Anne Falk Gordon Obit](#)

80's

Jimmy Wilson '80

Bradford A Barrett '80 tells us his classmate Jimmy passed away suddenly on September 4th in Redding CA. His wife Laurie preceded him in death in July. Jim was an honest and hard working man, I know he enjoyed his time at BHS and he kept in touch with friends over the past 40 years. I first met Jim in the late 1960's and we remained friends ever since regardless of the different cities we've lived in and different paths we both took. RIP Jimmy

Thoughtful people update us with news of an alumni passing, so the years of death are sporadic. Transitioning to the new web site, we discovered some that may have not been listed in the newsletter in the past. We will keep updating the Memorium for 2021 on the website. If you have news of an alumni passing, please send the name, including the maiden name if applicable, and the year of death with a link to their obit for validation to BKnudsenBHSalumni@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

~ Upcoming Events 2021 ~

Mar 11th: Alumni Mtg COVID-19 Zoom Call. Meeting runs from 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Apr 8th: Alumni Mtg COVID-19 Zoom Call. Meeting runs from 6:00pm – 7:30pm

May 13th: Alumni Annual Mtg COVID-19 Zoom Call. Mtg runs from 6pm – 7:30pm

May TBD: Scholarship Awards Night Mtg COVID-19 Zoom Call. Meeting runs from 5:00pm – 6:30pm

BHS Alumni Reunion Wrap

Have a reunion coming up? **Laura Hesselgren, Jan Privitera, of '75 and Myrna Fernandez '79**, the Reunion committee chairs for your reunion assistance. They are able to help you plan your next reunion and can be reached at the following email address; info@burlingamealumni.org

Reunion Info Coming Soon

Classes - 1951 '61, '71, '81, '91, '01, '11
Planning a reunion this year? Check the reunion page at for further details as they

Did you know you could schedule a tour of the school as part of your reunion? Most reunion tours are conducted on Friday afternoon. **Linda McLaughlin** conducts the tours. Contact her at: bhs_turns100@burlingamealumni



BHS Alumni Web Site

Past Alumni Newsletters (called Panther Postscripts) can also be found online as well as Hall of Fame inductees, Alumnus of the Year, BHS Remembered and much, much more.

Our new Apparel store is open for business where you can get BHS logo items. A BHS History section that highlights Burlingame's first 50 years and soon we will add the last 50 yrs as we approach our 100th Anniversary. We will be updating our Photo Gallery section that will highlight all the different Alumni events as well. Check out the Alumni of the Year recipients as we build the history of our past-celebrated Alumnus.

Our Hall of Fame for Athletes & Coaches is up and running and I will be adding more as we secure the list of inductees past from our first induction ceremony to our current nominees. I am adding the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame for teachers who made lasting impressions as well as alumni and community workers who have contributed in their field as well as the community and school.

I've added a section titled History of the Little Big Game with all the scores dating back to the first game in 1927. Also links from our website will take you to Burlingame Historic Society or maybe you'd like to check out the Burlingame Public Library. Or maybe you'd like to connect to our Facebook Page or twitter account, you can do so right from our website.

Our annual events can be found on the website as well. We've had to postpone events due to COVID-19 virus from our usual date in May, but we hope to hold these events in October assuming vaccines have been deployed as expected.

We also have a new Reunion Guide that gives many ideas and suggestions, including a timeline if your class is just starting to plan its reunion. Find more under the Reunion Section on our site.

All the above and much more can be found on our website. For more info log onto BurlingameAlumni.com the only real Sanctioned Alumni site of BHS. And please enjoy the content and if you have suggestions or want to join the Alumni Association, contact Rusty Knudsen at BHSAlumni74@gmail.com. I'd be happy to discuss in more detail.

BHS Alumni Board Mtg

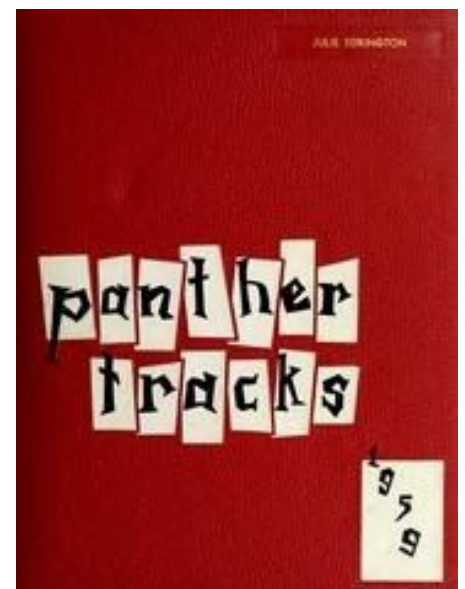
All Alumni are invited to join our Annual meeting, which will be held on Thursday May 13th. Most likely this meeting will take place via a zoom call as we continue to Shelter in Place and adhere to social distancing. We will have a vote for the upcoming board members and elected officers of the Board during this meeting as well as current ongoing business. If interested in joining, please let me know and I will send you the link for the Mtg. All Alumni are welcome to join this annual meeting. Please contact us at Info@Burlingamealumni.org for more information

BHS Donations Wanted

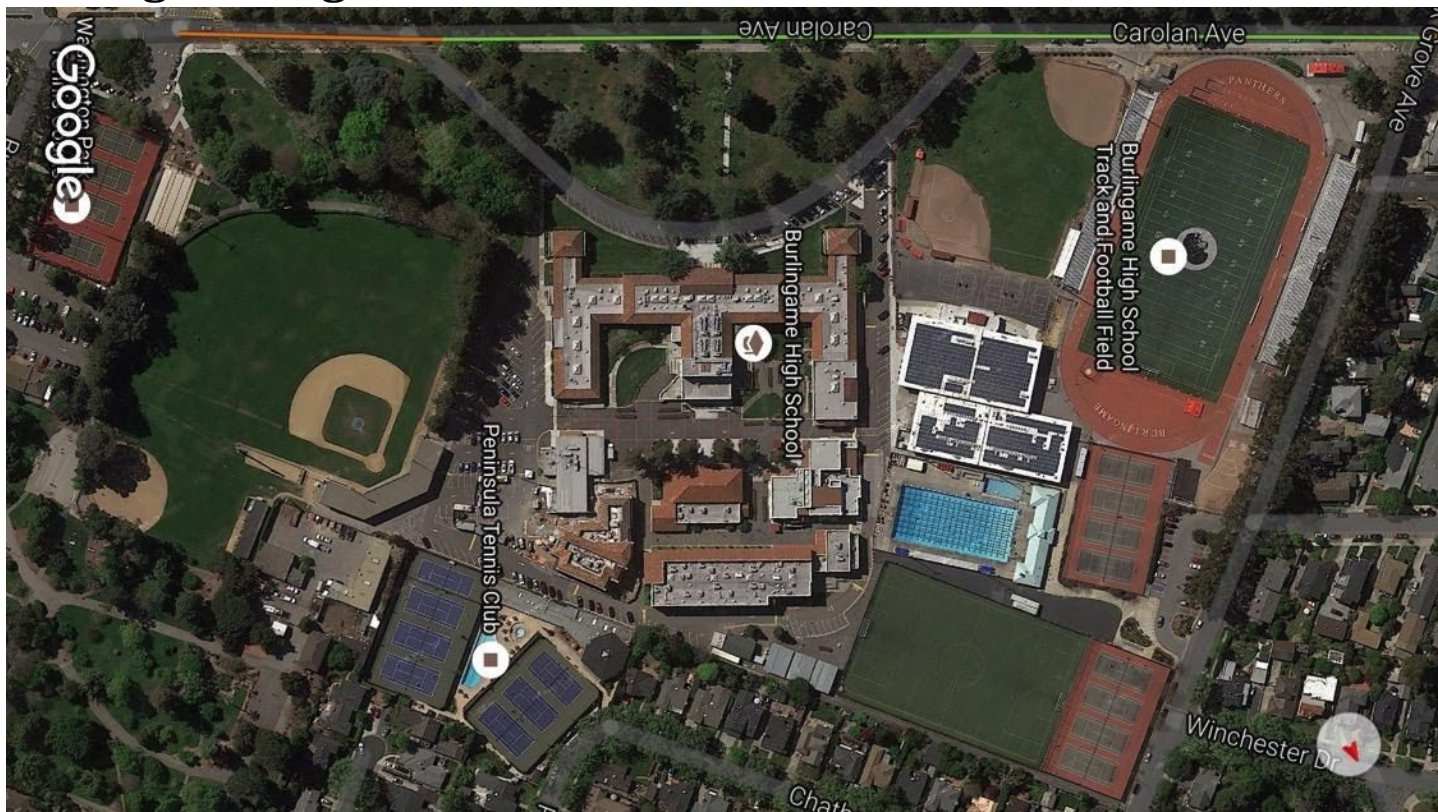
If you have donations of yearbooks for the school or other memorabilia of the school we'd love to speak to you about those items as well. Send to BHSAlumni74@gmail.com. We're interested in pictures of the school, the Ave downtown and Broadway, athletic uniforms, Hats, buttons, pompoms, equipment, all things BHS. THANKS IN ADVANCE!

BHS Yearbooks on line

Be sure to check out our Website to see the progress of adding BHS Yearbooks online. Thanks for your help in this effort



Burlingame High School Aerial View



This aerial view shows the upgrades BHS has gone through over the years. It is a campus we can all be proud of. At your next reunion, be sure to schedule a tour of the campus updates.

Interested in participating in the Alumni Association? Come to one of the meetings listed below. We're looking for volunteers to help support different committees to assist in making the BHS Alumni Association the best. Committee help needed; Reunion, BHS History, and many more. Contact Rusty Knudsen, President at BHSAlumni74@gmail.com for more information

BHS Alumni Association *2021 Meeting Schedule*

2021	<u>Date</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Location</u>
	Jan 14 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom Call
	Feb 11 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom Call
	Mar 11 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom Call
	Apr 8 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom Call
	May 13 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom Call (Annual Alumni Mtg)
	May 19 th	5:00pm	6:30pm	Zoom Call (Wed, Scholarship Award Night)
	Sep 9 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom or Alumni room per covid restrictions
	Oct 14 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Zoom or Alumni room per covid restrictions
	Oct TBD	11:00am	5:00pm	Golf tournament - Poplar Creek
	Oct TBD	11:00am	3:00pm	Bocce Ball tournament – Washington Park
	Oct TBD	6:00pm	11:00pm	Hall of Fame Ceremony/Dinner
	Nov 11 th	6:00pm	7:30pm	Alumni Room
	Dec 9 th	5:00pm	6:00pm	Alumni Room followed by xmas dinner

**BURLINGAME HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Rusty Knudsen '74 - President, **Jeff Tateosian '74** - Vice-President and Treasurer,
Dianne Ragozzino Knudsen '74 - Secretary, **Dennis Zell '86** – Advisor,
Peter Cleaveland '58, David Steil '74, Linda Vickery McLaughlin '67,
Leonard "Len" Lubrano '64, Laura Hesselgren '75, Jan Privitera '75,
Myrna Fernandez '79, Melody White Ackley '73, Linda Stover Ferrando '78

Committee Members

Bryan Ackley '73, Ed Lopez '79, Bill Delzell '75,
Henk van Arkle '71, Amy Feiner '77, Glenn Morgan (Retired Teacher)

Attention:

We are updating our files. Please let us know your email address. Send to Rusty Knudsen c/o
BHS Alumni Association, 1 Mangini Way, Burlingame, CA 94010 or email
BHSAlumni74@gmail.com or info@burlingamealumni.org

BHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Enclosed is my/our check payable to: BHS Alumni Association
(address: 1 Mangini Way, Burlingame, CA 94010)

- For Platinum Status: \$2500 donation (tax deductible) also gets Hat, Polo Shirt, Sweatshirt, Tee shirt
- For Gold Status: \$2000 (tax deductible) also gets Hat, Polo Shirt, Tee shirt
- For Silver Status: \$1500 (tax deductible) also gets Hat, Polo Shirt or Sweatshirt
- For Bronze Status: \$1000 (tax deductible) also gets Hat or Polo Shirt
- For the BHSAA programs (tax deductible).
- For the BHSAA scholarships (tax deductible).
- For the BHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame (tax deductible).
- For the Marshall Umpleby scholarship fund (tax deductible).
- For the Mike McQueen scholarship fund (tax deductible).
- For a donation "In Honor of /In Memory of..." please attach a note (tax deductible).
- PLEASE UPDATE MY EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS.
- Please mail the Panther Postscripts to the following BHS alum
(name and address attached).

Sign up and pay online at www.burlingamealumni.com Today's Date _____

Please Print

Name _____
(first) (middle) (last)

Maiden Name _____ Your BHS Class Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____ + _____

Phone (_____)

Email address: _____